# NEVADA

MAGAZINE

April 1999

INSIDE: Millennium Countdown Calendar

## Eco-Vacations

Where to hike, swim, dig, and kayak your way into Nevada's natural heritage

## Howard Hughes Slept Here

The bashful billionaire's mystique endures in his old penthouse suite

## A Novel Idea

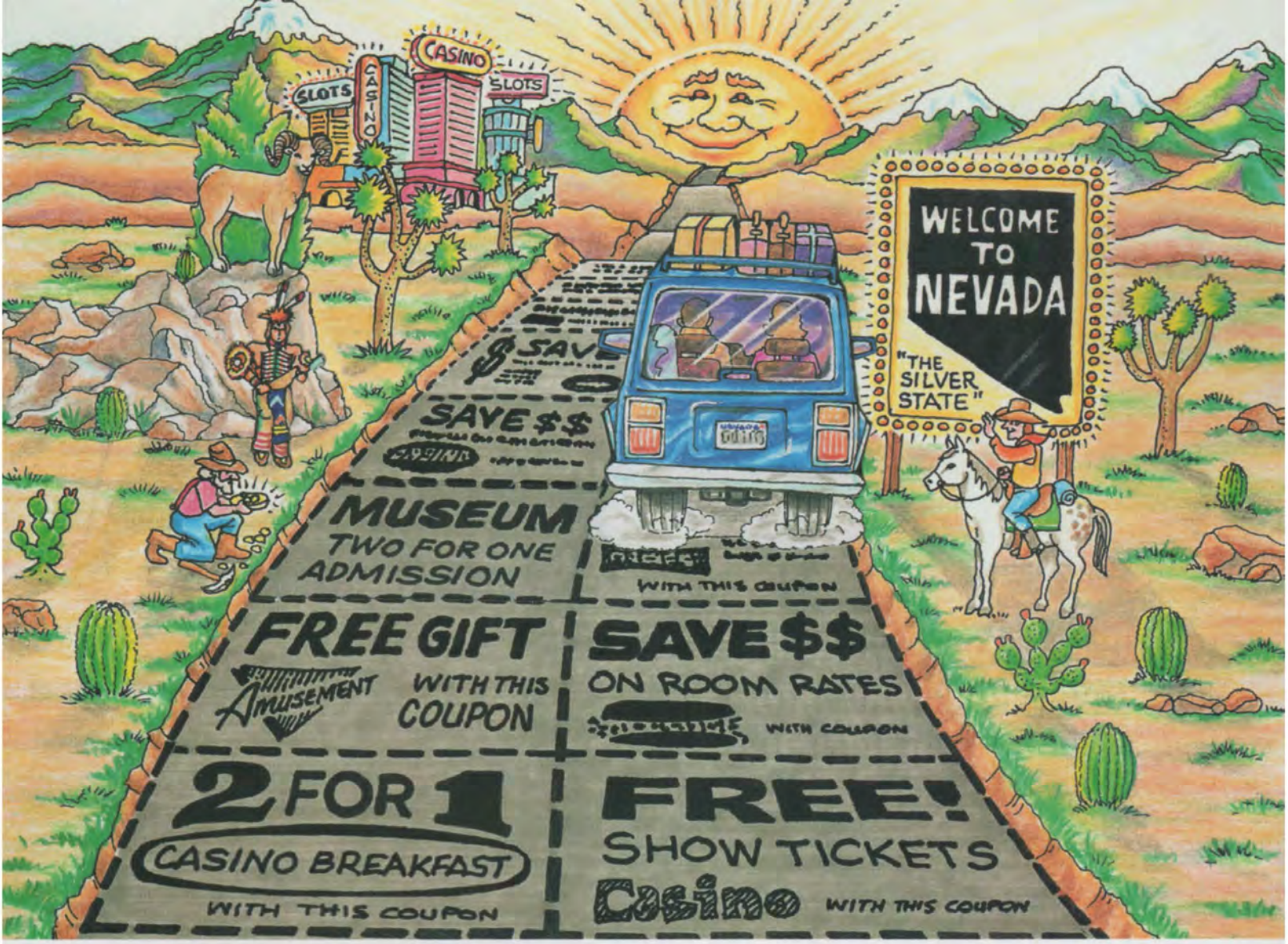
Rawhide's peerless promoters showed novelist Elinor Glyn a bang-up time

U.S. $3.95 • CANADA $5.95
DISPLAY UNTIL MAY 1, 1999

04

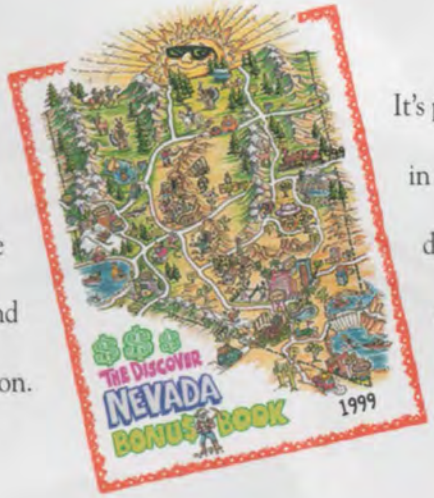
0 74470 62850 7

Kayaking on Lake Tahoe




# Discover The Riches Of The Silver State.

The Discover Nevada Bonus Book is your guide to our colorful history, unique attractions, natural beauty, and world-class recreation.




It's packed with over $2,000 in money-saving coupons for dining, lodging, gaming, and much more. Get yours and start enjoying the riches, today.

**1-800-NEVADA-8**

*For Your FREE Discover Nevada Bonus Book*

*Sponsored by the Nevada Commission On Tourism*

***www.travelnevada.com***

NM

# NEVADA

MAGAZINE • VOL. 59 • NO. 2 • MARCH/APRIL 1999


*"The next time the bear poked his head up, he had curry all over his face. Then he tried getting into the peanut butter jar."*

—Tahoe Rim Trail volunteer Kathy Quinden of Reno



**On the Cover:**
Kayaking on Lake Tahoe.
Photo by Larry Prosor

## Features


**12**
### Good-Natured Vacations
Ecotour guides help travelers connect with Nevada's natural heritage.
**By Mark Vollmer**

**16**
### Gaming Grandissimos
Las Vegas has the biggest hotels on earth.
**By Deke Castleman**

**18**
### Spring in Bloom
Wildflowers of Southern Nevada.
**Photos by Susan Rovira**





Giant resorts: Page 16



**20**
### A Novel Idea
A group of wily promoters made sure British novelist Elinor Glyn had a bang-up time while visiting the mining camp of Rawhide in 1908.
**By Phillip I. Earl**

**90**
### Grand Dam Hotel
Thanks to a grass-roots historical rescue, Boulder City visitors can recall the 1930s celebrity era of the Boulder Dam Hotel.
**By Dennis McBride**


## Departments


5 **Publisher's Note** "Best of Nevada" and the Millennium.

6 **Letters** The new hotel wave, Operation Haylift, and Sharkey's collections.

7 **"Best of Nevada"** Your secret ballot for the second annual *Nevada Magazine* readers' poll.

8 **Roadside Attractions** Cooking in Reno, yachting on Mead, and hang gliding in Carson.

22 **People Page** Bloody Harry and the yo-yoing Zink brothers. **By Candice Towell**

79 **Nevadans: Woman of the Willow** Shoshone elder Emma Bobb weaves a lifetime of tradition into her baskets. **Story and photos by Anna Macdonnell Wilmans**

82 **Casinoland: Howard Hughes Slept Here** The mystique of the reclusive billionaire lures guests to his former penthouse suite at the Desert Inn. **By Carolyn Graham**

84 **First Person: Beating the Plow to Jarbidge** We decided to be the first. **By Bill Jayne**

95 **Artist: Elaine Jason** This Sparks artist saw the light in neon sculptures.

96 **Side Trip: Cactus, Candy, and Clowns** Henderson's free factory tours. **By Valerie Porter**





Howard Hughes: Page 82






Millennium Calendar: Page 57


## Events & Shows


23 **Legendary Lounge Acts** When playing Nevada lounges, Wayne Newton, the Mary Kaye Trio, and other great acts became true entertainers. **By Kim Pryor**

30 **Nevada Events** Motor sports and the Rocky Mountain Oyster Cook-Off.

43 **Nevada Showguide** Where the stars and shows are playing this spring.

52 **Attractions, Tours & Museums** Places to go and things to do.

57 **Millennium Countdown Calendar** Nevada ushers in the millennium with a 15-month celebration that lasts from October 31, 1999, to January 15, 2001.

68 **Casino Notes** News from hotel-casinoland. **By Ann Henderson**

76 **Review** "O" at the Bellagio in Las Vegas. **By Mike Weatherford**



**Nevada** (ISSN 0199-1248) is published bimonthly by the State of Nevada at 401 N. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701-4291.


Copyright © 1999 State of Nevada.


Subscriptions are $16.95 per year ($22.95 foreign). Second-class postage paid at Carson City, NV, and additional mailing office. **Postmaster:** Send address changes to Nevada Magazine Subscriptions, P.O. Box 726, Mount Morris, IL 61054-7652.


Photo: Gail Bandini (top)



You have friends in high places.

Jōb's Peak Ranch has been described as heaven on earth. And for a good reason. Heavenly places. It's a private, country community filled with lush alpine meadows, icy-cold mountain streams, stands of giant pines and thick groves of shady aspens. So it shouldn't come as any surprise that the Ranch's neighbors are also Heavenly. Literally. Just up the ridge, about 3 miles as the eagle flies, sits one of the world's finest ski resorts. And right now, when you purchase a homesite at Jōb's Peak, you'll receive a free family ski pass. Now that's neighborly! Discover the joy of living. Discover Jōb's Peak Ranch.



*A Passion for Privacy.*

JŌB'S PEAK RANCH

9 miles from Lake Tahoe, just inside the Nevada border.

Toll Free 1-888-577-2624 www.jpranch.com

Homesites from $60,000* per acre (2.93 acre minimum).



# WE'RE ALL EARS

At **NEVADA MAGAZINE,** we're hopping as fast as we can to provide the best possible service to our subscribers. To get quick answers to your questions or problems, please call our toll-free customer service number·

**1-800-495-3281**

Or write to us at: Nevada Magazine Subscriptions, P.O. Box 726, Mount Morris, IL 61054-7652.



***Question: I just paid for my subscription. Why did I receive another renewal notice in the mail?***

**Answer: If you receive an invoice or renewal notice after you have already responded to an earlier notification, it probably means our correspondence has crossed in the mail. If you receive another notice, it needn't be a hare-raising experience—just give us a call toll-free at 1-800-495-3281. We'll do our best to solve the matter.**

We'll be back next issue with the answer to another frequently asked question.

NEVADA MAGAZINE

**Visit us online at www.nevadamagazine.com**



# NEVADA MAGAZINE

401 N. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701-4291
(775) 687-5416 • Fax (775) 687-6159
e-mail: editor@nevadamagazine.com
Web site: www.nevadamagazine.com

**Subscriptions and Customer Service: Call toll-free 1-800-495-3281**

**Publisher:** Richard Moreno
**Editor:** David Moore
**Art Director:** Denise Barr
**Associate Editor:** Carolyn Graham
**Production Manager:** Gary Elam
**Production Assistant:** Melissa Cronin Loomis
**Circulation Manager:** Debi Frame
**Retail Coordinator:** Isabel Espinoza
**Accountant:** Jacqueline Morgan
**Editorial Assistant:** Candice Towell
**Circulation Assistant:** Samantha Wilson
**Special Assistance:** Nevada State Library and Archives, Nevada Historical Society
**Printing, Pre-Press:** Banta Publications Group

**Events Office**
**Events Editor:** Ann Henderson
555 E. Washington, Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 486-2433, fax (702) 486-2789
e-mail: ann@nevadamagazine.com

**Main Advertising Office**
**Advertising Director:** Patty Noll
**Advertising Assistant:** Susan Wunsch
**Advertising Support:** Ruth Buechel
401 N. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701-4291
(775) 687-5888, fax (775) 687-6159

**Las Vegas Advertising Office**
**Advertising/Marketing Rep:** Lu Ann Terrell
555 E. Washington, Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 486-2434, fax (702) 486-2789
e-mail: luann@nevadamagazine.com

**Kelley-Rose, Inc.**
Cynthia Kelley, Katie Vargas
1105 Terminal Way, Suite 202, Reno, NV 89502
(775) 322-7770

**NEVADA MAGAZINE is a division of the Nevada Commission on Tourism**

**STATE OF NEVADA**
**Governor:** Kenny C. Guinn

**Commission on Tourism**
**Chairman:** Lt. Governor Lorraine T. Hunt
**Members:** Manuel J. Cortez, John Farahi, William J. Hornbuckle, J. Phillip Keene III, Robert Perchetti, W. Dan Reichartz, Ferenc Szony, Claudine Williams
**Executive Director:** Thomas G. Tait

**Magazine Advisory Committee**
Myram Borders, Phil Cooper, Jim King, Robert Laxalt, Warren Lerude



**All rights reserved.** Reproduction of editorial content without written permission is prohibited.



**Submissions:** Nevada Magazine assumes no responsibility for damage or loss of material submitted for publication. A stamped self-addressed envelope must be included with submissions.

**Subscriptions/Customer Service:** Write to Nevada Magazine Subscriptions, P.O. Box 726, Mount Morris, IL 61054-7652, or call **1-800-495-3281**. Please allow at least six weeks for subscription fulfillment or change of address. Nevada Magazine is published bimonthly. Subscriptions are $16.95 per year. Add $6.00 per year for foreign and Canadian.

**Requests** to be removed from mailing list sales can be sent to Nevada Magazine Mailing List, 401 N. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701-4291.

**Disclaimer:** Advertisements in this publication do not constitute an offer for sale in states where prohibited or restricted by law.

**Postmaster:** Send address changes to Nevada Magazine, P.O. Box 726, Mount Morris, IL 61054-7652.

**Printed in U.S.A.**

## Publisher's Note

# Nevada's 'Best' and the Millennium

We would like to know what you think are Nevada's best attributes. Last year we conducted the first-ever *Nevada Magazine* **"Best of Nevada"** reader survey. We were pleasantly surprised at the response—and pleased that readers selected many of the same places and things that the magazine's editors and writers felt were among the state's best.

The Best of Nevada — 2nd Annual *Nevada Magazine* Readers' Poll

Inside this issue you'll find your ballot for the second annual "Best of Nevada" survey. To make the ballot easier to use, it has been designed as a self mailer that you can detach and mail without having to cut up your magazine. Please take a few minutes to fill out the ballot—and let us know what might be the state's friendliest casino, top restaurant, and best natural wonder. The results of this end-of-the-millennium survey will appear in *Nevada Magazine's* July/August '99 issue.

Speaking of the millennium, the Silver State's countdown to the end of the 20th century has begun. *Nevada Magazine* will serve as the official events clearinghouse for the Nevada Commission on Tourism's Nevada 2000 (NV2000): Making Millennium Magic promotional effort. Starting with this issue, there will be a special **"Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar"** inside the Nevada Events and Shows section (with the two merging into one section later this year). The calendar presents 15 months of events that mark Nevada's millennium celebration, which kicks off on Nevada Day, October 31, 1999, and concludes on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2001. Look for limited-time merchandise offers of NV2000 Millennium items (you could say they'll make you the *NV* of your friends). Also, each issue will have a millennium-themed feature or department on influential events, people, and places. This issue, Lake Tahoe writer **Kim Pryor** describes the evolution of Nevada lounge acts who set the stage for the entertainers of the next millennium.—*Richard Moreno*

NEVADA NV2000 Making Millennium Magic


Welcome Aboard!




**Laughlin's Must See! The Colorado Belle Hotel & Casino**

Step into the fast-paced slot and table game action for a quick hit or two. Enjoy the finest food on the Colorado River at one of our six fabulous restaurants. Join the most generous players club in town and see the perks float in. It's the best atmosphere this side of the Mississippi. Come be a part of it!

COLORADO BELLE
HOTEL • CASINO • LAUGHLIN, NV

RING THE BELLE AT
1-800-47-RIVER
1-800-47-74837 www.coloradobelle.com

# Letters

The new hotel wave and Operation Haylift.

## Asleep at the Wheel

I enjoyed the Jan/Feb cover story on "The New, New Wave" of hotels in Las Vegas by Deke Castleman. But he really scammed you guys. He's a good writer and all, but unless I'm missing something, he's not exactly enough of a Vegas icon to have his statue on display at Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum at the Venetian. Elvis, Sinatra, or Liberace he's not! I'd have a word or two with your fact-checker. Also, I found it interesting that the number of new hotel rooms scheduled to open in Vegas this year is greater than the number of hotel rooms in all of Reno. But don't forget: We're still here and going strong!




**Al Alderman**
Reno

*Al, our fact checkers are OK—Deke will always be a Las Vegas icon in our eyes.—Ed.*

## New Wave of Art

Deke Castleman's story on "The New, New Wave" of big hotels in Las Vegas was very enjoyable. When this trend developed a few years ago, I wondered how in the world could they fill all those hotel rooms? In recent years I've stayed at Bally's, Caesars, and New York, New York and enjoyed it, although I missed the old-time places like the Sands and Dunes. I fondly remember the Sands lounge and the outdoor walkways to the lodgings.

But my wife and I spent some time at Bellagio on our last trip, and maybe there's something to this new wave. We decided to see the art gallery with the paintings by Renoir, Picasso, Monet, van Gogh, and others. We walked through it listening to the audiotape program, and it was a remarkable experience. Afterwards some people were gushing about the Christmas tree decorated by Martha Stewart near the gallery, but we told them we'd take Vincent van Gogh any day.

We like to travel in the West and in Asia, but we always take time for Nevada trips to Las Vegas, Reno, and Tahoe. In Vegas we're looking forward to seeing the new Mandalay Bay, Paris, and the Venetian. More and more it seems you can travel the world without even leaving Vegas.

**William Latreck**
San Francisco, CA

## Blasts from the Past

My first trip to Las Vegas was in 1972, at

RV PARK · HOTEL · CASINO
RESTAURANT · FOOD COURT

*The Model T is pleased to present Bonus Bucks. Now our casino customers can win Bonus Bucks while they play! Bonus Bucks can be redeemed for services and merchandise throughout the facility. Check for details from Casino Personnel.*

MODEL T
HOTEL / CASINO / RV PARK
1130 W. Winnemucca Blvd.
Winnemucca, Nevada

Mention this ad and get $5.00 off your room rate.*

(775) 623-2588 or (800) 645-5658

* Thru March 31, 2000. Not valid with any other offer.

GAMBLERS GENERAL STORE
WORLD'S LARGEST GAMBLING SUPERSTORE

♥ Slot Machines (Antique & Modern)
♣ Personalized Poker Chips
♦ Gambling Books
♠ Video Poker
♥ Las Vegas Nite Supplies
♣ Playing Cards
♦ Roulette Wheels
♠ VHS Gambling Tapes
♥ Table Game Layouts
♣ Computer Programs

Open Seven Days A Week
800 S. MAIN ST., LAS VEGAS, NV 89101
Call for 60 page color catalog!
Call 702-382-9903
Fax 702-366-0329 • Outside Nevada 800-322-2447
On the Internet: www.ggss.com or E-mail: ggs@fiax.net
We accept all Major Credit Cards - We Ship Worldwide



Photo: Gail Bandini

which time I stayed at the Hacienda. After my wife and I were married in 1981, we started going to Las Vegas two or three times a year, always staying at the Hacienda, which we really enjoyed. The place was simply great: location, atmosphere, everything. Our son was even married at the Little Church of the West when it was located in front of the Hacienda. We were very saddened when the Hacienda was imploded.



Collector Sharkey Begovich.

Our next choice was the Aladdin, but with its demise, we had to find another good hotel-casino. Over the years we have seen a lot of landmarks erased: the Castaways, Marina, Dunes, Hacienda, Sands, and the Aladdin. It would be nice to see articles on these and other old original hotel-casinos.

**Larry and Brenda Cass**
Newark, OH

## Sharkey's Place

It was a pleasure to read "Sharkey's Incredible Collections" by Treva Lind last issue about one of my favorite places in the world—Sharkey's Casino in Gardnerville. Sharkey's is one of those authentically quirky, old-time places with character that you can't find in these days of chain restaurants offering packaged faux-nostalgia. Each time I've made a pilgrimage to Sharkey's shrine to eccentricity I've discovered some new object or historic artifact on the cluttered walls.

**Lou Downing**
Klamath Falls, OR

## Operation Haylift Lift

Thanks for the story about the heroes and Flying Boxcars in "Operation Haylift" by Mark McLaughlin last issue. Most of us don't realize the impact that weather had—and still has—on our lives. Whenever I step outside on a chilly morning, I can't help but think about those poor ranchers and cows and the folks who worked so hard to save them.

**Clarice Schwartz**
Sacramento, CA

## Portrait of the Artist

I was intrigued by the article about Richard Guy Walton. Since I live independently from society with my nearest neighbor 45 minutes away, it was nice to read about an artist who has been successful nationally yet has been able to maintain a simple lifestyle.

**Heidi Morell**
Silver City, NM

## Theme Scene

I'd like to make reservations for Sigmund's Spa Casino. And my terrier has her water dish packed for a stay at the Kennel Casino. In fact, all of the casino themes masterminded by K.J. Evans in "Theme Me Up" last issue gave me a good laugh—and probably aren't too far-fetched. Thanks for the chuckles, Sarge.

**Larry Johnson**
Los Angeles, CA

## Online Gift Shop

Just wanted to tell you how nice the Nevada Magazine Online Gift Shop is. I was able to do most of my Christmas shopping online this year. Your calendars and T-shirts were a big hit with the relatives. I look forward to renewing my subscription online later this year. It's great that you guys are making everything so easy.

**J.S. Bender**
Dayton


# The Best of Nevada

2nd Annual ***Nevada Magazine*** Readers' Poll

Thanks for locating your "Best of Nevada" ballot in this issue—and for mailing your choices in the 1999 *Nevada Magazine* readers' poll to Ballot Headquarters. Be sure to watch for the "Best of Nevada" results in the July/August issue.

NEVADA MAGAZINE


Photo: Jay Aldrich



# Roadside Attractions

Cooking in Reno, yachting on Lake Mead, and hang gliding in Carson City.



Ray Leonard (right), owner of Adventure Sports, soars over Carson City with a hang-gliding student.

## Taking Flight

CARSON CITY—There are practical reasons why one can fly a hang glider over places like Washoe Valley and Carson Valley—high terrain and uplifting air currents. Hang gliding also expands personal horizons, according to Ray Leonard, proprietor of **Adventure Sports** in Carson City. "It will change your life, and it's an opportunity to overcome personal fears," he says.

Adventure Sports offers hang gliding, paragliding, tandem flying, and the chance to learn about aerodynamics and micrometeorology. Tandem hang-gliding and paragliding discovery flights ($125) are designed to give students a feel for the gliding experience. Paragliding, in which you ride in a seated position, is ideal for lighter winds. A certified instructor navigates both types of flights.

Instructors give one-day introductory lessons for paragliding and hang gliding ($100) on hillsides to help students grasp equipment and flying basics. The cost can be applied to a more intensive course.

Serious students can take a 25-hour hang-gliding course ($750) that includes ground-school training and on-the-hill training with certified instructors. Students will learn about aerodynamics, local weather patterns, the basics of flying the canopy, soaring, and equipment design. A 25-hour paragliding course ($750) offers a slower-paced and more convenient form of aviation with equipment that can fit in a backpack.

The Wild Wild West Hang Gliding Regionals will take place in Washoe Valley during the third weekend in June. Adventure Sports will be hosting the competition. Spectators are welcome at the event. Adventure Sports, located on Research Way off College Parkway in Carson City, also offers equipment for purchase. Hours vary; classes are offered by appointment. Call 775-883-7070 for further information.—*Candice Towell*

## Cooking With Class

RENO—When Jennifer Bushman was seven years old, she created her own recipe for chocolate chip cookies. Today, she's the driving force behind the **Nothing To It! Culinary Center** in Reno, which offers classes and high-end cookware for amateur chefs.

"For many people, cooking has become a hobby rather than a necessity," Bushman says. At Nothing To It! she teaches about a dozen classes a month, from elementary cooking techniques to artisan-bread baking. "I'm on a crusade to demystify cooking," the 31-year-old entrepreneur says. "I started my business in 1994 with a mailing list of 24. Now, there are 5,000 names on that list."

One of those names belongs to Reno resident Gail Corthell, who has attended four Nothing To It! classes. She describes Bushman as "a ball of fire whose energy comes across in her classes." Corthell says she especially liked the "Entertaining



Jennifer Bushman (center) helps students cut up in her cooking classes at the culinary school in Reno.



Photo: Candice Towell (bottom)

Made Easy" course. "We got to sample everything she demonstrated, and what made it really nice was that we could walk to the next room and buy a glass of wine to go with the food."

The cooking school, a portion of which is a former outbuilding on the late Bill Harrah's ranch, has elderwood floor-to-ceiling cabinets and state-of-the-art appliances installed by Dana Ayler of Reno. One of the project's 25 investors, Ayler has a kitchen-design studio on the second floor.

The TV demonstration kitchen accommodates 60 students and is used by Bushman for her weekly "Cooking 4 Today" segment on KRNV News 4's morning show. Visiting chefs such as cookbook authors Hugh Carpenter and Flo Braker teach there. One or two celebrity chef classes are presented each month.

The culinary complex also includes a gourmet take-out restaurant with seating for 24 and retail and Internet cookware stores (http://www.nothingtoit.com). The high-end cooking equipment, Italian pottery, and French kitchen linens, handsomely displayed on shelves, go hand-in-hand with Bushman's philosophy. "We're not going to just sell you the pan," she says. "We're going to teach you how to use it."

Class fees range from $35 to $125. The Nothing To It! Culinary Center is located in south Reno at 225 Crummer Lane, which is just south of the Barnes and Noble bookstore on South Virginia Street. Call 775-826-2628 for information.—*Connie Emerson*

Your name here.

## Stars on Fremont

LAS VEGAS—Hollywood has its Walk of Fame, where gold stars honoring celebrities like Marilyn Monroe and Jimmy Stewart are embedded in the sidewalks. Now Las Vegas has its own version of the star-studded walk for folks who simply feel famous.

Thanks to the **Buy a Star on Fremont Street** program, a noncelebrity can have his or her name engraved in an 11-inch-tall bronze star for $100 and become a permanent part of the pedestrian mall. The stars are scattered throughout the four-block long Fremont Street Experience, a canopy-covered shopping and gambling mall that features a nightly light-and-sound show.

The stars are popular among newlyweds fresh from the Las Vegas chapels as well as families celebrating reunions and other special events. Inscriptions can include your name (no organization or business names), the date, and your city and state. A certificate comes with the inscription.

While gazing at the stars underfoot, visitors to the Fremont Street Experience can peruse a neon-sign museum and enjoy concerts in addition to the light shows. A $99-million entertainment complex called Neonopolis is scheduled to open in November 2000. Neonopolis will be anchored by a 16-screen Mann's Theater

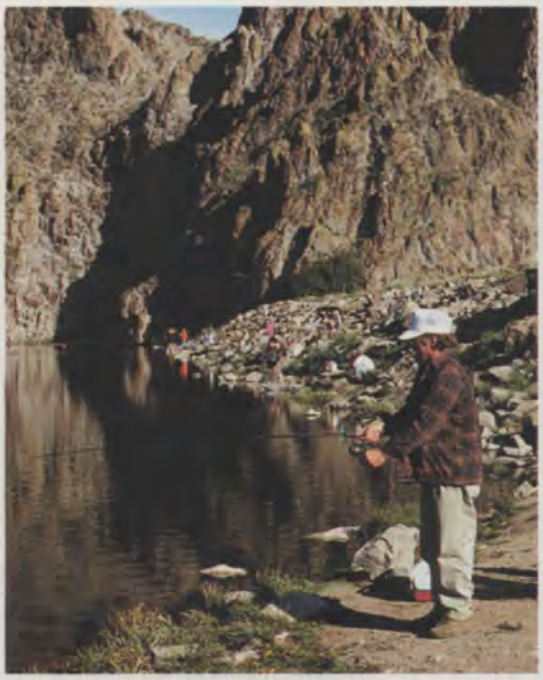
# Traveler's Advisories

**Surf's Up** Visitors planning a vacation to Laughlin can surf the Colorado River town's Web site, www.visitlaughlin.com. The site lists attractions, hotels, RV parks, restaurants, and events and shows. A map shows where to find the resorts, and you can check the monthly high and low temperatures or click the link to the Weather Channel for the five-day forecast. Restaurant listings include cuisine, hours, and prices. In the Shows and Events section, you can see who is playing where in the showrooms and lounges and also read about upcoming events like Laughlin Rodeo Days on April 22-25.



Visitors can link to Laughlin's attractions in cyberspace.

**Fishing Season** Anglers hoping to get a line on Nevada's 1999-2000 fishing season will need to buy a new fishing license. The fees for the season, which begins March 1, are $21 for residents (ages 16 and older) and $5 for juniors (12-15) and seniors (65 and older). Nonresident licenses cost $51 for adults and $9 for juniors. Trout stamps cost an additional $5. Anglers should pay close attention to this year's trout-stamp artwork. Washoe Valley artist Jani Kreutzjans was the winner of both the state trout stamp and duck stamp art contests—becoming the first Nevadan to win the duck-stamp contest in 20 years and the first ever to win both. For more information about fishing and hunting seasons and fees in Nevada, contact the Nevada Division of Wildlife at 775-688-1500 in Reno or 702-486-5127 in Las Vegas.


Anglers can catch the new fishing season on March 1.

**Heart Smart** Conventioneers and other visitors to the sprawling Las Vegas Convention Center can rest a little easier knowing the center recently was equipped with four portable heart defibrillators. Eight security officers and a staff nurse have been trained to use the devices, which can detect whether a patient is breathing or has a pulse and can jumpstart a heart that has stopped beating. Three of the defibrillators have been installed at the convention center and one at Cashman Center.

**Eureka on Tour** One of the best ways to explore the mining town of Eureka is to pick up a copy of the guidebook, *Self-Guiding Tour of Eureka, Nevada: A Step Back in History*. The 12-page sepia-toned guide lists 47 historically significant sites—each corresponding to a number on the building. Visitors can begin at Number 1, the Eureka Sentinel Building, which was built in 1879 and is now the home of the Eureka Sentinel Museum. Visitors can see the Sadler House (Number 3), the 1879 home of Governor Reinhold Sadler (1896-1902), who built a tunnel from his home to his store on Main Street, and the San Francisco Brewery (Number 15), which produced beer in the mid-1870s. The book includes a map and a short history of Eureka. For a copy of the guide, call the Eureka County Chamber of Commerce, 775-237-5484.

Photo: Larry Taylor (bottom)

(another Hollywood import) and will include shops and restaurants. Call the Fremont Street Experience, 702-678-5600, for more information regarding the celebrity-style stars and light-and-sound shows.—*Carolyn Graham*

# Yachting on Lake Mead



Visitors to Lake Mead can become J.P. Morgan for a day aboard the ***M/V Rendezvous***.

LAS VEGAS—J.P. Morgan said that if you had to ask how much it cost to maintain a yacht, you couldn't afford to own one.

That may still be true, but today anyone who can pony up a few thousand dollars can play yacht owner for a day on Lake Mead—and bring along 29 friends.

Moored at the landing of Lake Mead Cruises, ***M/V Rendezvous*** is a 53-foot Hatteras motor yacht known as the *Lady Hilton* in its previous incarnation. The Hilton Corporation sold the yacht to its present owners in 1997

While full-day cruises cost $650 an hour with a five-hour minimum and $600 for each additional hour, it's possible to charter the yacht for just three hours at a $700 hourly rate. The mahogany-and-teak-paneled main cabin and three decks accommodate up to 30 passengers in luxurious style.

Charter fees include amenities such as a high-fidelity CD system and satellite TV, liability insurance, and refreshments from the standard menu. If you want fancier food—say Beluga caviar on toast points and lobster Newburg in puff pastry—you can have that, too, by paying a per-guest supplement.

According to Captain Ed Cline, most people choose to cruise to Hoover Dam and Sandy Point Beach. Wedding couples often time their vows for sunset at Kingman Wash. Bird watchers in search of heron and white egrets bring their binoculars.

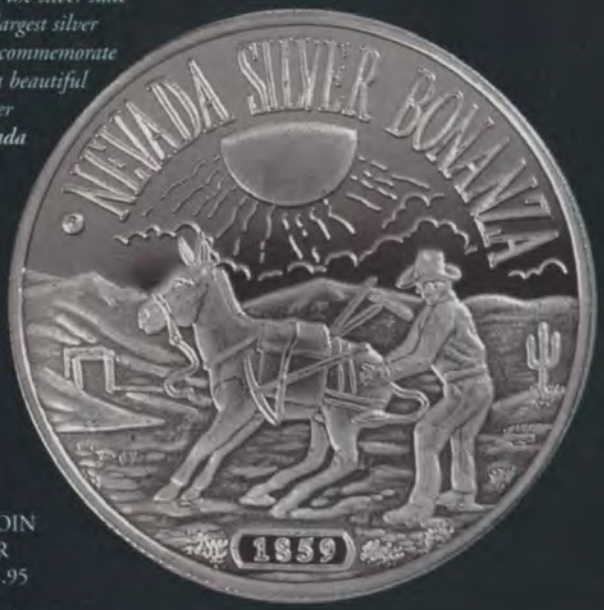
Cline says there are dozens of intriguing spots along the lake's 510-mile shoreline. "Since *M/V Rendezvous* draws only three and a half feet of water, it can go almost anywhere on the lake," he adds. "There's Temple Rock, where the Mormons had their first temple in Arizona," Cline says. "You can often see burros at Burro Point, and bighorn sheep come down to drink on the Arizona side of the lake." Cline also recommends the Narrows, 45 minutes from the marina at cruising speed—five to six knots per hour—and the dozens of small coves in the canyon area.

To reach Lake Mead Cruises (about a 45-minute drive from the Las Vegas Strip), take Las Vegas Boulevard South to State Route 146. Turn left to U.S. 93/95 South. In Boulder City turn left at Buchanan Boulevard. After driving about four miles, turn left on Lake Shore Scenic Drive


NEVADA SILVER BONANZA®

*OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED PRODUCTS*

*Nevada is known as the silver state and is home to the largest silver strike in history. To commemorate this historical fact, a beautiful one ounce, pure silver coin called the* ***Nevada Silver Bonanza®*** *has been minted. The coin is accompanied by an exquisite line of official authorized products.*




NSB BULLION COIN
1 oz. PURE SILVER
$19.95 / Boxed $24.95

**Call for complete list of products**

GOLDEN TRIANGLE BULLION COMPANY
4001 S. Decatur #37-117 Las Vegas, NV 89103 (702) 228-2616
www.nevadasilverbonanza.com

GHOSTTOWNS.COM

- Ghost Towns indexed by State Pictures, History,& Locations
- Virtual Museum
- Large selection of Ghost Town Books and Videos
- Vacation Planning
- Advertising and Webhosting





Atjeu Publishing
3133 W. Crest Lane
Phoenix, Az 85027

email: ghost@ghosttowns.com

1-800-996-4960

For more information visit our website
http://www.ghosttowns.com



Camels and King Tut await at the National Bowling Stadium in downtown Reno.

and go about three and a half miles. Call 702-36-YACHT for additional information.—*Connie Emerson*

## Bowling for Pyramids

RENO—The "Mysteries of Egypt" have been revealed in the latest show to appear at the National Bowling Stadium's four-story screen theater in Reno. The large-format film offers a monumental view of Egypt's pyramids and tombs (including King Tutankhamun's) and takes viewers across the Nile and into the Valley of the Kings.

The movie, narrated by native Egyptian and actor Omar Sharif, appears at 1, 3, and 4:30 p.m. daily, with additional shows at 11 a.m. Saturday and Sunday at the National Bowling Stadium in downtown Reno. Admission to the 40-minute film is $6 for adults and $4 for children 12 and under and seniors 60 and over. Call 775-334-2634 for information.—*Carolyn Graham*



Photographs, medals, and other artifacts are on display in the lobby at Reno's V.A. Medical Center.

## A Tribute to Glory

RENO—At the **Military Heritage Museum** inside Reno's Veterans Affairs Medical Center, visitors will find historical items ranging from a Revolutionary War-era harmonica to a KC-135 flight uniform from the Persian Gulf War. Museum visitors will meet veterans as well.

"This is a place to meet people," says curator and program clerk Tom Iverson. "This is a labor of love. We can be proud of the fact that we are veterans."

The museum was developed in 1992 to honor the 50th anniversary of World War II. Donated items include photos, artwork, equipment, uniforms, letters, helmets, military playing cards, and model planes. The exhibits feature Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force, and Marine Corps memorabilia. Special-topic exhibits include women in the military and Western military. In March and April an exhibit on African-Americans in the military will feature Medal of Honor winners, buffalo soldiers, unique photographs, and war uniforms.

The museum is open from 7 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. daily and is located in the lobby of the V.A. hospital at 1000 Locust Street, about one mile south of downtown Reno. Admission is free. Anyone interested in donating military memorabilia for display or seeking more information about the museum, call Tom Iverson, 775-328-1491, at the V.A.—*Candice Towell*

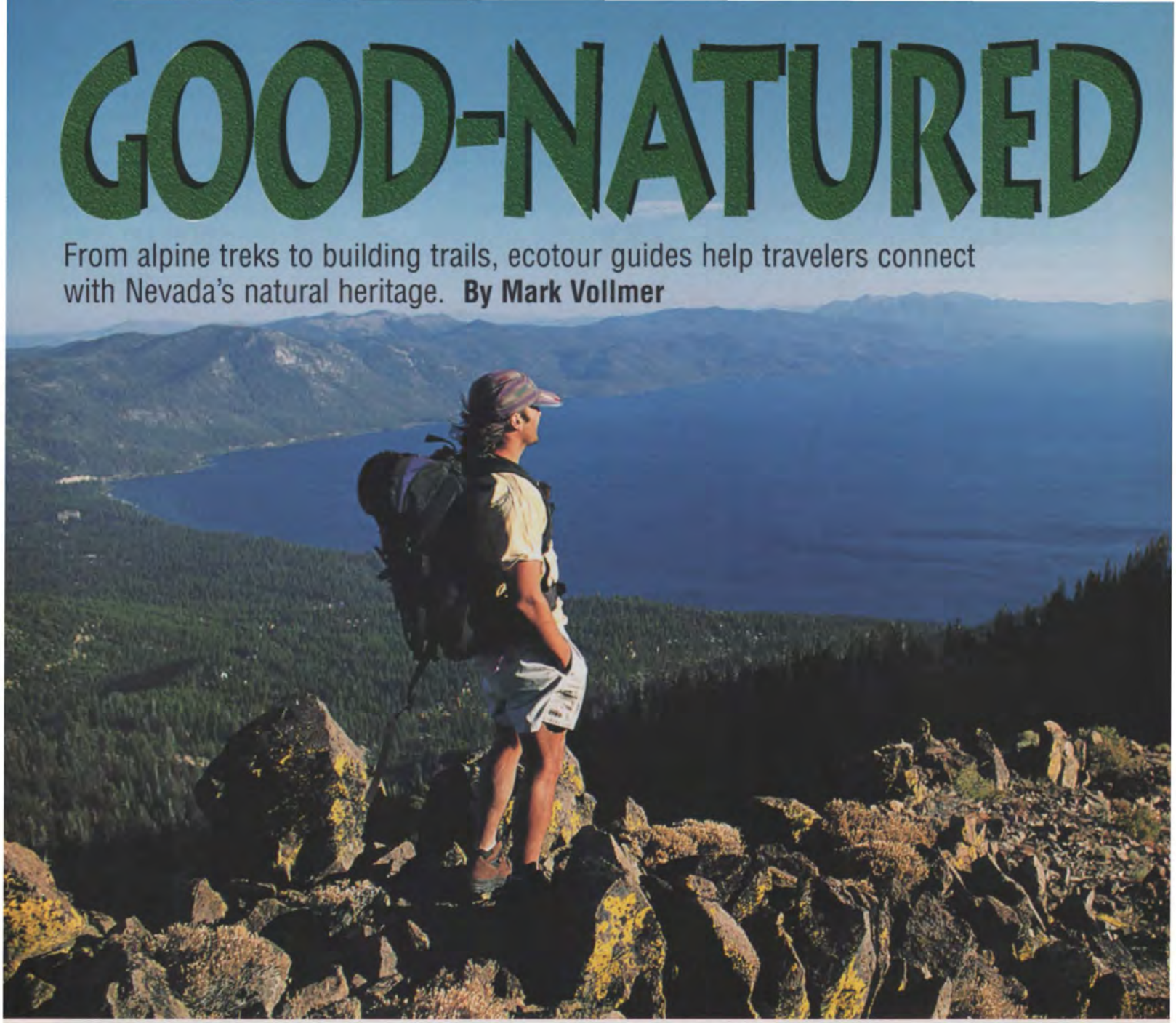





Photo: Candice Towell (bottom)

# GOOD-NATURED

From alpine treks to building trails, ecotour guides help travelers connect with Nevada's natural heritage. **By Mark Vollmer**



**Lake Tahoe is the scenic focus for hikers like Matt Herriger on the Tahoe Rim Trail. Vacationing volunteers will help build the trail's last section this summer.**

Last April, two North Carolina honeymooners joined Ed Price of Rocky Trails, a Las Vegas eco-vacation company, on a natural-history tour of Valley of Fire State Park. They began with a short walk near a viewpoint north of the park. Price explained that 200 organisms live in each square meter of the Mojave Desert. The couple delighted in the wildflowers blooming at their feet and the brilliant-red sandstone of Valley of Fire in the distance. They were astonished to discover so much life and color in the Nevada desert.

Then Price and the newlyweds drove to the park in his Chevy Suburban for a hike and a look at 1,000-year-old petroglyphs. On the way, they got a surprise.

"As we were coming into the east entrance, we got hit by a hailstorm," Price recalls. "I pulled the Suburban over so we could watch the storm pass. It didn't last long, but when it cleared, there was all this nice, beautiful white hail on the red sandstone. The temperature on my thermometer was 42 degrees, and it quickly warmed up to 65 degrees after the sun came out." The hail didn't take long to melt, he says, but the couple loved the experience.

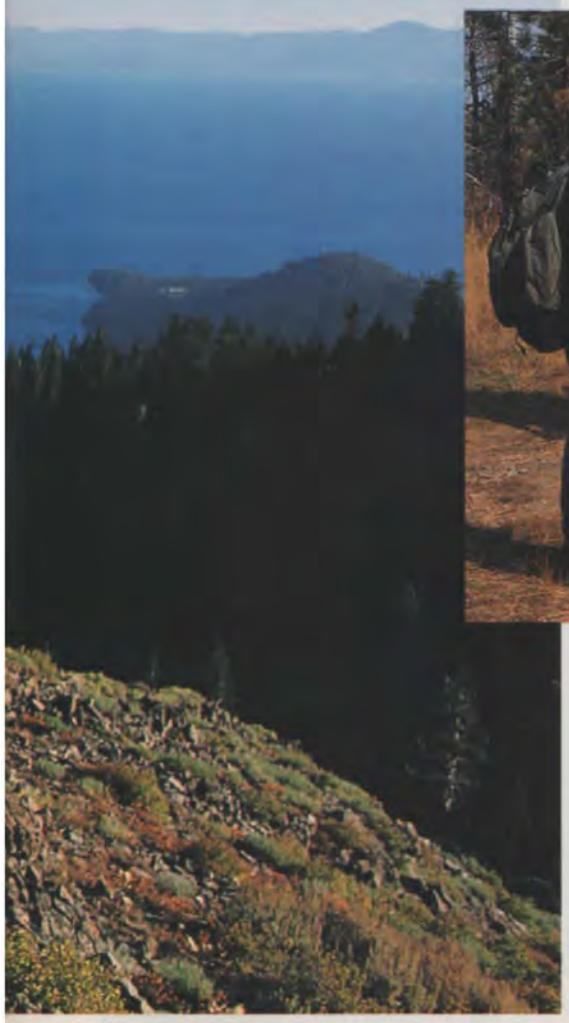
Ecotours such as Price's—where participants learn about the natural systems behind the scenery and experience the occasional dramatic moment—are growing increasingly popular in the Silver State. An eco-vacation, according to the Vermont-based Ecotourism Society, refers to "responsible travel that conserves the natural environment and sustains the well-being of local people."

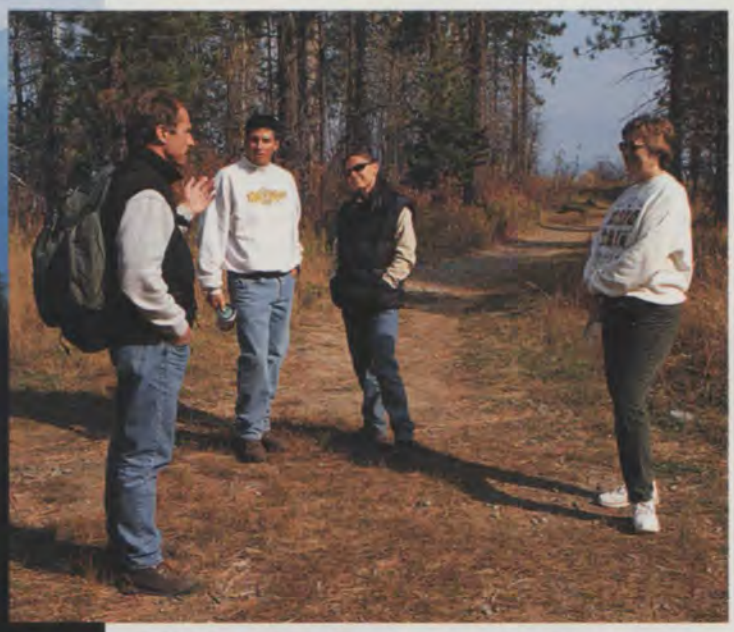
Nevada eco-travelers can take a variety of organized trips. In the Las Vegas area, one can hook up with Rocky Trails or with Randal Grandstaff and his firm, Sky's the Limit, which offers rock climbing in Red Rock Canyon. In the north, Eco Adventures conducts tours of Lake Tahoe and the Nevada desert. In Elko County, outfitters like Lowell Prunty will help the greenest greenhorns explore the Jarbidge Wilderness by horseback. For Black Rock Desert outings, dufurrena and dufurrena Adventures combines natural history, photography, and gourmet camp chow.



Photo: Larry Prosor

# VACATIONS





Bob Anderson (left) of Eco Adventures introduces Gavin Gonzalez, Monika Klecka, and Judy Kunkler to the natural history of Lake Tahoe's south shore.

To see how popular these vacations have become in Nevada, one need only review a list of the state's ecotour companies (see page 88). Of the 14 firms listed, nine were established in the last 11 years and six since 1996. Why the burgeoning interest in eco-vacations?

"Tourists are more educated these days," says Virginia City geologist Becky Purkey, who operates Detours. "They're looking for something different, and by taking these tours they get to see something special."

Bob Anderson of Eco Adventures at Lake Tahoe points out that ecotours appeal to a large segment of the population—baby boomers. He says, "As baby boomers age, the shift will go toward active educational touring experiences. High adventures such as climbing Mount Everest won't be enough. People are going to want something more educational."

Of course, travelers can organize their own Humboldt River canoe trips or Wheeler Peak ascensions, and nonprofit groups like the Audubon Society and Sierra Club have offered low-cost outings in the Nevada backcountry for decades. So, with or without a guide, the opportunities are vast for exciting, fulfilling vacations that protect the state's fragile environment.

"More people are getting away from the lights and glitter," Linda Dufurrena says. "They're getting out and seeing how beautiful the desert is, and they want to know more about it."

## VEHICLE TOURS AND GUIDED WALKS

Ed Price of Rocky Trails pays attention to customers' reactions to his Valley of Fire and Red Rock Canyon tours. "I like hearing their comments about the scenery, especially if they haven't been to the Southwest before," he says. "They can't believe how colorful the rocks are—pastels, pinks, reds. For people from Europe or back East, this is classic Western country."

Leading one-day custom trips in his Suburban, Price takes visitors on easy-to-moderate hikes to marvel at desert waterfalls in Red Rock Canyon or to photograph the gnarled bristlecone pines at Mount Charleston. Price, a hydrogeologist and 12-year Las Vegas resident, established Rocky Trails in 1996. Although most of his customers come from Europe and the Eastern United States, he's taken Las Vegas residents on desert trips as well. He looks forward to each tour, he says. "I enjoy taking them to places that they might not otherwise find on their own."

Becky Purkey also enjoys sharing her knowledge of Nevada. "I was called the Road Guide Queen at the Nevada Bureau of Mines because of my road tours to Winnemucca, Denio, Reno, and many other places," the Virginia City resident says, referring to her 21 years as an information specialist for the mines bureau in Reno. Those natural-history outings evolved into Detours, the company she started in 1996.

"I saw nobody was doing historical tours here, so I just said, 'Heck!'" Purkey's enthusiasm shows in her custom earth science, historical, and natural history trips in the Reno and Carson City area. She leads visitors on three-hour walks in Virginia City, exploring the geology and mining history of the Comstock. She also conducts tours of Lake Tahoe, covering water clarity and preservation issues, and supplies the picks for rock and fossil collecting near Pyramid Lake and Fernley.

**"AS LONG AS PEOPLE PRACTICE NO-TRACE CAMPING, THEN IT WILL BE GREAT FOR NEVADA."**

On a recent trip west of Pyramid Lake, participants ranged from teenagers to a retired lawyer. Purkey led the group to a shal-

Photo: Mark Vollmer




**Randal Grandstaff of Sky's the Limit stands at Red Rock's Red Spring.**

low pit dug in diatomite, a chalk-like layer of rock formed from Ice Age sediments. She explained that the diatomite contained leaf imprints several million years old, possibly formed when streams carried fallen leaves into this ancient lake. Streams? Lakes? Trees? It was a lesson in climatic change, but the group had come to play in the dirt, too, so for the next two hours members worked their way along the 100-foot-long trench, uncovering parts of willow-like leaves. The catch of the day belonged to Purkey's 14-year-old daughter, Marcie, who found a complete imprint of a maple-like leaf as large as an adult's hand. "I found the biggest leaf!" Marcie exclaimed, proudly showing it to her mother.

**"WE DISTRIBUTE OUR TRIPS TO AREAS IN RED ROCK WHERE THERE AREN'T MANY PEOPLE," GRANDSTAFF SAYS.**

Purkey also tailors her trips for school groups, bus tours, and conventioneers. "With my tours, people don't have a clue of what they're getting into," she says. "And the things they learn! Their eyes light up. They start having a ball and don't want to leave. That's what keeps me going—the gratification of having people not wanting to let go of the experience."

Bob Anderson of Eco Adventures stresses eco-education on his trips. Anderson leads clients on trips to Fort Churchill State Historic Park and Pyramid Lake. He'll take them on a mountain bike tour above Tahoe on the Marlette Flume Trail, a half-day whitewater rafting trip on the Truckee River, or a day of fly fishing on the Truckee, Walker, or Carson River.

Anderson often leads a two-mile walk near Camp Richardson that winds through open forest, wetlands, and historic sites on the lake's south shore. One cool morning last fall Anderson gathered a group of California tourists on that trail and talked about the glaciers that helped to carve the lake's contours 200,000 years ago.

"When you look at the beautiful Nevada shoreline, some of those large boulders around Zephyr Cove and Sand Harbor originated from icebergs that drifted across the lake," he explained. The group watched crimson salmon spawning in the shallow gravel beds of Taylor Creek, visited a snow-survey station, learned the Native Americans uses of rosehip and manzanita, and relived the lake's steamship era at Tallac Historic Site.

A Lake Tahoe resident who grew up in Reno, Anderson started his ecotour firm in 1996 after 10 years of working for Tahoe tourist bureaus. He says, "I saw an opening where nobody was conveying a rich natural and cultural learning experience to their tours in their advertisements." Anderson says his goal is to "give people another reason to visit Nevada" while helping to preserve the state's environment and culture.

## NONMOTORIZED ECOTOURS

Some ecoguides shun cars in favor of horses. A third-generation guide, Lowell Prunty has led horseback trips into the Jarbidge Wilderness in Nevada's northeast corner since he was nine. The Prunty family began offering autumn hunting and fishing trips in 1946. Jarbidge Wilderness Guide and Packing now includes summer tours for wildflower and wildlife viewing, photography, fishing, hiking, and horseback riding. During six-day adventures,






**Linda Dufurrena of d and d Adventures helps photographer Katy Tims capture the morning light in Lovely Valley (above). Marcie Purkey, daughter of Detours director Becky Purkey, shows off a fossilized leaf discovered on an outing (right). Dudes ride horseback in the Jarbidge Wilderness (left) while Desert Eco-Tour guide Bruce Boyd points out petroglyphs north of Las Vegas (below).**







Photos: Mark Vollmer (top, middle left and right), Nevada Commission on Tourism (bottom left), Steve Graham (bottom right)

clients ride past waterfalls, aspens, and whitebark pine to admire 600 varieties of wildflowers and breathtaking vistas. Prunty's clients usually travel on horseback, but he caters to backpackers, too. An outfitter of nature-oriented vacations before they became a trend, he sees Nevada's growing ecotourism as an asset.

"Nevada has a lot to offer," he says. "It has the most mountain ranges of any state in the entire country, and it definitely has the open acreage. As long as people practice no-trace camping, then it will be great for Nevada."

No-trace camping is a key element of eco-vacationing. The guidebook series *Leave No Trace* by the National Outdoor Leadership School identifies these no-trace practices:

- Pack out everything that was packed in.
- Leave a campsite in the pristine condition it was found in.
- Stay on designated trails.
- When traveling cross-country, choose durable surfaces such as rock, gravel, snow, and dry grasses.



**Students learn the ropes in a rappelling class. Sky's the Limit offers technical rock-climbing instruction and day-long hiking tours at Red Rock Canyon.**

Treading lightly is emphasized by Randal Grandstaff, owner of Sky's the Limit, which conducts hiking and rock-climbing treks in the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area near Las Vegas. "We distribute our trips to areas in Red Rock where there aren't many people," he says. Grandstaff avoids areas such as Pine Creek Canyon that have heavy weekend hiker traffic. His rock-climbing classes include crag etiquette, such as how to anchor ropes without scarring the sandstone cliff faces of the Calico Hills. Climbing students range from beginners to experts, and Grandstaff will tailor classes to suit groups and families. His guides lead hikes to lush, forested canyons in the less-traveled portions of the Wilson Cliffs and to the alpine vistas of Mount Charleston. Hikers may see endemic plants, ancient rock art, and bighorn sheep.

Grandstaff, who was born and raised near Las Vegas, has witnessed the environmental toll that growing numbers of visitors have taken on Red Rock, from ATV tracks crisscrossing hillsides to trampled springs. "It's real important to understand the impact that's happening here [at Red Rock Canyon], and we're trying as hard as we can to mitigate that [negative impact]." Grandstaff, his six technical climbing guides, and five hike-of-the-day guides all work to interest clients in protecting the desert's fragile beauty.

**IN JULY, THE SIERRA CLUB WILL LEAD A PARENT-TEEN WORK PARTY ON THE RIM TRAIL.**

For instance, Red Spring is home to a springsnail that lives at Red Rock and nowhere else in the world. In 1997, concerned about the increasing numbers of visitors to the easily accessible, ecologically fragile spring, federal and state agencies built a corral to protect the most critical snail habitat while allowing public access. Grandstaff's outings in the Calico Hills usually begin with an ecological talk at Red Spring. "It's a good target to get people interested in environmental issues because it's right there in front of them," he says. After more than a decade in the ecotourism industry, Grandstaff remains enthusiastic. "One of the most gratifying things that keeps me in this business is educating people and making a difference. At the end of the day when people go away informed about the biodiversity of this area, that's a victory. I was born here, and I've made a conscious decision to stay and try to protect it."

## WORKING ECO-VACATIONS

Some ecotours involve hard labor. (Yes, you can work on your vacation.) At Lake Tahoe, the Tahoe Rim Trail Association organizes summer trailblazing crews to work on the ridgetop trail that circles the lake. This summer volunteers will begin building the 150-mile loop's final 10 miles in the Mount Rose area.

"Our vision right now is not only completing the loop but preserving the trail for future generations," says Shannon Raborn, manager of the Tahoe Rim Trail office in Stateline. "That will involve continued maintenance work like erosion control or repair, provided by volunteers, and continuing our hike-a-thons and backcountry camping trips."

Volunteers help remove fallen trees and repair the erosion-mitigating rock and wood water bars in the trail. The association supplies the hard hats, digging tools, saws, training, and crew leaders. Boy Scout troops, science classes, and Elderhostel groups, as well as visitors and local residents, join the weekend outings. In July, the Sierra Club will lead a week-long parent-teen work party between Spooner Summit and Kingsbury Grade. "It's hard work," says Reno retiree Bill Hager, who

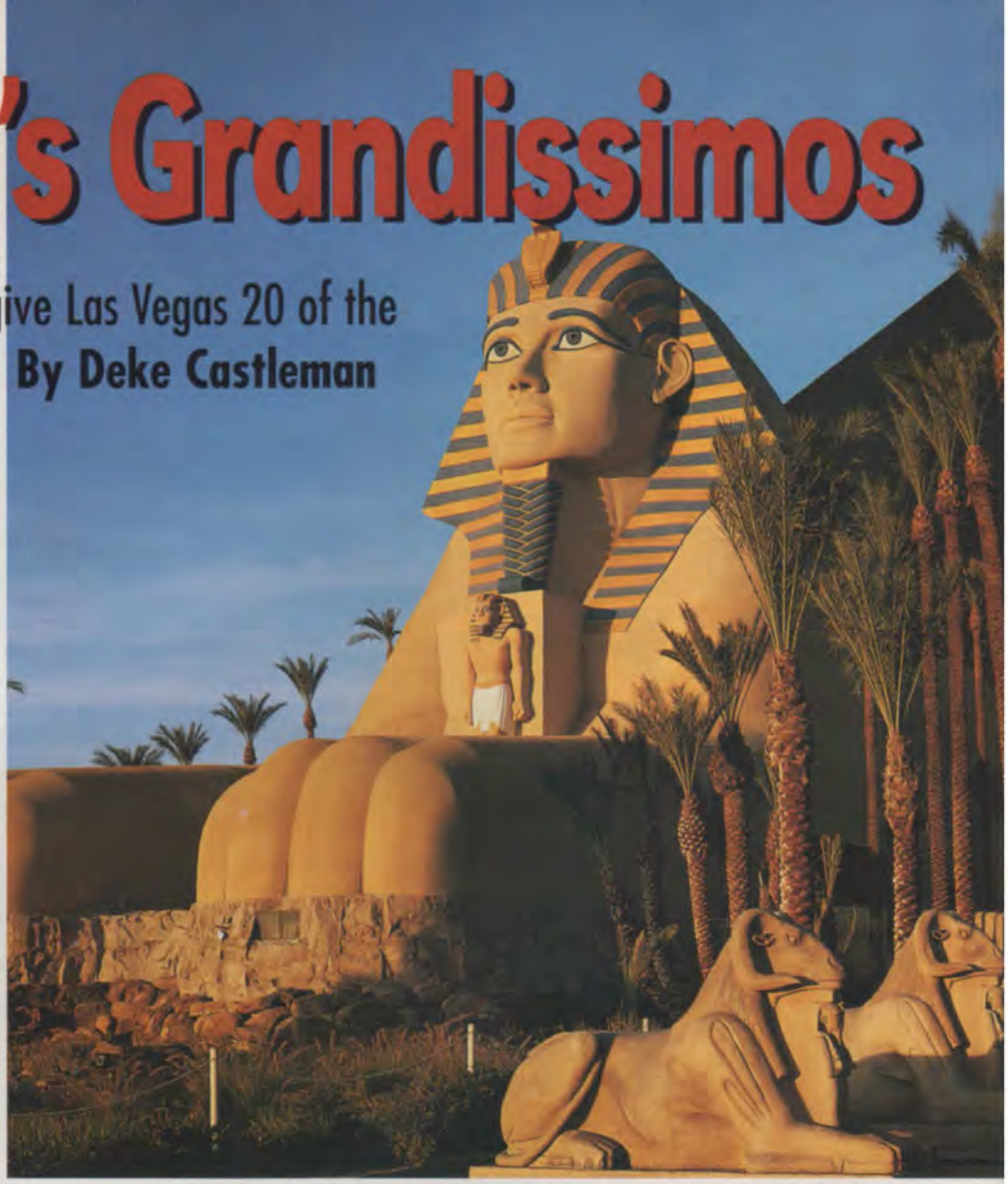
*(Continued on page 87)*

Photo: Larry Taylor

# Gaming's Grandissimos

## The latest room boom will give Las Vegas 20 of the 23 biggest hotels on earth.

**By Deke Castleman**



Luxor, second only to the MGM Grand in room count, is one of several Circus Circus giants on the Strip.

The Las Vegas tradition of claiming the largest hotels in the world dates back to 1958, when the Stardust opened with 1,032 rooms. That tradition continues as the Strip's current construction boom produces more gargantuan resorts.

In fact, the latest list of the world's biggest hotels and a roster of Las Vegas' biggest are virtually identical. The only giant non-Nevada hotel is the Ambassador City in Jomtien, Thailand, which has a somewhat fuzzy count of about 4,000 rooms, ranking it among the world's top three or four.

Following is the lineup of Las Vegas' top 10 gaming grandissimos, including the newcomers. After Mandalay Bay and the Venetian open this spring and Paris opens in the fall, Las Vegas will boast more than 120,000 hotel rooms—almost as many as New York City and Los Angeles combined.

**1 MGM Grand:** The Grand is the grandest. It has 5,005 rooms, along with a 171,000-square-foot casino, 9,000-space parking garage, 10 major restaurants, a convention center, and an amusement park. On a busy day, with 10,000 hotel guests, 8,000 employees, and a full complement of gamblers, conventioneers, thrill seekers, and gawkers, the MGM Grand has a population larger than all but a handful of Nevada towns.

**2 Luxor:** This sleek, 30-story bronze pyramid opened in 1993 with a mere 2,500 rooms. In 1995, Luxor added nearly 2,000 more in two ziggurat towers next to the north wall, giving it a respectable 4,474 rooms. The pyramid's interior occupies 29 million cubic feet of open space, forming the world's largest atrium.

**3 Excalibur:** Excalibur debuted in 1990 with 4,008 rooms and, amazingly, hasn't expanded since. It's big, to be sure, but with its spires, turrets, and parapets, King Arthur-inspired production show, and Renaissance-uniformed employees, Excalibur is actually a colossal amusement park that happens to have hotel rooms and a casino.

**4 Circus Circus:** The famous pink big top opened in 1968 with no rooms—just a casino and circus midway. Six expansions over 30 years, including a 1,000-room tower in 1997, have given Circus Circus a total of 3,746 rooms. More than four million meals are served annually in the hotel's Circus Buffet, making it the busiest restaurant in the world.

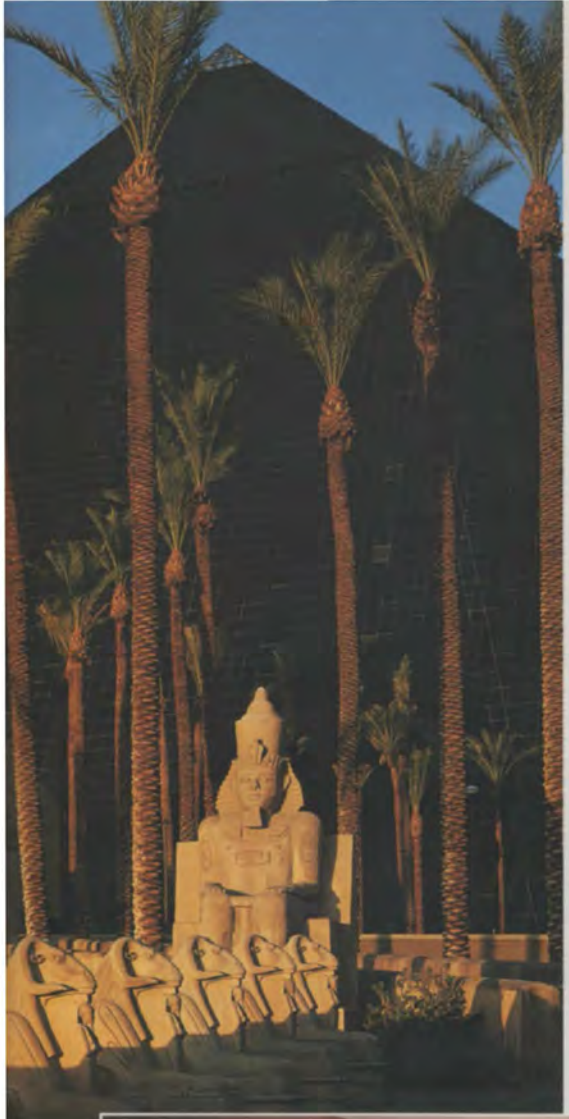
**5 Mandalay Bay:** Opening in March next to Luxor on Circus Circus' Masterplan Mile, Mandalay Bay itself has "only" 3,309 rooms while the upscale Four Seasons Hotel, occupying the 35th through 39th floors, has 424. Still, the building's 3,733 rooms qualify it as a big joint. With Mandalay Bay on line, Circus Circus Enterprises boasts four out of the six largest hotels in Las Vegas, and five out of the top 10 when you include Monte Carlo, which it runs jointly with Mirage Resorts.

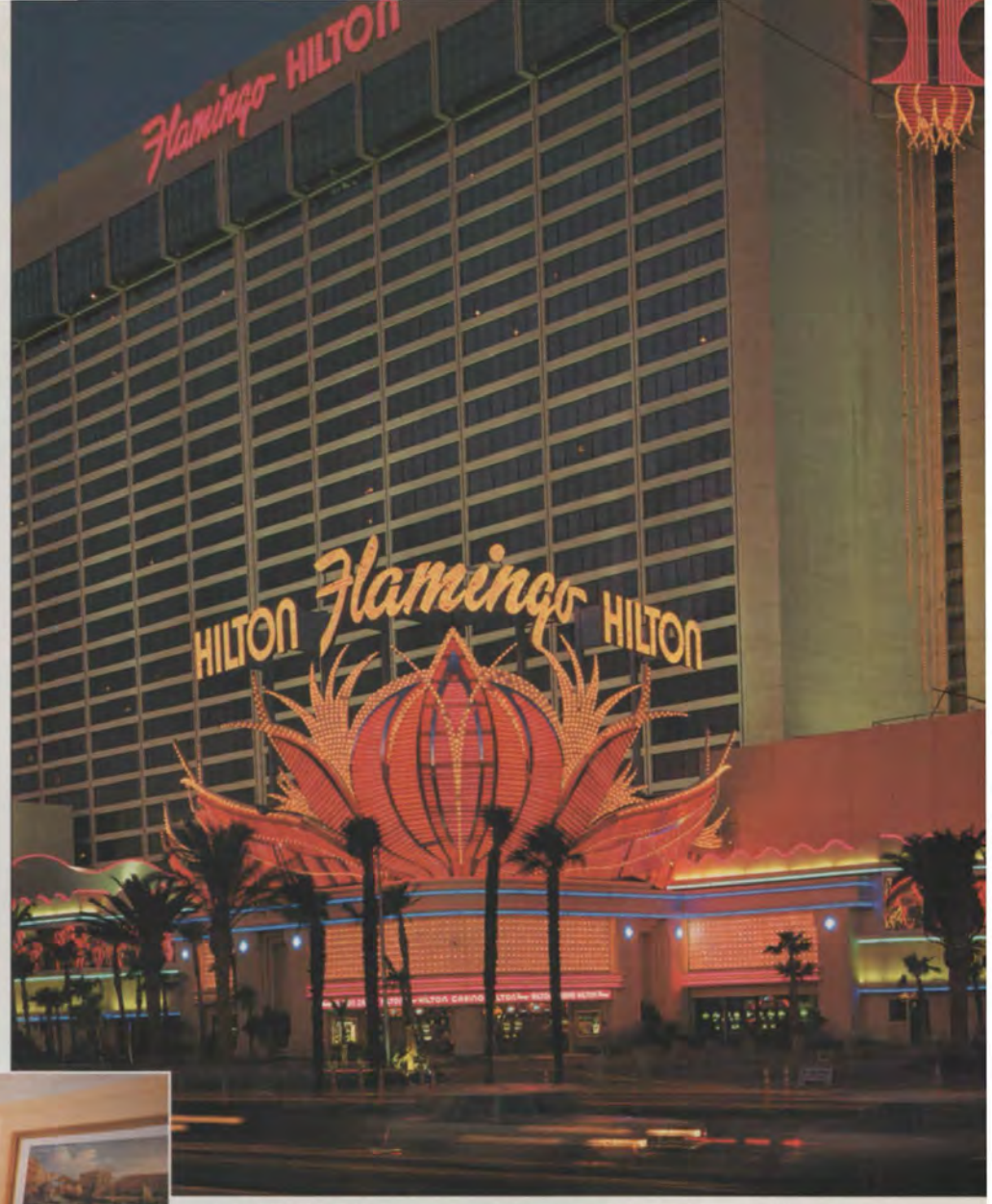
**6 Flamingo Hilton:** Benjamin Siegel's dream casino, which opened in 1946, is the second-oldest and most-expanded joint on the Las Vegas Strip. For its first 23 years, the Flamingo claimed several hundred rooms—and then it was taken over by Hilton. The giant hotel corporation added 500-room towers in 1977, 1980, 1982, and 1986, a 728-room tower in 1990, and a 900-room tower in 1993. The Flamingo now has 3,642 rooms.

**7 Las Vegas Hilton:** When this property opened in 1969 with 1,500 rooms, it ended the Stardust's 11-year hegemony as the world's largest hotel. Another 1,500 rooms were added in 1973, making it the first three-wing hotel-casino, a design that is now standard among the giants. Today, the Las Vegas Hilton has 3,174 rooms.



Photo: Gail Bandini








**Bugsy Siegel's old joint has grown into the 3,642-room Flamingo Hilton (above). The Venetian's preview center shows a sample of one of its 3,036 suites (left).**

**8 Mirage:** For an idea how fast things change in Las Vegas, consider this: When the Mirage opened in 1989, just two of the top 11 hotels on this list existed, and only the Las Vegas Hilton was larger than the 3,049-room Mirage. The Mirage launched the greatest hotel building boom the world has ever seen—10 years, $10 billion, and counting.

**9 Venetian:** When it opens in April, the massive Venetian, with 3,036 rooms, will place only ninth on the biggest-hotel list. However, every room is a 700-square-foot suite, twice as spacious as the standard Las Vegas hotel room. Also, Phase II calls for another 3,000-room tower. When completed in 2001, the Venetian will become the world's largest hotel. For now, with its 1.7-million-square-foot convention center, the Venetian claims the title of the world's largest private hotel-convention facility under one roof.

**10 Monte Carlo:** Modeled after Monaco's Place du Casino and built in only 14 months, this joint venture between Circus Circus and Mirage Resorts opened in June 1996 as the fastest-built big hotel in Las Vegas history. The Monte Carlo's 3,025 rooms give Circus Circus nearly 20,000 rooms on the Las Vegas Strip.

**11 Room for More:** Las Vegas' room-count dominance is interrupted only by two other non-Nevada hotels. The pecking order is: Bellagio (3,010 rooms), Treasure Island (2,900), the Opryland Hotel in Nashville (2,884), Bally's (2,832), Imperial Palace (2,700), Harrah's Las Vegas (2,700), Rio (2,569), Caesars Palace (2,549), the Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu (2,542), and the Stardust (2,431). Thus, when Paris (2,900 rooms) opens in September and the new Aladdin (2,600) opens early next year, 20 out of the world's largest 23 hotels will stand on or near the Las Vegas Strip.

---

*Deke Castleman, managing editor of the* Las Vegas Advisor *and author of* Nevada Handbook, *prefers to stay in classic '50s motels except when he's traveling with his wife, Virginia, who is the hotel connoisseur in the family.*

Photos: Gail Bandini (top right), Carolyn Fox (bottom)

# Spring in Bloom

It's wildflower time in Southern Nevada. **Photos by Susan Rovira**

Each spring, Las Vegas photographer Susan Rovira, a self-described "wildflower devotee," focuses on the flowers that splash color throughout Southern Nevada. Rovira and her husband, Leo Gallia, are both doctors who serve at University Medical Center Quick Care. Off-duty, they frequently take trips in the desert and go shore camping on Lake Mead in their boat. "I love the desert," she says. "We like to go camping, and we decided while we're there, we might as well take good photographs." Rovira, a member of the Nevada Camera Club, adds, "I've been honing my skills, working more intensely on photography in the last five years."





At Lake Mead last spring Rovira photographed a bee visiting the yellow-blossomed brittlebush (upper right). The red sandstone and sandy soil of Valley of Fire provided a backdrop for the fragrant white primrose (opposite page). Hiking in higher elevations, Rovira noticed a Western tiger swallowtail butterfly dancing among the Western blue flax and cup-shaped penstemon as summer arrived on Mount Charleston (lower right).



# A NOVEL IDEA

## When novelist Elinor Glyn visited Rawhide in 1908, the Central Nevada mining camp's promoters arranged a bang-up reception.

**By Phillip I. Earl**





**Two Rawhide miners chat with writer Elinor Glyn, who is wearing a veil against the desert sun. At right, the fashionable Glyn poses for a 1902 portrait.**

The British novelist Elinor Glyn may have seemed an unlikely guest of honor at the mining camp of Rawhide in 1908, but her visit had a certain logic. She was a smart, ambitious author who loved to promote her books. Her hosts were smart, ambitious men who liked to promote their mines. The result was an episode, complete with a Wild West gunfight, in which the "press-agenting" of the Rawhide boosters helped their young town gain considerable notoriety.

Elinor Glyn was the toast of the popular literary world when she visited Rawhide. She had just published *Three Weeks*, about a woman's torrid 21-day affair with a younger man. The novel was so risqué that it was banned in Boston and her native Canada. Glyn was the Danielle Steele and Barbara Cartland of her time. Her racy books—*The Visits of Elizabeth, The Damsel and the Sage*—were immensely popular at home in Britain and in the United States. A contemporary doggerel began, "Would you sin with Elinor Glyn?"

Glyn was visiting San Francisco in the spring of 1908 when word reached Rawhide that she might visit one of the Western mining camps to gather local color for her next book. Instantly grasping the promotional possibilities in her presence were Rawhide residents George Graham Rice, Tex Rickard, and Nat Goodwin, mining promoters par excellence. Learning that Glyn was the guest of Utah mining millionaire Sam Newhouse, Rice contacted Renoite Raymond T. Baker, a friend of Newhouse's, about making an introduction.

"Please suggest to Mr. Newhouse and Glyn the advisability of visiting Rawhide," Rice's telegram read. "The lady can get much local color for a new book. If you bag the game, you will be a hero."

Baker did so, and Glyn and Newhouse took the train to Goldfield via Salt Lake City and Las Vegas. Their party arrived in Goldfield on the Las Vegas and Tonopah Railroad on May 24.

Glyn toured Goldfield—which was Nevada's largest city at the time—and explored the underground workings of the Mohawk Mine. In an interview with a *Goldfield Tribune* reporter she effused over the country and the people, "particularly the fact that you hear nothing about the *Mayflower*. Everything back east is about the *Mayflower* and about one's antecedents. I care nothing for that. This is my first time in any mining camp, and believe me, I am agreeably surprised. It is most interesting. It is like nature itself."

Meanwhile, Rice, Goodwin, Baker, and Rickard had prepared a proper welcome at Rawhide, which had been established only the year before in the desert 90 miles northeast of Hawthorne. On her first evening in Rawhide, May 27, Glyn and

Newhouse visited Rickard's Northern Saloon on the edge of Stingaree Gulch, the red-light district. The promoters had arranged for a mock poker game featuring six characters playing with $1,000 chips. Later, during a staged shootout, two of them bit the dust. Glyn, not realizing that she was being joshed, believed the "murders" to be an everyday part of life in Rawhide.

She took a turn at the faro table, winning $1,000 through the connivance of Rickard and the dealer, and toured the dance halls and cribs. Rice also arranged a fire that spread to several deserted shacks to allow her to observe the heroics of Rawhide's volunteer firemen.

At a banquet in her honor, she granted an interview to the editor of the *Rawhide Press-Times*. She spoke of "the sturdy manhood and dominant spirit of conquest" of the men she had met. She was presented with a gun and a deputy constable's badge. "We give you this gun because we like yer darned pluck," she later quoted the presenter. "You ain't afraid, and we ain't neither."

Glyn, Newhouse, and party left by auto the next day, and Glyn soon traveled to New York. In a June 10 article in the *New York American*, she wrote of Rawhide and "those brave fellows fighting nature to obtain from her legitimate wealth, fighting hardships, cold and great heat, difficulties in obtaining food and water, and each day the chance of death." She described the courteous manner of the men—"not one soul in the streets or gambling saloons stared or committed a single action in bad taste." Indeed, she applauded "that fine quality of good taste which in England we associate with the highest breeding." She described the dance halls she visited and how respectful the men were toward their dancing partners—"nothing rude or suggestive in any of it, only perfect motion."

This was just the sort of publicity that Rice and his compatriots had envisioned, but newspaper editors soon were shaking a finger at Glyn for her visit to Rawhide's tenderloin. The editor of the *New York Mail* decried her brazenness, observing that American women usually visited such places only in Europe. Glyn asserted that any woman could have the same experience in any large city. "And the wagers we laid were nothing," she added. "Women do that sort of thing at Monte Carlo."

**The promoters arranged for a mock poker game featuring six characters playing with $1,000 chips.**

Tex Rickard was concerned with the belated bad publicity, but not Rice. "Every knock's a boost," Rice told his partner. "Just the fact that we could get anyone as prominent as Elinor Glyn to visit us will impress people with Rawhide's growing importance."

However, Rawhide went from boom town to ghost town over the next three decades. A fire ravaged the camp four months after Glyn's visit, and although Rawhide rebuilt, the excitement faded.

Most of the characters in this episode went on to further success. In 1913, Rice published *My Adventures With Your Money*, a classic confessional that he dedicated to "The American Damphool Speculator." Goodwin, a well known actor, returned to the stage. Rickard later moved to New York and built the third Madison Square Garden. The politically connected Baker became director of the U.S. Mint.

Glyn continued to cut a dashing figure in Europe and America. Before her death in 1943 at age 78, she wrote 25 novels and 14 nonfiction books. She spent part of the 1920s in Hollywood writing and producing movies. Her 1926 story *It* ("it" referring to sex appeal) had a Nevada connection. After *It* was made into a movie, Clara Bow, the star and a future Southern Nevada resident, became known as the "It Girl."

Even though the Rawhide crowd laughed at how Glyn fell for their charade, the author seemed to have enjoyed the experience. In *Romantic Adventure*, a 1936 autobiography, Glyn recalled how the Rawhiders had deputized her and told her she could "arrest anybody in the state."

"So, of course, I answered that I would 'arrest' the lot, they were all so delightful," she wrote. "These two things, the 'gun, a small pistol mounted in mother of pearl, and the badge, are my most cherished possessions, as they represent the wholehearted tribute of a splendid community of gentlemen."

---

*Phillip I. Earl of Reno is curator of history at the Nevada Historical Society and author of the book and newspaper series "This Was Nevada."*





**Promoter Tex Rickard helped entertain Glyn during her visit to Rawhide. Less than a year old in 1908, Rawhide boasted a population of 7,000 fortune seekers.**

Photos: Nevada Historical Society (left), Nevada Magazine Collection (right)



# People Page

Bloody Harry and the yo-yoing Zink brothers.



Ryan (left) and Joel Zink pulled strings to appear in a music video.

## A String Thing

The yo-yoing **Zink brothers**, Joel and Ryan, have milked the cow and split the atom in world championships and a Nashville music video. The young Verdi residents have rocked the baby at birthday parties and county fairs. They have appeared on the Reno television show *Flutterby and Friends* and in *Boy's Life* magazine.

So how does it feel to have the world on a string? "I've met some nice people, learned a whole bunch of neat things, and been traveling a lot," says Joel, 12. Ryan, 10, says he likes using a yo-yo because "I can stick it in my pocket."

Last year Joel placed second at the U.S. nationals in the advanced, all-ages division. At the 1998 world championship in Primm, Joel placed third and Ryan fifth. Joel and Ryan finished one-two at the 1998 Desert Classic World ProYo Championship in Tucson. They are now tested veterans of more than 15 major competitions.

Joel says, "I put a little bit more time into yo-yoing than Ryan. He is more shy. I've picked up so many hints from other people because I'll go up and ask them questions."

Ryan says he enjoys the sibling competition but gets nervous for his brother. "I just watch him and try to figure out how he does some of his tricks," Ryan says. "It's better when he's at competitions with me, even though he beats me every time."

The youngsters' interest in yo-yoing was sparked two years ago at a piano recital where David Keel, a professional yo-yoist, performed. Keel taught them basic techniques, and the brothers were hooked. Joel, who says he sometimes practices six hours a day in summer, is now a yo-yoist for hire (775-345-0818). His tricks are wily, and he has choreographed his moves to music. He can knock a quarter off a willing victim's ear. Ryan kindly lets him practice on him.

The boys' parents appreciate the yo-yo culture, too. Lois, a media specialist at Sparks Middle School, and her husband, Steve, dean of libraries at the University of Nevada, Reno, often travel with the boys to competitions in their RV. Together, the Zinks have collected thousands of yo-yos, including hundreds of specialty models. Lois says, "We want the kids to feel great about what they're doing."—*Candice Towell*



Harry Loomer of Pahrump makes contributions in the right vein.

## Harry, Bloody Harry

**Harry Loomer**, who is called Guy at home in Pahrump, is better known as "Bloody Harry" to the American Red Cross. Over the years Loomer has donated more than 55 gallons of blood, making him the most prolific blood donor in North America.

"It is a lot more comfortable to give than to have to get," says Loomer, 63. "If someone needs my blood, I want to be there to give it."

Loomer, who first gave blood at age 19, has made 251 platelet, 193 whole-blood, and two white-cell donations—a remarkable total of 446. He has donated blood 176 times in Nevada while contributing in such far-flung places as Alaska, Florida, and the Philippines. The closest blood center from his Pahrump home is located in Las Vegas, a 58-mile drive east. He says he is approaching a half-million miles of donation driving.

"I am fortunate because I am blessed with good health," Loomer says, adding that aside from occasional sniffles he has not been sick since the 1940s. "I don't put anything into my body that God did not intend to be there. I don't take vitamins or pills. If a scorpion stings me, I squash it."

The former University of Wisconsin geography professor retired to Pahrump with his wife, Barb, in 1990 because they like the Southwestern weather. A Navy veteran, Loomer begins each day with 150 fingertip pushups. He waterskis and leads hikes at Zion and the Grand Canyon.

In a moment of reflection, Loomer ponders whether giving blood contributes to his own well-being. "Do I give blood because I am healthy, or am I healthy because I give blood?" he muses. "I have never met anyone my age who is in better health." However, Loomer says he would donate blood whether or not his body benefited. Regarding the importance of blood-bank supplies, Bloody Harry says, "There is never enough."—*Candice Towell*



Photos: Candice Towell (top), Henry Brean/Pahrump Valley Times (bottom)

Nevada Events & Shows
March/April 1999

INSIDE:
Millennium Countdown
CALENDAR
1999-2001
NEVADA
NV2000
Making Millennium Magic

# Legendary Lounge Acts

By Kim Pryor

**When playing Nevada lounges, Wayne Newton, the Mary Kaye Trio, and other great acts became not just singers or comedians but true entertainers.**

After 40 years tickling the ivories in the lounges at Harveys Lake Tahoe, pianist-organist Ron Rose has a wealth of memories, but the one that remains clearest happened in 1962 at Harveys' Top of the Wheel. Rose was alternating with the Lenny Herman Band, whose trademark was three-way harmony. While Herman was on a break, Rose and drummer Dave Rouner crept up to the stage and smeared Limburger cheese under the microphone cover. When the band members returned and started singing, they stared at each other in olfactory agony.

"They were looking at one another, like 'pee-yew,'" says Rose. "It was the funniest thing you ever saw in your life."

But a gig like Rose's wasn't all fun and games. Performers in the early days of Nevada lounges worked hard to earn their place on stage while treating audiences to some of the best acts in the business. Showbiz careers were launched, performances fine-tuned, and performers became entertainers, not just




Sammy Davis Jr. visits Lionel Hampton onstage at the Riviera lounge in 1963.

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

# GET WHAT YOU DESERVE. AND THEN SOME.



At the Silver Legacy we think life should be a long series of indulgences, interrupted only when absolutely necessary. And our resort casino supports our belief. A full city block filled with exciting games. Beautiful rooms and elegant suites. Five unique restaurants. A European-style health club. And nightly top name entertainment. All of which affords you endless ways to live it up.

**Ski Packages from $91**
per person, double occupancy. Includes: room, lift ticket, food credit, ski shuttle.

*Upcoming Concerts*

**RINGO STARR AND HIS ALL STAR BAND**
March 19 & 20

**NATALIE COLE**
April 30 & May 1

For reservations call
1•800•MUST•SEE.



SILVER LEGACY®
RESORT • CASINO • RENO
LIVE LARGE.℠



©1999, Silver Legacy Resort Casino



The Mary Kaye Trio—Frank Ross (left), Mary Kaye, and Norman Kaye—mixed comedy and song at the Last Frontier in Las Vegas in 1954. Judy Garland and Elvis Presley were big fans of the trailblazing trio.

singers and comedians—a tradition that continues today.

"Every group in the country wanted to work Nevada lounges because it paid the most money and was the most prestigious place to work," says Bobby Morris, a Las Vegas agent and drummer who performed with Louis Prima and with Bobby Page and the Musical Pages.

The Nevada lounge phenomenon started, surprisingly enough, not in Las Vegas, but in Elko, where casino owner Newton Crumley opened a lounge with a dance floor and entertainment alcove in his Commercial Hotel in 1937. In early 1941, the Commercial opened a new spot, the Lounge, and brought in major acts. With this new entertainment policy, the Commercial became the birthplace of big-name entertainment in Nevada.

Bandleader Ted Lewis was the first star to appear at the Lounge. Looking debonair in his tuxedo, Lewis walked on stage, swept off his silk top hat, and asked his trademark question, "Is everybody happy?"

There was no cover charge for Lewis' performances in 1941. Some drinks cost only 25 cents. After all, the true profits came when the curtain closed and the audience spilled out into the casino to gamble. Lewis himself is reported to have gambled away his $12,000 weekly pay, and to cover his debt, he promised a complimentary return engagement at the Commercial.

A NEVADA MAGAZINE Millennium Special
NEVADA NV2000
Making Millennium Magic

The Lounge hosted numerous other famous stars throughout the '40s, '50s, and '60s, including Sophie Tucker, Paul Whiteman, Chico Marx, and Vikki Carr.

In Las Vegas, the era of lounge entertainment arrived in 1947 with the Mary Kaye Trio. The brother-and-sister team of Mary and Norman Kaye, along with comedian Frank Ross, attracted standing-room-only crowds. Visiting singers and musicians were amazed at Mary's nimble guitar strokes. Elvis often stopped by and complimented her on her chords. "Where'd you get those grabs?" the King once asked her.

**"Frank Ross was the guy who really started lounge comedy," says Pete Barbutti. Shecky Greene and Don Rickles admired Ross, too.**



Ron Rose performed for 13 years with singer Bonnie Jo Smith at Harveys. Today he plays a grand piano.

The Mary Kaye Trio first performed in the Last Frontier's Horn Room, named for the bull and steer horns jutting out of the walls. Frank Ross was fond of telling the audience, "This is the horniest room in town." By 1950, the trio had moved into the Frontier's Gay Nineties Bar, a 300-seat enclosed lounge.

Two of the most popular lounges in Las Vegas, those at the Stardust and the Flamingo, featured revolving stages. "If band members were late, there was no way to get on stage unless you crawled over the bar," recalls Reno agent Kenny Armstrong, who played piano in the JoAnn Jordan Show from the 1950s to the 1970s.

In the Stardust lounge, one band played while the next band set up backstage. When it was time to switch acts, the







Comedians like Don Rickles (left), Pete Barbutti, and Shecky Greene honed their acts in Nevada lounges in the '60s and '70s. All three played the Sahara, once the home of Louis Prima and Keely Smith.

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau (top)

upcoming band pressed a button, revolving them in front of the audience.

The Flamingo lounge had a slightly different twist—it moved while the entertainers were performing. "Every 45 seconds the bar would make a 100-percent spin around," says Morris. "I knew if we made 30 turns, the set would be over."


Tommy Bell

Although it didn't revolve, the Sahara's Casbar lounge became legendary in Las Vegas in the '50s and '60s. With a huge stage, it was open to the casino, but gamblers usually couldn't see past the SRO crowds. Those coveting one of the 300 seats arrived early to watch performers like Louis Prima, Don Rickles, and the Characters.

While smaller than the Casbar, the Virginia Street Lounge in Harrah's Reno earned a claim to fame when it appeared in the 1961 movie *The Misfits*. At the beginning of the film, Clark Gable sits in the lounge, his dog by his side. Marilyn Monroe steps off the train, walks into Harrah's, and meets Gable in the lounge.

One of the smallest rooms in Nevada was the Silver Dollar Lounge at Harolds Club in Reno, which derived its name from the many silver dollars mounted in the semicircular wooden bar. The enclosed lounge featured acts like comedian Pete Barbutti and the Harry James Orchestra.

"I fell in love with the room," says Barbutti. "It was the most intimate room I've ever worked. Comedy doesn't work well in big theaters because there's an immediacy about the reaction to a joke. It has to come back to you quickly so you can move on to the next premise."

At Lake Tahoe, 1950s and '60s audiences at Harveys' Wagon Wheel Theatre Bar—which disappeared during the bomb blast of 1980—saw top lounge acts like the Newton Brothers. Because of the lounge's layout—the stage jutted over the 100-foot-long bar—entertainers called it "The Shelf," says Cork Proctor, entertainment manager at the Orleans in Las Vegas and a comedian and musician who worked the lounge as a drummer with the Esquires.

"It was a terrible lounge because there was so much noise," says Proctor. "You just had a few people at the bar in front of you, and the rest of them were wandering through the room wondering what time the bus left for Sacramento." For the acts who tried to work the lounge—and work it really well—it was frustrating.

While "The Shelf" was rocking downtairs on the casino floor, the Top of the Wheel on the uppermost floor of Harveys' Mountain Tower was a Polynesian oasis with tiki torches, carved figures, and a palm-covered umbrella over the dance floor. Stars like Jack Benny and Bob Hope often stopped by to watch Ron Rose perform.

In the '50s, most Nevada lounges were open to the casino, but by the late '60s, more and more casinos enclosed their lounges, which was better for the entertainers, who didn't have to compete with casino noise.

One of the best-remembered enclosed lounges was the Cabaret in Harrah's Reno. The room featured acts like Kenny Rogers, Paul Revere and the Raiders, Joe Savage, B.B. King, and Jay Leno. Lynn Garlock, Cabaret manager in the '80s, recalls the time the fire alarm started wailing a few moments after the Platters began singing "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes." There was no fire, and the audience returned soon after, but the perfect timing still makes Garlock chuckle.

Garlock remembers one night when a band member was unable to perform.

# Lounge Stars to Catch

You never know what's going to happen when veteran Nevada lounge performer Zella Lehr appears on—or rather, off—stage. One night at Harrah's Tahoe Casino Center Stage she strolled into the audience and asked a man to help her sing a song. As he started singing, his wife rushed into the lounge and smashed him over the head with her purse, yelling, "I told you to meet me at the room!"

"He just kept right on singing," Lehr recalls. "Never missed a beat. I think we were singing 'Your Cheating Heart. And his wife didn't care that everyone was laughing and the lights were on him."

Like Lehr, the best lounge acts in Nevada understand that performing means more than just singing—it means entertaining the audience. Following are some of Nevada's most captivating entertainers selected by a cross section of agents, casino entertainment executives, and fellow performers.

**Zella Lehr** grabs your attention with her audience interaction, costume changes, and great music. She is backed by a band that is equally good. Her saxophone player, Rick Metz, stands on his head while playing solos. Her guitarist, Phil Prunier, can pick the strings with his teeth. And everyone in the band—including Lehr—are strong vocalists.

**Big Tiny Little** is a consummate musician who has performed, by his count, in 58 of Nevada's lounges since his first performance at Harrah's Tahoe in 1961. The former Lawrence Welk piano player delivers Dixieland, jazz, country, and country rock and plays frequently at the Carson Nugget in Carson City.

**Arthur Hervey** is a one-man show who packs the energy of a quartet into Cleo's Lounge at Caesars Tahoe. Hervey created a stir during a recent Isuzu Celebrity Golf Championship when he invited several links competitors on stage. John O'Hurley, who played Elaine's boss, J. Peterman, on *Seinfeld*, sang "Unchained Melody," and former All-Pro NFL running back Marcus Allen had everyone in the lounge dancing to the Commodores' "Brick House." Voted by Tahoe locals as the 1997 and 1998 Best Male Singer, Hervey charms audiences with wacky wigs, props, and a velvety voice.

**The Matys Brothers** keep the grins coming as regulars in the Red Lion's Club Max Showroom in Elko. These guys give the audience what they want—good music and good times.

**Sam Butera** wailed in the '50s and '60s, when he played with Louis Prima. One of the best musicians in the state, Butera still performs his New Orleans-style jazz, most often in Las Vegas.

**Sidro's Armada** includes Sidro on guitar, pulling off everything from acoustical classical jazz to today's hits to oldies but goodies. The group has made frequent appearances at Harrah's Tahoe.

**Cook E. Jarr** is an entertainer's entertainer. Headliners like Penn and Teller and the Righteous Brothers often catch his breathless Las Vegas act. He spends almost as much time in the audience as he does on stage. Sports bettors can sometimes be found in the audience, eagerly awaiting Jarr's frequently accurate predictions. Jarr often plays weekends at the Tap House in Las Vegas.

**Sonny Turner**, a master at developing a rapport with showgoers, is the former lead singer of the '50s group, the Platters. Turner's voice melts around romantic favorites like "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes" and "Only You." Turner appears frequently in Las Vegas lounges.

**Tommy Bell** does it all and does it well, from rhythm and blues to old time rock 'n' roll to country. Like the best performers, the Northern Nevada-based entertainer reads the audience—and if it's a wild crowd, expect the unexpected. Once he even appeared on stage in his boxer shorts.—*Kim Pryor*


Zella Lehr

Rather than cancel the show, the other musicians grabbed a tourist off the street, placed an unplugged electric guitar in his hand, and said, "You're going to be a guitar player tonight." The visitor took his place on stage with the band and successfully carried out the charade as the other guitar players cranked out the real chords.

By the late 1980s, most casinos had returned to the open lounges of the '50s. That presented a challenge—capturing the audience's attention without disturbing the gaming pit. Wayne Newton remembers that when the music grew loud at Harveys' Wagon Wheel Theatre Bar during the '50s, the pit boss would press a button that controlled a red light behind the curtain.



**In 1963, a teenage Wayne Newton (left) and his brother Jerry were fixtures at the Fremont lounge in Las Vegas.**

"That red light would come on, and you had maybe 30 seconds to quiet down," Newton says. "If you didn't, your sound system went out."

Because lounges posed challenging situations, they became the perfect training ground for up-and-coming stars. "The learning process was phenomenal," says Newton. "The ability to perform on stage and to read the audience in terms of their likes and dislikes—all of that came from the lounge days. When you're out there for 40 minutes, and you're on six times a night, six nights a week, everything you do cannot be rehearsed. A lounge is a great place to try material to see if it's going to work."

One of the most important lessons Newton says he learned in Nevada's lounges was dealing with hecklers. At first, rather than confront them, he ignored their loud comments.

"You know," Newton's agent, Bookie Levine, told him after one show, "you're not going to be able to ignore them forever. What would you say to a guy who's being rude to you?"

"Well, Mr. Levine, I wasn't raised that way," Newton recalls telling Levine. "I'm from Virginia and it's 'No, sir' and 'Yes, ma'am. So I don't engage in those kinds of conversations."

"Guess what?" Levine said. "You're not in Virginia, and you're not going to be in Virginia for a while, and when in Rome do as the Romans do." Levine suggested Newton watch Joe King and the Zaniacs, the group alternating with him in the Frontier's lounge. They were experts at handling hecklers.

"A lot of what they say you can't say because of your age," Levine explained. "But study them. And you will learn how to handle hecklers and turn them around and make them your fans instead of having them think they've rattled this kid on stage."

**Wayne Newton says he has one request: Never call an entertainer a "lounge lizard."**

After taking Levine's advice, Newton says he began to understand that rather than ignore hecklers, he could toss back humorous comebacks that would enhance his act.

"I found ways that I could say things and do things to have fun with hecklers as opposed to a confrontational situation," he says.

Lounges continually taught entertainers to keep their composure. Newton recalls that when he was performing in the Fremont's lounge in Las Vegas, a man in the audience died. As the hotel management waited for the morgue operators to arrive, they moved the body backstage.

"It being a hotel, you would think they would have put him in a room," says Newton. "But they wouldn't ruin a perfectly good hotel room, so they put him backstage for all the entertainers to step over. We named him Barnard. We kind of missed him when he left."

Charles "Blackie" Hunt of Las Vegas agrees that Nevada lounges were a training ground for some of the best acts in the business. "It really needs to be clarified though, that there is a difference between show groups and lounge groups," he explains. "Show groups did it all—comedy, singing, and music. Lounge groups play music for listening and dancing."

Hunt arrived in Las Vegas in the early '50s as a member of the Characters, the third group to follow the Mary Kaye Trio and Louis Prima in this new wave of entertainers. "I remember when lounge show acts would sometimes draw a bigger crowd than stars in the big rooms," he says. "That was quite a thrill."

Hunt says the Characters, who played the entire Nevada entertainment circuit including Elko, Reno, Tahoe, and Vegas, were known for their comedy routines. He describes the act as "complete insanity." On the marquee the last "e" of the group's name would be reversed.

"We had good music, good vocals. We didn't realize how special we were," he recalls. "I used to play the piano upside down by sitting underneath the piano and reaching up backwards."

As comedians, the Characters created routines with the help of showgoers. "The audience would name a topic, and we would build a routine on the spot. Working under pressure sometimes worked, sometimes it didn't, but we did it

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

as a way of creating new material," Hunt says.

The Corner Lounge at the Riverside in Reno was suited to Hunt's style of comedy. "I was mostly a facial comic who reacted to straight lines," he says. "The Riverside's lounge was intimate, and the smaller the room the better my faces would go." Hunt says by far his favorite room to play was the Sahara Casbar, his least favorite the International (now the Las Vegas Hilton) because it was so large.

The Characters were favorites of Sammy Davis Jr. "That's why we went on the road as his opening act," Hunt says. "Elvis timed his vacations when we were appearing because he liked to hang with us in the coffee shop." The King once climbed onstage with the Characters to demonstrate his karate skill by breaking a board.

At one point in his career, Hunt left the Characters for two years to team with Frank Ross of the Mary Kaye Trio. Joining the group of Ross and Hunt was a classy jazz singer by the name of Lauri Perry, who had opened the Top of the Landmark lounge. Lauri Perry is better known to most Nevadans as Lorraine Hunt, the Silver State's new lieutenant governor.

"We left show business 30 years ago when we decided to build a restaurant and a shopping center, thinking we would return when the business was running smoothly," he says.

Ironically, Lorraine Hunt was one of three people who pushed the button when the Landmark was imploded in 1995. "She opened the hotel, and she closed it," says Blackie Hunt. "It was a sad day for her."

Today, Nevada's lounges remain a training ground for future headliners. A prime example is Collin Raye, who went from lounge act to country-music star. "When I watch Raye in his performances today, what I see in his show is everything he learned playing lounges in Nevada," says Butch Austin, production manager at Harveys. "He'll tell jokes, he dances, he jumps, he's very animated."

Because lounges play such an important role in the entertainment world, Wayne Newton says he has one request: Never call an entertainer a "lounge lizard." It's a particularly disturbing insult since so many great entertainers were bred or gained fame in the Silver State.

Louis Prima and Keely Smith, backed by Sam Butera and the Witnesses, caused a stir when they arrived in Las Vegas from New Orleans in the early '50s. Known for his Dixieland jazz and the hit, "Just a Gigolo," Prima was considered one of the finest entertainers to ever play Vegas and Reno-Tahoe.

Often, Prima opened with "When You're Smiling," playing about 16 bars of the music before the curtain rose. By the time the curtain went up, the audience had been whipped into a frenzy and stayed that way until Prima closed with "When the Saints Go Marchin' In."

"Louis Prima's last show would finish at three or four o'clock in the morning," recalls Holmes Hendricksen, executive vice president of entertainment at Harrah's Reno and Tahoe from 1971 to 1995. "Louis would lead the band off stage, through the audience, through the casino and right through the pits, out onto the street, and back in another door. A huge chain of people from the audience would follow Louis. He was just like the Pied Piper."

Bobby Morris, who performed in Prima's band in the middle '50s, recalls Prima's magnetism. "Louis Prima and Keely Smith had a chemistry that comes along once in a lifetime," says Morris. "She was very laid back, and he was very exuberant. The fact that she was deadpan all the time made it even more funny."

Like Prima, the great lounge performers were more than just singers. They were entertainers. "Even in the beginning Johnny Mathis, Dionne Warwick, and Vic Damone had to learn how to work the crowd," says Proctor. "They went out and sang a medley of their hits, and it was boring. You could have bought the record."

Working the crowd often involved comedy, and if a band didn't have a comedian, they made certain their act sparkled with humor. The Matys Brothers, who began performing at the Commercial Hotel in Elko in 1960 and recently moved to the Red Lion, are considered some of the best in the business at blending music and laughter.

Kenny Armstrong remembers the first time he saw the Matys Brothers. "I just flipped," says Armstrong. "I didn't know they all wore toupees, and they started pulling each other's toupees off on stage. It was one of the funniest acts I've ever seen."

Many lounges featured stand-up comics.

# Lounging Around

Nevada lounges present some memorable acts. Performers, agents, and casino entertainment executives have chosen the following locales as their favorites for a memorable night on the town.

## Las Vegas

**Cleopatra's Barge, Caesars Palace:** This barge literally rocks and rolls thanks to mechanical wave motion in the Egyptian-themed lounge. Couples cross a gangplank over water to reach the dance floor. Entertainment is a mix of DJs and live bands such as Anita Sarawak and the American Dream Band.

**Starlight Lounge, Desert Inn:** This lounge has floor-to-ceiling windows offering views of the pool. At night, the windows behind the stage are curtained to offer a backdrop for entertainers like Brian Evans, a Sinatra sound-alike, and Kid Creole and the Coconuts. Before an extensive remodeling last year, the 150-seat lounge drew fans of Sam Butera and Keely Smith, who played there frequently.

**Minstrel's Theatre Lounge, Excalibur:** Minstrel's is open to the casino but acoustically cool. Swords and shields decorate the walls, and a dance floor awaits fans who cram the 130-seat lounge to hear favorites such as Earl Turner and Loretta Halloway.

**Bourbon Street, The Orleans:** This lounge features top acts like Sonny Turner and Sam Butera. The Bourbon Street's claim to fame is its unique ceiling with replicas of grand pianos inverted above the audience.

**Le Bistro Lounge, Riviera:** Le Bistro has a big following because of its Monday night jazz featuring Don Menza's Big Band. Other nights, showgoers find bands like Susan McDonald and Touch of Silk. Built in the old-new style, the lounge is open to the casino.

**Starlight Lounge, Stardust:** This 452-seat multipurpose lounge has giant TV screens during the day and hot music at night. Decorated in blacks and purples with flickering stars on the ceiling, the horseshoe-shaped bar follows the base of the stage where Rickey and the Red Streaks, a favorite of rodeo competitors and fans, play several times a year. Other groups include the Mississippi Mudd Cats, Dave Coady, and Phlash.

## Reno-Carson

**CanCan Theater, Boomtown, Reno:** The dance floor in this cozy cave is partially enclosed from the casino. Faux stained-glass lights dangle above a cluster of candlelit tables. On stage, the band is just steps away from the audience.

**Cabaret Lounge, Carson Station, Carson City:** In classic Nevada style, the stage is perched behind the bar, but the intimate atmosphere makes it easy for the bands to interact with the audience. Some of Nevada's best show bands, from Stew Stewart to Zella Lehr, play this room.

## Lake Tahoe

**Casino Center Stage, Harrah's Lake Tahoe:** The bar rests to the side of the stage, so you can practically touch the high-powered bands playing this lounge. Seats are in short supply, so arrive before show time.—*Kim Pryor*



**Louis Prima, Keely Smith, and Sam Butera ham it up at the Sahara in Las Vegas in 1956.**

Frank Ross of the Mary Kaye Trio started the trend with his off-the-cuff routines. One of his gags would begin when a gentleman in the audience arose to visit the restroom. As soon as the man left, Ross would snatch the guy's chair, bring it on stage, and sit on it. When the man returned, he'd look for his chair, confused.

"Frank Ross was the guy who really started lounge comedy," says Barbutti. "Shecky Greene and Don Rickles found out what premise worked by watching Frank Ross."

From 1955 to 1975, Shecky Greene picked up where Ross left off and soon became the comedy king of Nevada's lounges. On stage, nothing held Greene back. Off stage, he was just as wild. Las Vegans still talk about the time Greene drove his car into a Caesars Palace fountain. When the police arrived, Greene said, "No spray wax." The next night, Greene's show featured his experiences in jail.

"Sometimes Shecky's whole routine was whatever happened to him that day," says *Las Vegas Sun* entertainment columnist Joe Delaney. "You're talking about a guy who could play off any situation. And Shecky would start out in a shirt, tie, and jacket, and he looked like an unmade bed when he was finished."

If anyone could give Greene a run for his money, it was Don Rickles. A regular in the Sahara's Casbar lounge in the early '60s, Rickles often drew a large celebrity following.

One of Rickles' favorite targets was Sinatra. "Hey, Frank," Rickles would say, "make yourself at home. Hit somebody." Then he'd lay it on: "I saw your movie, and you're the worst actor I've ever seen. The cannon had more expression than you did."

**One of Rickles' favorite targets was Sinatra. "Hey, Frank," Rickles would say, "make yourself at home. Hit somebody."**

Rickles wasn't the only Nevada lounge entertainer who drew celebrities. Headliners like Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, and Jerry Lewis often stopped in the lounges after their own shows finished. Sometimes they jumped on stage with the lounge performers. Lee Ragonese, Harrah's Reno-Tahoe entertainment director, says, "It was a time when you could see some of the biggest names in the business for free."

Judy Garland, for instance, was one of the Mary Kaye Trio's biggest fans. When the audience became rowdy during one of the trio's performances in the Frontier's Gay Nineties Bar, Garland stood up and shouted, "Hey, these are my favorite entertainers! Mary is my favorite singer! Hush!"

Now that's entertainment.

*Kim Pryor is a Lake Tahoe feature and entertainment writer.*

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau


Good Times

GET-AWAY FOR TWO

It's a Capital Idea
and it's yours for just

$46

per couple!
Second night room only $35,
*plus room tax.*

| | VALUE |
|---|---|
| 2 $7 Restaurant Coupons | $ 14.00 |
| 4 $1.50 Keno Credits | $ 6.00 |
| 4 Cocktails | $ 8.00 |
| 4 Lucky Bucks | $ 4.00 |
| 4 $1 Gaming Tokens | $ 4.00 |
| Deluxe Motel Room (One night per couple) | $ 46.33 |
| **TOTAL RETAIL VALUE** | **$82.33** |
| **YOUR PRICE ONLY** | **$46.00** |

- Call **1-800-338-7760** for your room reservation and mention "GOOD TIMES."
- Present this certificate to the City Center Motel, to receive your Carson Nugget coupons.
- Redeem those coupons for:

- FINE FOOD
- GAMING
- COCKTAILS
- ENTERTAINMENT

**Try Our Sports Book!**

CARSON NUGGET
Carson City

**882-1626**
**507 N. Carson Street**

Limit: One **GET-AWAY PACKAGE** per couple per week. Both must be 21 years of age. This offer, in all or part, is subject to cancellation or revision at any time by Carson Nugget management. Rooms subject to availability.

**CITY CENTER MOTEL**
**1-800-338-7760**
**800 N. Carson Street**
**Carson City**

# Nevada Events

March and April events in Las Vegas, Reno-Tahoe, and Rural territories.




## Gentlemen, Start Your Engines

Racers will seek the champion's trophy March 7 during the Las Vegas 400 NASCAR Winston Cup at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. Other weekend racing events at the track include the Pennzoil World of Outlaws, NASCAR Winston West, and Sam's Town 300 NASCAR Busch Series races.

Nevada travelers will find a full schedule of spring events throughout the state. Visitors to Las Vegas will find three days of motor sports racing, including the Las Vegas 400 NASCAR Winston Cup at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, and Virginia City hosts the Rocky Mountain Oyster Cook-Off. *Nevada Magazine* presents the following events listing for March and April, divided into areas of interest. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times. Please note that the area code is 702 for Las Vegas Territory and 775 for the rest of the state.

## Las Vegas Territory

### FESTIVALS & HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

**NASCAR at the Fremont Street Experience** • March 5-6 • Entertainment and cars prior to Las Vegas 400 NASCAR Winston Cup Race. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777.

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration** • March 17 • Free entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777.

**Native American Arts Festival** • March 26-28 • Arts, crafts, demonstrations, dance, music, lectures, films, and storytelling. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

**Summerlin Street Fair** • March 31-April 4 • Carnival, food booths, arts and crafts, home exhibits, entertainment, children's singing and dancing groups, clowns, face painting, bands. Summerlin Library and Performing Arts

NEVADA MAGAZINE
presents
Nevada Events & Shows

Nevada Events and Shows is a special section of *Nevada Magazine*, the official guide to travel, recreation, people, history, and events in the Silver State. To list an event, please send information at least three months in advance to Events Editor Ann Henderson, 555 E. Washington Ave., Suite 5600, Las Vegas, NV 89101; 702-486-2433; fax 702-486-2789; e-mail ann@nevadamagazine.com. Subscription rates for *Nevada Magazine* are $16.95 for one year, U.S.; $22.95 foreign. To subscribe to *Nevada Magazine*, which includes Nevada Events and Shows, call toll-free:

1-800-495-3281



## Boogie Woogie Beat

The trio Stardust (from left: Kate Rafferty, Pamela Peterson, and Joette Waters) travels back to the 1940s with songs like "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" March 6 in Las Vegas.

---

Center, Las Vegas, 286-4944.

**Laughlin Rodeo Days** • April 7-11 • PRCA rodeo has a $200,000 purse, entertainment, and booths. Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 298-2214.

**Clark County Fair and Rodeo** • April 8-11 • PRCA rodeo, music, pig races, livestock show, headliner concert, carnival, fine arts exhibit. Fairgrounds, Logandale, 888-876-3247.

**Mardi Gras Festival** • April 16-17 • Free entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777.

**Henderson Heritage Days** • April 16-24 • Miss Heritage Days Beauty Pageant on April 16, family picnic in the park on April 17, car show and chili cook-off on April 18, talent show on April 22, and parade on April 24. Henderson, 565-8951.

**Laughlin River Run** • April 22-25 • West Coast's largest motorcycle event attracts more than 40,000 bikers with displays, demo rides, trade show, custom bike show, headliner entertainment. Laughlin, 800-357-8223.

### PERFORMANCES

**Mariposa Trio** • March 1 • Classical music. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.

**Women's History Month Film Series** • March 2, *Ladybird, Ladybird*; March 9, *Mitsuye and Nellie: Asian American Poets*; March 23, *Educating Rita* • Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

**Consocium Martina** • March 5 • Piano duo Tamara Boiko and Hans Knaven in concert. Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**Talent Contests** • March 6, ages six-nine; March 13, ages 10-14; March 20, ages 15-18; and April 17, finals • Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

**Stardust** • March 6 • Vocal trio performs standards like "Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy" and "Where or When." Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

**Orchestra and Choral Concert** • March 7 • Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**"Henry V Part Three"** • March 11-21 • Black Box Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.

**"Fences"** • March 12-14 and 19-21 • Drama about a man, his son, and their dreams. Little Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

**Orchestra of the Royal Opera House Convent Garden** • March 14 • Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**Dance Arts Company Spring Concert** • March 19-20 • Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.

**"Mikado"** • March 24 • Opera performed by the Opera A' La Carte Company. Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**The Shanachie: An Irish Storyteller** • March 26 • Scott


"A Thrilling, Spectacular Show In The Footsteps Of Riverdance..."
Bristol Evening Post

Dublin Worldwide Productions Presents
SPIRIT OF THE DANCE



Back by Popular Demand
Shows nightly
(except Monday)

Tickets starting at $24.95

Room/Show Packages starting at $49.95
good through July 1, 1999.





Room/Show Package not available on Saturdays. Price is per person, double occupancy, subject to availability, excludes holidays, special events and groups. Certain restrictions apply.

775-786-5700
800-648-5966

ELDORADO HOTEL & CASINO

www.eldoradoreno.com



Historic
Boulder City
Nevada



The other side of
Las Vegas...
minutes away!

Boulder City
Chamber of Commerce
702.293.2034
www.bouldercitychamber.com

# The Nevada Territories




To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into the following six territories:

## Reno-Tahoe Territory

Reno, Lake Tahoe, Carson City, Virginia City, Minden, and other locales

## Cowboy Country

Lovelock, Winnemucca, Elko, Wells, and other towns along Interstate 80

## Pony Express Territory

Fallon, Austin, Eureka, and Ely along U.S. Highway 50, known as "The Loneliest Road in America"

## Pioneer Territory

From Yerington to Pahrump, Tonopah to Beatty, and Pioche to the Extraterrestrial Highway

## Las Vegas Territory

From the Strip to Boulder City and Lake Mead to Laughlin, Primm, Jean, and Mesquite

**Indian Territory** Encompasses all of Nevada

Keely's one-man show features traditional stories and songs. Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

**"The Elixir of Love"** • March 26-28 • World preview of opera performed by the UNLV Opera Theatre. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.

**Monumental Brass Quintet** • March 29 • Virgin Valley High School, Mesquite, 346-2787.

**Elizabeth Perry in "Sun Flower"** • March 30 • Part of Women's History Month. One-person play based on the life of Elizabeth Cady Stanton, mentor to Susan B. Anthony. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 229-6383.

**"The Diary of Anne Frank"** • April 8 • American Theatre Arts for Youth presents the war drama. Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**"The Jungle Book"** • April 14 • Musical for children based on the Kipling classic. Ham Hall, UNLV, 800-497-5007.

**Ballet Folklorico "Quetzalli"** • April 14 • Virgin Valley High School, Mesquite, 346-2787.

**"Pump Boys and Dinettes"** • April 16-18 and 23-25 • Musical comedy celebrating life and love in a small Southern town. Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 651-5483.

**"Pippi Longstocking"** • April 21 • American Theatre Arts for Youth presentation. Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**Brass Roots Quintet** • April 25 • Musical selections ranging from classical to Dixieland. Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 229-6211 for information.

**UNLV Symphony Orchestra Concert** • April 25 • Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**Community and Symphonic Band** • April 27 • Concert. Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**Jazz Combo Concert** • April 28 • Black Box Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.



## Being in Hog Heaven

Gleaming motorcycles stream into Laughlin April 22-25 for the Laughlin River Run, which attracts more than 40,000 bikers with custom bike shows, demo rides, displays, headliner entertainment, and a trade show.

**University Choral Ensembles Spring Concert** • April 29 • Ham Hall, UNLV, 895-3801.

**"Sweet Charity"** • April 29-30 • Broadway musical. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 895-3801.

### EXHIBITS

**Kwanza** • Thru March 2 • Artist Joseph House celebrates Kwanza and black history with images of self-reflection and cultural identification through mixed media, photography, and sculpture. Clark County Library Main Gallery, Las Vegas, 733-7810.

**The Prairie Schoolhouse: A Photo Essay Exhibit** • Thru March 14 • Smithsonian Institution's traveling exhibit of black-and-white images of one-room schools. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

**Vicki Richardson** • Thru March 15 • Artist's work influenced by African-American culture. West Las Vegas Library, Las Vegas, 647-2117.

**Fine Art Exhibit** • Thru March 31 • Original works by members of the Boulder City Art Guild. Boulder Dam Hotel, Boulder City, 293-2138.

**Strength and Diversity** • Thru April 25 • Exhibit tells the story of how Japanese women from four generations have responded to life's circumstances. West Charleston Library, Las Vegas, 878-3682.

**Take Another Look** • Thru April 30 • Objects exhibited in novel and unexpected ways. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 382-3445.






Photo: Carolyn Fox

**Nevada Camera Club** • Thru May 9 • Juried photo show. Green Valley Library, Las Vegas, 435-1840.

**Life in the Hot and Dry: Desert Animal Adaptations** • Thru Sept. 30 • Exhibit shows how creatures including lizards, rodents, rabbits, and butterflies survive in the desert. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 486-5205.

**RememB-R-Ring the Ice Age** • March 8-May 30 • Exhibit features 3,000 square feet of animal skeletons, early tools, and skull reproductions from the Ice Age. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 384-DINO.

**Common Threads: Textiles of the Americas** • March 20-June 5 • More than 70 hand-woven pieces including rugs, blankets, clothing, and ceremonial items. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955.

**Clark County Art Show** • April 24-25 • Southern Nevada artists exhibit. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2138.

## SPORTS

**WAC Basketball Tournament** • March 1-6 • Men's and women's teams from Mountain and Pacific divisions compete for the regular season championships and automatic bids to the NCAA Basketball Tournaments. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 260-8605.

**NASCAR Winston West** • March 5 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

**Pennzoil World of Outlaws** • March 5-6 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

**Sam's Town 300 NASCAR Busch Series** • March 6 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

**Las Vegas 400 NASCAR Winston Cup** • March 7 • Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 644-4443.

**Las Vegas Thunder** • The International Hockey League team plays March 12-13 v. Cleveland Lumberjacks, March 26 v. Long Beach Ice Dogs, March 27 v. Utah Grizzlies, March 30 v. Houston Aeros, April 2-3 v. Milwaukee Admirals, April 6 v. Manitoba Moose, April 8 v. Detroit Vipers, April 11 v. Long Beach Ice Dogs, April 13 v. Houston Aeros, April 16-17 v. Utah Grizzlies. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 798-PUCK for information.

**Las Vegas Stars** • The Triple-A affiliate of the San Diego Padres plays April 8-11 v. Omaha Royals, April 12-14 v. Colorado Springs Rockies, April 23-26 v. Edmonton Angels, April 27-30 v. Calgary Marlins. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 386-7200.

**Walk America** • April 10 • March of Dimes fund-raiser. UNLV, 732-9255.

**Mud Racing** • April 17 • Down and dirty car racing. Rodeo Grounds, Mesquite, 346-1935.

## GENERAL INTEREST

**Arts and Crafts Show** • March 18-21 • Belz Factory Outlet World Mall, Las Vegas, 382-7043.

**Oscar Night America** • March 21 • Dinner, awards viewing, silent auction, and entertainment to benefit the Arthritis Foundation. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 367-1626.

**Antique and Collectible Show** • March 27-28 • Plaza Hotel, Las Vegas, 382-7043.

**Farmers Market** • Opens April 15 and runs every Thursday from 4-7pm offering produce, specialty items, entertainment, crafts. Civic Center Plaza, Henderson, 565-2181.

**Gem and Mineral Show** • April 16-18 • Convention Center, Henderson, 597-5104.

**Showcase Tour of North Las Vegas** • April 22 • Two-hour tour of tourist, commercial, industrial, and residential sites followed by a hosted reception. North Las Vegas, 642-9595.

**50th Anniversary FilmFest** • April 24 • The good old days of Saturday morning matinees with newsreels, cartoons,



## Cowboy Spoken Here

Cowboy poet Baxter Black appears at the Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry gathering March 13 in Carson City. Also appearing are poets Sourdough Slim and Belinda Gail and fiddler Randy Pollard.


Capture the Dream

COWBOY COUNTRY

Tour the West most folks only dream about.

Enjoy cowboy poetry around a campfire.
Walk in the footsteps of the pioneers.
Ride the range. Rope a steer.
Tour ghost towns and gold mines.
Strike it rich—Nevada style.
Visit the West that has it all.



Cowboy Country
1601 Idaho Street
Elko, Nevada 89801
www.travelnevada.com/cowboy

Call today for your "Dream" catalog
800-962-2638
EXTENSION 778

Lovelock, Winnemucca, Battle Mountain, Carlin, Elko, Wells, Jackpot, Wendover



Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel



- ROCK-N-ROLL
- CAMELOT
- ELVIS/BLUE HAWAII
- INTERGALACTIC
- LAS VEGAS
- VICTORIAN
- 50'S 60'S & DISCO
- BEACH PARTY
- GANGSTER
- TRADITIONAL
- ALSO, ASK ABOUT OUR SUPER STRETCHED LIMO!

Themed Weddings

Elvis Sings!

Make your wedding a legend! Now the King of Rock & Roll performs the ceremony and sings his most memorable tunes!



www.vivalasvegasweddings.com

*Elvis performed by local impersonators and licensed minister will officiate

CALL WITH YOUR IDEAS AT 702-384-0771 • 800-574-4450



Nevada Events & Shows
is a section of
NEVADA MAGAZINE

and cliffhanger serials. Huntridge Theatre, Las Vegas, 229-6211.

**Earth Day Nevada** • April 24 • Booths and educational sessions. Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 384-DINO.

### COMING EVENTS

**Spring Jamboree and Craft Fair** • May 1-2 • Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

**Las Vegas Senior PGA Classic** • May 10-16 • Las Vegas, 242-3000.

**Laughlin River Days** • June 4-6 • Laughlin, 298-2214.

**Chautauqua** • Sept. 10-11, Boulder City, 294-4365.

**Mesquite Fall Roundup** • Oct. 2-3, 346-3868.

**Bluegrass Festival** • Oct. 8-10, Logandale, 564-5455.

## Reno-Tahoe Territory

### FESTIVALS & HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

**Snowfest** • March 2-14 • Winter carnival features Elvin Bishop and Mumbo Gumbo in concert, Dress Up Your Dog Contest, ski races, parades, ice carving competitions, polar bear swim, monster dawg pull, taco feed, masquerade ball, snow sculpture. Various locations, North Lake Tahoe, 832-7625.

**St. Patrick's Day Celebration** • March 12-14 • Music, food, and crafts. Fitzgeralds, Reno, 785-3300.

**Rocky Mountain Oyster Cook-Off** • March 13 • Chefs prepare delicacies of the range. Bucket of Blood Saloon parking lot, Virginia City, 84-0311.

**Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry** • March 13 • Poetry and music featuring Baxter Black, Belinda Gail, and Sourdough Slim to benefit the Carson-Tahoe Hospital Auxiliary. Community Center, Carson City, 883-1532.

**St. Patrick's Day Parade** • March 14 • Virginia City, 847-0311.

**Spring Awakening Powwow** • March 19-21 • Traditional dances and crafts fair. Stewart Indian School Museum, Carson City, 882-6929.

**Easter Egg Hunt** • April 4 • Town Park, Genoa, 782-3721.

**Tahoe International Film Festival** • April 8-11 • Independent films and film makers from around the world. Primary screening locations at Incline Village and Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-FEST.

**Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders Spring Rendezvous** • April 23-




## A Fairly Great Time

Kids get a charge from the carnival rides at the Clark County Fair and Rodeo April 8-11 in Logandale. Fairgoers will find a pro rodeo, headliner concerts, pig races, and livestock shows.

Carson Valley

Discover the Carson Valley.

Golf Nevada's finest courses. Soar in a glider. Ride in a balloon. Play the casinos. Enjoy Basque dining.

Lose the crowds. Leave the hassles behind.

The Carson Valley... It's beautiful.

Just 20 minutes from Lake Tahoe!



Call for a free brochure. 1-775-782-8144. 1-800-727-7677.

Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitor's Authority
1512 Highway 395, Gardnerville, NV 89410 • www.carsonvalley.org



Fallon

In the Center of Family Fun!

Fallon is home to the Navy's "TOPGUN" fighter pilot school and Gateway to the "Loneliest Road in America." Lake Lahontan State Park, Stillwater Wildlife Refuge, and Sand Mountain are just a few miles from town.

Fallon's historic side includes: Grimes Point Petroglyphs, Historic Ft. Churchill and the Pony Express Trail.

Stay. Play. Take home the memories. Call **1-800-874-0903** for a FREE brochure.

EVENTS CALENDAR

Fallon Air Show w/Blue Angels, May 1-2
Spring Wings Bird Festival, May 14-16
Silver State Int'l Rodeo, July 1-4
All Indian Rodeo & Pow Wow, July 16-18
Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival, Sept. 3-6
Wings Over the Valley Hunting Festival Sept. 24-26






## Mowgli Goes Musical

"The Jungle Book," Rudyard Kipling's classic tale about Mowgli, the man-cub who is raised by jungle creatures, plays April 14 at Ham Concert Hall at UNLV with a contemporary musical score.

25 • Traders, trappers, and a live encampment. Mills Park, Carson City, 887-1221.

**Spring Fun Fair Festival** • April 28-May 2 • Carnival and arts, crafts, and food vendors. Mills Park, Carson City, 687-4680.

**Silver State Square and Round Dance Festival** • April 30-May 2 • All types of dancing from beginners to advanced. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 359-1250.

### PERFORMANCES

**Small Potatoes** • March 2 • Contemporary music. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

**Brad Richter** • March 3 • Guitar concert. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

**"A Clockwork Orange"** • March 3-7 • Drama presented by the Nevada Repertory Company. Church Fine Arts Theatre, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.

**Second Hand** • March 4 • Theatre, dance, comedy, and acrobatics. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.

**"Jungle Book"** • March 5-7 • Back Stage Kids presentation of the Kipling classic. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

**"Play On"** • March 5-7 and 12-14 • Comedy by Rick Abbot. Reno Little Theatre, 329-0661.

**Concerts in the Atrium** • March 5, 12, 19, and 26 • Free concerts at noon featuring a variety of music. Airport Gardens Office Building, Reno, 329-1324.

**A Jazzy Infusion** • March 7 • Casual Classics performance featuring trumpeter Larry Engstrom. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-1985.

**Win/Lose/Draw** • March 12-13, 19-20, and 26-27 • Three one-act comedies: "Little Miss Fresno," "Final Placement," and "Chocolate Cake." Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

**Murder Mystery Dinner Theater** • March 13-14 • Dake House, Genoa, 782-2893.

**MasterClassics V** • March 16 • Selections include Copland's "Suite from Billy the Kid," Saint-Saens' "Violin Concerto No. 3," and Elgar's "Enigma Variations." Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 323-6393.

**Gael Force Band** • March 17 • Celtic music for St. Patrick's Day. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

**Cabaret Night: Women's History Month** • March 18 • Improv, stand-up comedy, music, poetry, and dancing. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 841-5960.

**Tears of Joy** • March 26 • Puppet Theatre includes Russian folk tales, human-size puppets, music, and magic. The Commons, Virginia City High School, 847-9322.

**Murder at the Mansion: Champagne and Chocolates** • April 7 • Live murder mystery theater and fine art silent auction. Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 882-2512.

**"Artdog's Magic Journey"** • April 8-10, 12-13, 15, and 18-20 • Exploits of a half-human/half-dog character. Bruka Theatre of the Sierra, Reno, 323-3221.

**Concerts in the Atrium** • April 9, 16, 23, and 30 • Free concerts at noon featuring local and regionally known musicians. Airport Gardens Office Building, Reno, 329-1324.

**Second Sunday Series** • April 11 • Novelist Joanne Meschery and poet Tom Meschery read from their works. Sierra Nevada College, Incline Village, 831-1314.

**MasterClassics VI** • April 13 • Selections include Beethoven's "Symphony No. 1," Bernstein's "Chichester Psalms," and Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition." Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 323-6393.

**Sierra Winds** • April 16 • Las Vegas-based quintet features classical and contemporary works. St. Mary's in the Mountains Church, Virginia City, 847-9322.

**Argenta Quartet** • April 16 • "Quintet for Piano and Strings in F Minor." Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-1985.

**"Fools"** • April 16-17, 23-24-30-May 1 • Comedy about a schoolteacher who struggles to break a 2,000-year-old curse that makes everyone in a Russian village stupid. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976.

**"A Grand Night for Singing"** • April 16-17, 23-24, and 28-30 • Nevada Repertory Company presentation. Church Fine Arts Theatre, U of N, Reno, 784-6847.

**Reno Chamber Orchestra** • April 17 • Selections include Gershwin's "Lullaby," Telemann's "Suite in A Minor for Flute," and Winn's "Concerto in E-Flat for Piano." Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 348-9413.

**Drummer's Delight: The Beat Goes On** • April 18 • Casual Classics presentation featuring Andy Helund and his UNR Percussion Ensemble. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-1985.

**"The Miracle Worker"** • April 21-25 and April 30-May 1 • Drama presented by the Western Nevada Theatre Company. Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 887-3115.



Photo: Jean-Marie Guyaux

**Ray Brown Trio • April 22** • Performance kicks off the Reno Jazz Festival, which runs April 22-24 at various university locations. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 784-4046.
**"Swan Lake"** • April 24-25 • Stars Maia Wilkins of the Joffrey Ballet and Nikolia Kabaniaev of the Diablo Ballet. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 785-7915.
**Spring Concert** • April 30 • Free concert by the Western Nevada Community College Concert Choir. Carson City, 887-3115.

## EXHIBITS

**The Palm Series** • Thru March 5 • Oil paintings by Robert Dunahay. C.I.T.Y. 2000 Gallery, Reno City Hall, 329-1324.
**A Second Language** • Thru March 11 • Functional objects are stripped of their functionality and given new meaning. Sheppard Gallery, U of N, Reno, 784-6658.
**Amplified Echo** • Thru March 11 • Sculptures by Gary Quinonez. Sheppard Gallery, U of N, Reno, 784-6658.
**Diana Jacobs: Letter of the Law** • Thru March 12 • Mixed media on canvas. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 329-1324.
**'Vettes** • Thru March 29 • Classic and modern Corvettes, including a 1953 convertible originally owned by John Wayne. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.
**The People's Choice: Komar and Melamid** • Thru May 2 • A global analysis of what people, defined by their nationality, look for in art. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.
**Dreamings: Aboriginal Explorations by Suzanne Kanatsiz** • Thru May 2 • Sculptural and two-dimensional pieces based on Australian life. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.
**Beetle Mania** • Thru Aug. 9 • 50 years of Bugs in America. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.
**Packard Style and Design** • March 1-Aug. 19 • 100th anniversary exhibit. Heritage workshop and reception on March 11. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 333-9300.
**Carolyn Brookhart: Excavation Series** • March 8-April 30 • Intaglio prints, with collage, hand-coloring, and sewing. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 329-1324.
**Brian Boldon: Visible Human** • March 8-April 30 • Electronic image of the body into a crystalline matrix of porcelain. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 329-1324.
**Kaethe Kaufman: The Muscle Movement Series** • March 22-April 30 • Hand-painted photography. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 329-1324.
**Animal Nature** • March 25-April 15 • Animal images by painter Lynda Yuroff. Sheppard Gallery, U of N, Reno, 784-6658.
**The Hoerengracht: Ed Kienholz and Nancy Reddin Kienholz** • April 30-June 27 • Reconstruction of streets in Amsterdam's red-light district. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 329-3333.

## Mountain Mardi Gras

Snowfest blows into North Lake Tahoe March 2-14 packed with serious and offbeat ski races, wacky contests, parades, dances, concerts and the annual swim in the lake's frigid waters.

## SPORTS & SKI EVENTS

**King of the Mountain** • March 1 • Downhill race teams from around the world. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6985.
**Big West Conference Basketball Tournament** • March 3-6 • Big West schools compete in an eight-team format and a chance at the NCAA Basketball Championship Tournament. Lawlor Events Center, Reno, 784-6900.
**Celebrity Winterfest** • March 6 • Teams comprised of a Special Olympics athlete, celebrity, coach, and corporate racers. Kirkwood, south of Lake Tahoe, 800-770-9401.
**Snowshoe Thompson Family Tour** • Retrace portions of the winter mailman's route on which he delivered letters to snowbound residents across the Sierra. Geared for beginning and intermediate skiers. Hope Valley Cross-Country Ski Center, south of Lake Tahoe, 800-423-9949.
**The Great Ski Race** • March 7 • 30K race from Tahoe City


$99 Ski, Stay, Play*
3 days/2 nights/lift ticket/ transportation and more!



FEEL YOUR Life COME ALIVE!

Step inside. Feel the beat. Place your bet. Be *alive.* This is breathtaking, heart-pounding casino excitement at its best!

Dine in elegance. Relax in splendor. Watch dazzling Cabaret shows. Swim under cascading falls. When does it stop? Not till you're ready!

Luxurious rooms. Stunning suites. Watch the sun set over the Sierra. Does it get any better than this?

Only in your dreams.

The Peppermill. Reno's Premier Hotel Casino. This is *LIFE!*



*Pool, Spa & Health Club – free to hotel guests.*



*The Steak House – one of six great restaurants.*



*185 Jacuzzi suites with stunning views.*

Peppermill
Reno's Premier Hotel Casino!
800-282-2444 Reservations
2707 So. Virginia St., Reno NV 89502
www.PeppermillCasinos.com



- *1,070 luxurious rooms*
- *Best slot paybacks*
- *Single-deck Blackjack*
- *Free Cabaret nightly*

*Price is per person. Subject to availability, excludes groups. Good through the 1999 ski season.








to Truckee on marked and groomed backcountry trails. Lakeview Cross-Country Ski Area, Tahoe City, 530-583-9353.

**Northern California Special Olympics Winter Games** • March 8-11 • Kirkwood, south of Lake Tahoe, 800-770-9401.

**Cross-Country Ski Marathon** • March 14 • Fund-raiser for the Tahoe Rim Trail Association. Spooner Ski Area, Lake Tahoe, 588-0686.

**North American Freeride Championships** • March 15-19 • Extreme skiers and riders qualify for the World Cup of Extreme Freeskiing. Kirkwood, south of Lake Tahoe, 209-2349-2002.

**Saint Patrick's Day Race** • March 17 • Open to the public. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

**Stomp It Out: Showshoe Festival** • March 19-21 • 1.5K and 3K snowshoe race open to all levels. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

**Echo to Kirkwood Race** • March 20 • 14-mile point-to-point course over the Sierra Crest. Kirkwood Cross-Country, south of Lake Tahoe, 209-258-7248.

**Dannon Yogurt Winterfest** • March 27 • Music and fun races. Sugar Bowl, Lake Tahoe, 530-426-9000.

**Jammin' VI** • March 27-April 4 • Spring break party that includes pond skimming, jump contests, music, and food. Kirkwood, south of Lake Tahoe, 209-258-7388.

**Easter Festivities** • April 4 • Church services, Easter egg hunt, egg toss. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

**Far West Master's Giant Slalom** • April 10-11 • Open to the public. Sugar Bowl, Lake Tahoe, 530-426-9000.

**Days of Spring Celebration** • April 10-11 • Pond skimming, fun races, music. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

**Fly Fishing Festival** • April 17-18 • Demonstrations, classes, exhibits. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 265-2626.



## Catching the Spirit

Traditional dances and costumes attract visitors to the Spring Awakening Powwow March 19-21 in Carson City and the Native American Arts Festival (above) March 26-28 in Henderson.



Photo: Sara Bartley



## Learning to Shoot

Photographer Ira Mark Gostin demonstrates lighting techniques during Winnemucca's annual photography conference, Shooting the West. Aerial, adventure, and travel photographer Harvey Lloyd is the seminar's special guest at this year's March 5-7 event.

**Annual Carson Valley Inn Spring Stag Golf Outing** • April 22-25 • Genoa Lakes and Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 321-6983.

### GENERAL INTEREST

**Rink on the River** • Thru March 31 • Outdoor skating rink. Idlewild Park, Reno, 334-2413.

**Living History Programs** • March 7, 14, 20, and 28 • Women in history. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 265-6097.

**Nevada Canvention and Breweriana Show** • March 13 • Collectibles and memorabilia associated with the beer industry. Sands Regency, Reno, 828-0338.

**Sierra Arts Night of Arts and Oscars** • March 21 • Dinner and viewing fund-raiser for Sierra Arts. Peppermill, Reno, 329-1324.

**An Evening With the Academy Awards** • March 21 • Fund-raiser for the Tahoe Arts Project with viewing, dinner, silent auction. Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 530-542-3632.

**Spring Home Show** • April 9-11 • Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 852-7469.

**Hatchery Open House** • April 10 • Tours of the Lahontan Fish Hatchery, south of Gardnerville on U.S. 395. 265-2425.

**Antique Show and Sale** • April 10-11 • Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch, Genoa, 782-4951.

**Topaz Chili Cook-Off** • April 17 • Cooking competition, music, tasting. Topaz Lodge, Lake Topaz, 266-3468.

**Refurbish Historical Graveyard** • April 17 • Volunteers and garden tools are needed. Dinner to follow. Stewart Indian School Museum, Carson City, 882-6929.

**Jessie Winchester Ball** • April 17 • 1920s costume ball to raise funds for CARE Chest of Sierra Nevada. Location TBA, 829-CARE.

**An Evening With James Van Praagh** • April 20 • Book signing and performance by the author of *Talking to Heaven: A Medium's Message of Life After Death.* Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 982-5545.

**Spring Afternoon With the Authors** • April 25 • Local writers. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 267-3996.

**Earth Day** • April 25 • Wingfield Park, Reno, 323-3433.

### COMING EVENTS

**Grand Prix Motorcycle Race** • May 8-9 • Virginia City, 837-0311.

**Comstock Historic Preservation Week** • May 12-16 • Virginia City, 847-0311 for further information.

**Vintage Auto Fest '99** • June 3-5 • Reno, 333-9300.

**Carson City Rendezvous** • June 11-13 • 687-7410.

**Far West Regional Wheelchair Tennis Championship** • June 17-20 • Reno, 530-587-2108.

**Father's Day Pow-Wow and Craft Fair** • June 18-20 • Carson City, 882-6929.

**Reno Rodeo** • June 19-27 • 329-3877.

**Uptown Downtown ARTown** • July 1-31 • Reno, 329-1324.

**Music at Sand Harbor** • July 9-10 • Incline Village, 530-583-7625.

**Way It Was Rodeo** • July 24-25 • Virginia City, 847-0311.

**Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival** • July 30-Aug. 29 • Incline Village, 800-74-SHOWS.

**Hot August Nights** • Aug. 2-6 • Reno-Sparks, 356-1956.

**Nevada State Fair** • Aug. 25-29 • Reno, 688-5767.

**Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off** • Sept. 3-6 • Sparks, 353-2284.

**International Camel Races** • Sept. 10-12 • Virginia City, 847-0311.

**Great Reno Balloon Race** • Sept. 10-12 • Reno, 826-2281.

**National Championship Air Races** • Sept. 16-19 • Reno, 972-6663.

**Genoa Candy Dance** • Sept. 25-26 • Genoa, 782-8696.

## Cowboy Country

### FESTIVALS & HOLIDAY CELEBRATIONS

**Shooting the West XI** • March 5-7 • Photography conference. Aerial, adventure, and travel photographer Harvey Lloyd is the special guest. Convention Center, Winnemucca, 623-5071.

**Chariot Races** • March 13-14 • Action includes a Calcutta and auction. Chariot Race Track, Wells, 752-3540.

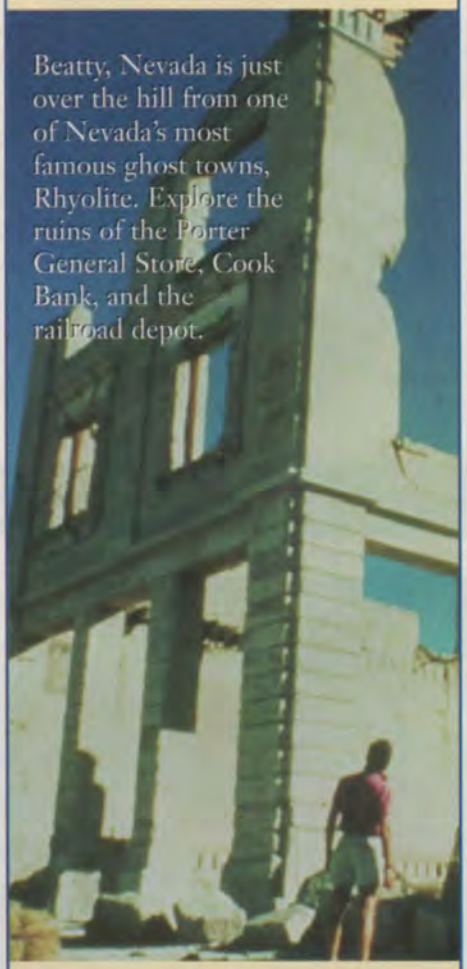
**Easter Egg Hunt** • April 4 • Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2195.

### PERFORMANCES

**Miss Elko County Pageant** • March 14 • Convention Center, Elko, 738-4091.

**Monumental Brass Quintet** • March 24 • Classical, jazz, ragtime, show tunes, and big band. Pershing County High School, Lovelock, 273-2082.


NEVADA'S GATEWAY TO DEATH VALLEY



Beatty, Nevada is just over the hill from one of Nevada's most famous ghost towns, Rhyolite. Explore the ruins of the Porter General Store, Cook Bank, and the railroad depot.

Beatty is nestled at the base of the Bare and Beatty Mountains. With 3 casinos, dining, gift shops, lodging, and a Death Valley Visitor Center, it has everything to offer prior to your venture into Death Valley National Park.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

775.553.2424

Beatty Chamber of Commerce
119 E. Main
Beatty, Nevada 89003


Photo: Carolyn Fox

We'll Dot The "I's," You Cross The Tees.

Group Golf Get-Togethers Par Excellence?
Over 100 Groups Last Year Made It A Sure Thing.



Making the right decision about the best place for your next getaway tournament is about to get a whole lot easier. Nobody sweats the details like we do. Tee it up at nine great golf courses, including Genoa Lakes, Dayton Valley, Carson Valley, Eagle Valley, Sunridge, Sierra Nevada, Silver Oak, or Empire Ranch, all just minutes away

Exceptional service, great food, deluxe accommodations, plus nonstop fun indoors and out, around the clock. Dotting the "I's," crossing the tees. At the Carson Valley Inn in Minden, Nevada, it's all part of the package. Call now. We'll set it up PDQ.

Carson Valley Inn
HOTEL • CASINO • RV RESORT
A Sure Thing

Mini Groups 8 to 18 Large Groups 20 or more
Call 800-321-6983 or 775-782-9711, ext 625





Get Away To The Great Outdoors

*Crisp, clear air.*
*A fawn captured in the clear dawn light.*
*Soaring cliffs.*
*An egret gliding low over the Ruby Marshes.*
*To experience Elko, you need to step outside.*
*And once you do, the spectrum of exciting activities will make you long to stay there.*

*In fact, many people do just that.*

ELKO
Memories Made Of Gold

ELKO, NEVADA
Call for your FREE Visitor Guide
1 800 248-3556


**Modern Dance Concert** • April 11 • Convention Center, Elko, 738-4091.
**Rongchun Zaho, Master of the Erhu** • April 15 • Traditional Chinese music on the erhu and American ballads on violin. Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2082.
**Ruby Mountain Symphony Spring Concert** • April 24 • Convention Center, Elko, 738-4091.

### EXHIBITS

**Levi's Cowboy Clothing** • Thru March 31 • Clothing and gear. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418.

### GENERAL INTEREST

**Spring Craft and Business Fair** • March 13 • Convention Center, Elko, 738-2997.
**Corned Beef Dinner** • March 17 • Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2356.
**Lincoln Dinner** • March 20 • Community Center, Lovelock, 273-2631.
**Wine Tasting** • March 20 • Soroptomists scholarship fund-raiser. Convention Center, Elko, 738-4091.
**Spring Home and Garden Show** • May 1-2 • Convention Center, Elko, 738-7135.

## Dance Classic

Maia Wilkins of the Joffrey Ballet and Nikolia Kabaniaev of the Diablo Ballet will appear in Nevada Festival Ballet's performance of "Swan Lake" April 24-25 in Reno.

### COMING EVENTS

**National Basque Festival** • July 2-4 • Elko, 738-9691.
**Art in the Park** • July 17-18 • Elko, 738-1553.
**Land Speed Opener** • July 22-24 • Wendover, 801-785-5364.
**Jarbidge Days** • Aug. 13-15 • 488-2311.
**Elko County Fair** • Aug. 28-Sept. 6 • Elko, 738-3616.
**Winnemucca Tri-County Fair** • Sept. 2-7 • 800-WMCA-NEV.

# Pony Express Territory

### FESTIVALS & HOLIDAYS

**Operation Haylift** • March 5-6 • Tribute to the 1949-50 rescue of Nevada livestock in extreme winter conditions. U.S. Air Force and Navy planes dropped bales of hay to starving cattle, and Nevada Northern Railway delivered 420 tons of hay by boxcar. Screening of the movie *Operation Haylift* on March 5, train displays. Nevada Northern Railway Museum and Depot, Ely, 289-8877.
**Fallon High School Rodeo** • April 9-11 • National competition. Fairgrounds, Fallon, 423-7797.

### PERFORMANCES

**"The Barber of Seville"** • Nevada Opera presentation. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 237-6006.
**Wing on a Prayer Dance Company** • April 14-16 • Reno-based company performs. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 237-6006.
**Rongchung Zhao and Lucille Soule** • April 16 • Eastern and Western classical music. Churchill County High School, Fallon, 423-1440.
**"It's All Done With Mirrors"** • April 30 • Anthony Zerbe performs the works of poet e.e. cummings. Churchill County High School, Fallon, 423-1440.

### EXHIBITS

**Operation Haylift** • March 1-31 • Display tells the story of the military airlift of hay to starving cattle during the winter of 1949-50. White Pine Public Library, Ely, 289-8877.
**LXS Art Exhibit** • March 12-April 13 • Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 237-7937.
**Fiber Art Show** • March 14 • Quilt show and fiber arts exhibits and demonstrations. Silver Springs Elementary School, Silver Springs, 577-3424.

### GENERAL INTEREST

**Hidden Cave Tours** • March 13, 27, April 10, 24, and May 8, 22 • Free guided tour of Hidden Cave archaeological site. Departs from Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677.



## Shooting Stars

Visitors will find traders and trappers busy in the pioneer encampment during the Eagle Valley Muzzleloaders Spring Rendezvous April 23-25 at Mills Park in Carson City. The traditional tools, weapons, and clothing used by pioneers will be featured.

**Spring Fling Shoot** • March 20-21 • Perdiz Range, Eureka, 237-7027.
**On the Wings of Spring Shoot** • April 10-11 • Jackpot shoot. Perdiz Range, Eureka, 237-7027.

### COMING EVENTS

**Fallon Air Show** • May 1-2 • Fallon, 426-2880.
**Silver State Classic Challenge Auto Race** • May 13-16 • Ely, 289-6267.
**Spring Wings Festival** • May 14-16 • Fallon, 423-5128.
**Fernley Fly-In** • May 23 • Fernley, 595-4459.
**Gridley Days** • June 18-20 • Annual town celebration, Austin, 964-2200.
**Silver State International Rodeo** • July 1-4 • Fallon, 800-874-0903.
**All-Indian Rodeo, Stampede, and Pioneer Days** • July 16-18 • Fallon, 423-2544.
**Hearts o' Gold Cantaloupe Festival** • Sept. 3-6 • Fallon, 800-874-0903.

# Pioneer Territory

### FESTIVALS & HOLIDAYS

**St. Patrick's Dinner and Dance** • March 17 • Convention Center, Tonopah, 482-6746.
**Cowboy Poetry Gathering** • April 9-10 • Open to amateurs and professionals for readings, performances. Also includes dance and art contest. Convention Center, Tonopah, 482-3052.
**Tonopah 300** • April 16-18 • Best in the Desert Silver State Series 300-mile off-road race with trucks, cars, quads, and motorcycles. Tonopah, 702-457-5775.
**Spring Thing** • April 16-18 • Senior pro rodeo and carnival. Petrack Park, Pahrump, 727-1555.

### COMING EVENTS

**Homecoming Celebration** • May 28-31 • Caliente, 726-3132.
**Jim Butler Days** • July 24-26 • Tonopah, 482-3859.
**Lyon County Fair** • Aug. 19-22 • Annual fair and rodeo, Yerington, 463-2090.
**Pioche Labor Day** • Sept. 3-5 • Mining events, parades, Pioche, 962-5544.

**A Reminder:** To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. The Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702; the rest of the state is 775.


Experience History Firsthand in

EUREKA

Pick Up Our Self-guiding Tour
and Discover Dozens of
Historic Buildings That Will
Take You Back 100 Years!

*Visit the Restored Courthouse,*
*Eureka Opera House, and*
*Eureka Sentinel Museum*

*The Best Preserved Historic*
*Mining Camp on Highway 50,*
*the "Loneliest Road in America"*



Eureka Sentinel Museum




Eureka Opera House

For more information, write or call
Eureka Opera House
702-237-6006 • P.O. Box 284 • Eureka, Nevada 89316


Photo: Larry Taylor


IT'S EVERYTHING FROM
STEVE & EYDIE TO STEVIE NICKS.
IT'S TOM JONES, WAYNE NEWTON
AND ENGELBERT.
IT'S JANET JACKSON,
SHERYL CROW
AND CELINE DION.
IT'S SIEGFRIED AND ROY AND PENN
AND TELLER AND STEVE AND EYDIE.
IT'S LEANN RIMES,
CLINT BLACK AND
THE KENTUCKY
HEADHUNTERS.
IT'S BOYZ II MEN, LL COOL J AND THE ARTIST
(FORMERLY KNOWN AS PRINCE).
IT'S U2'S FIRST SHOW.
IT'S THE ROLLING STONES' LAST.
IT'S THE NEW DEFINITION FOR THE
ENTERTAINMENT CAPITAL OF THE WORLD.
IT'S ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING.
LAS VEGAS
OPEN 24 HOURS
www.lasvegas24hours.com
CALL YOUR TRAVEL AGENT.

# Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in March and April.



## Dancing Away

"Tap Girls," the musical revue at Harveys Lake Tahoe in Stateline, ends its successful run April 3. The cast includes two former Laker Girls, a "Barbie" model, and Miss Arkansas 1997 Shown from left are (back row) Ingrid Pluntke, Cassandra Montgomery, Jamie Jacoby, Genevieve Stewart, Jennifer Temple, and Doreen Herod, (center row) Summer Rich and Elizabeth Gandara, and (front row) Chrissy Fastabend and Stacy Freeman.

Nevada clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. This spring, Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme will appear at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, LeAnn Rimes will appear at the Las Vegas Hilton, Eddie Money performs at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks, and Willie Nelson headlines at the Caesars Tahoe in Stateline. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a guide to featured performers. Showrooms often fill fast, so call for show times and reservations. Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702, and the rest of the state's is 775.

## Las Vegas Territory

### BOULDER CITY

**Gold Strike Inn** • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Will be closed until May.

### HENDERSON

**Joker's Wild** • 564-8100: Live entertainment Wed.-Sun.

**Reserve** • 558-7000: Wasimba's Lounge: Bands play Wed.-Sun.

**Sunset Station** • 547-7777: Club Madrid: B.J. Thomas, April 3; the Fab, Mon., Thurs.-Sat.; Disco Inferno, 10pm-2:30am Fri. and Sat.; Sunset Brewing Co.: Entertainment Wed.-Sat.

### Voice of the People

When impressionist Bill Acosta performs "The 12 Days of Christmas" in his one-man show, "Lasting Impressions," at the Luxor in Las Vegas, he changes voices 90 times during the 15-minute song. Acosta offers his impressions of politicians and celebrities in the Luxor Live Theater.

### JEAN

**Gold Strike Hotel** • 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play at the hotel off Interstate 15 (dark Tues.).

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

### LAS VEGAS

**Arizona Charlie's** • 258-5100: Naughty Lady Saloon: Bands play nightly; Palace Grand Theatre: TBA.

**Bally's** • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.); George Carlin, thru March 3; Chris Rock, March 5-6; Pointer Sisters, March 12-13; George Carlin, April 8-28; Johnny Mathis, May 14-15.

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

**Bellagio** • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf. (dark Wed.-Thurs. and April 26-27).

**Boulder Station** • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Lounge: Merle Haggard, March 20; Jerry Vale, May 28-29 and Oct. 29-30; bands play nightly.

**Bourbon Street** • 737-7200: Bourbon Street Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Nevada Events & Shows
is a section of
NEVADA
MAGAZINE



## Carry a Tune

Nine-time Tony Award winner Tommy Tune has stepped into the leading role in "EFX" at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. The six-foot-six star succeeds David Cassidy. Tune will play himself in the special effects production.

**Caesars Palace** • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus: The Moody Blues, March 4-7; Wynonna, March 10-14; Chicago, March 19-21 and 26-28; The Legends of Motown starring The Temptations/Martha Reeves/The Marvelettes, April 8-11; Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, April 16-18; Julio Iglesias, April 28-May 3; Huey Lewis and The News, May 13-16; Earth, Wind and Fire, June 3-6; Tony Bennett, June 17-20; bands play in La Piazza Lounge, Palace Court Restaurant, and Cleopatra's Barge. Magicians perform in the Secret Pagoda and Sultan's Palace theaters at Caesars Magical Empire.

**Casino Royale** • 737-3500: Volcano Room: TBA.

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

**Continental** • 737-5555: Club Continental: Entertainment TBA.

**Desert Inn** • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Showroom: Dennis Miller, March 11-14; Don Rickles, April 22-25; Ray Romano, May 14-16; Temptations, May 27-30; Starlight Lounge: Entertainment nightly.

**Excalibur** • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "Tournament of Kings," music-dinner show; Wild Bills Saloon and Steakhouse and Minstrel's Theatre Lounge: Dance music nightly; Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers 10am-11pm.

**Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn** • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Casino Stage: Entertainers appear nightly.

**Flamingo Hilton** • 733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Flamingo Showroom: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" starring the Rockettes (dark Fri.); Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.).

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

**Four Seasons** • 632-5000: Hotel opens March 2. Entertainment nightly in the Lobby Lounge and Club Bar. Four Seasons occupies upper floors at Mandalay Bay.

**Gold Coast** • 367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Kinda Dixie Jazz Band, noon to 6pm Mon.-Fri.; bands play nightly except Mon.; karaoke nightly in the West Lounge; Gold Coast Showroom: "A Tribute to Patsy Cline," starring Sharon Haynes and The Jordanaires, thru March 29 and April 7-May 31 (dark Tues.); Tropical Splash, Sat. (indf.); ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor Tues. and Sun.

**Golden Nugget** • 386-8100: Theatre Ballroom: New show TBA; bands in the lounge nightly except Mon.

**Hard Rock Hotel** • 226-4650 or 800-HARD-ROCK: The Joint: Robin Trower, March 6; John Lee Hooker, March 12; Ringo Starr, March 13; Enrique Iglesias, March 19-20.

**Harrah's Las Vegas** • 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: Spellbound Theater: "Spellbound" (dark Sun.); "The Improv at Harrah's" (dark Mon.); entertainment nightly in the La Playa Lounge; nightly live entertainment in the Range Steakhouse and Piano Bar.

**Holiday Inn Boardwalk** • 730-3194: Lighthouse Showroom: "The Dream King" with Trent Carlini (dark Mon.); Bobby Wade's Emperors, thru March 7 (dark Mon.).

**Imperial Palace** • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.); "Hawaiian Hot Luau: Imperial Style," poolside dinner show on Tues. and Thurs. begins in April, weather permitting.

**Jackie Gaughan's Plaza** • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): Plaza Theater: Kenny Kerr Show, female impersonator revue (indf.).

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

**Lady Luck** • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Theater:

## Gargoyles in Vegas

The story line of the Excalibur's new $2.6-million show, "Tournament of Kings," varies from that of its long-running predecessor, "King Arthur's Tournament," but audiences will still find plenty of battles, jousting, and dragon slaying. The Las Vegas production is a dinner show—served medieval style.

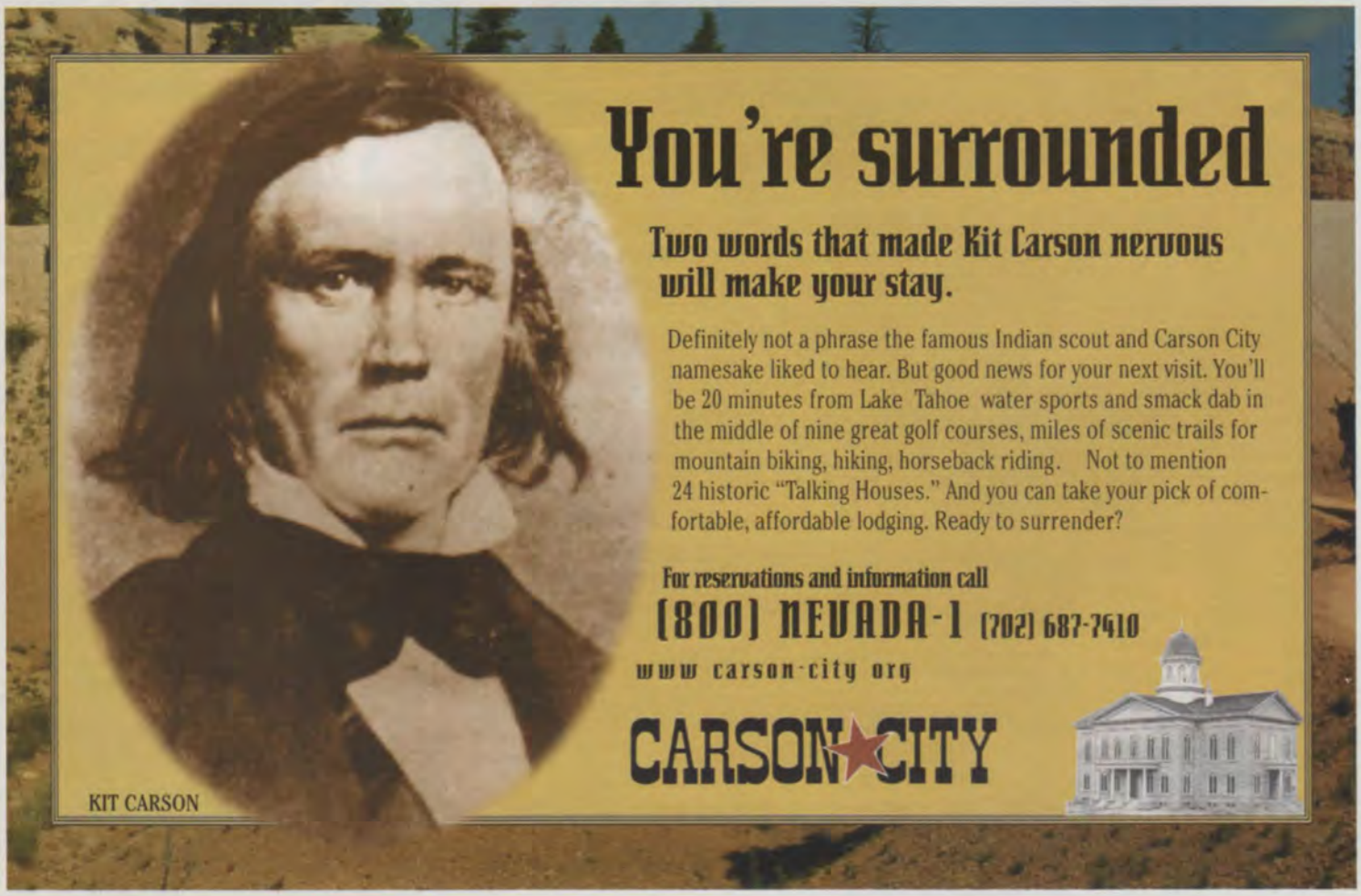







Photo: Franco La Costa



## A Man and a Woman

Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme have shared the spotlight for 38 years and earned a Grammy Award for their album, "We've Got Us." The duo, who appear April 16-18 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, are known for their smooth standards and show tunes.

"Steve Wyrick: World Class Magician," 7:30 and 10:30pm (dark Mon.).

**Las Vegas Hilton** • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: Reba McEntire, March 4-7; Andrew Dice Clay, March 26-27; Alan Jackson, April 22-25; Jeff Foxworthy, April 29-May 2; TNN's Primetime Country, free taping, May 3-7; LeAnn Rimes, May 28-30; Pat Benatar, June 11-12; The NightClub: Louie Louie.

**Luxor** • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Luxor Theatre: "Imagine: A Theatrical Odyssey," production show; Luxor Live Theatre: "Lasting Impressions" starring Bill Acosta (dark Sun.-Mon.); Nefertiti's Lounge: Live entertainment; Ra Nightclub: DJ nightly; concerts TBA.

**Main Street Station** • 387-1896 or 800-713-8933: 777 BrewPub: Shuffle-aires, Tues.; "Divine Divas," musical impersonators, Fri.-Sat.

**Mandalay Bay** • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: "Chicago," Broadway musical opens March 3; Mandalay Bay Special Events Center: Luciano Pavarotti, April 10; House of Blues: Entertainment nightly; bands play in the Island and Orchid lounges and the Coral Reef Club.

**Maxim** • 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: Maxim Showroom: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Comedy Magic," 1 and 3pm (dark Sun.); entertainment in Muldoon's Room.

**MGM Grand** • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring Tommy Tune; Hollywood Theatre: Sheena Easton/Rita Rudner, thru March 10; Grand Garden Arena: 'N Sync, April 17; Champions on Ice, May 30; Center Stage Lounge: Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club: Comedians nightly; live entertainment in the Show Bar Lounge, Brown Derby, and Gatsby's; Studio 54: Dancing nightly.

**The Mirage** • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs.); bands play in the Lagoon Saloon and Baccarat Bar (piano bar).

**Monte Carlo** • 730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon.); Top 40, disco, country, and classic rock dance music nightly in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery.

**New Frontier** • 794-8200: Gilley's Saloon: Gilley's All-Star Band.

**New York-New York** • 740-6969: Broadway Theatre: "Lord of the Dance" (dark Sun.-Mon.); bands play in the Empire Bar, and the N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play 3-6:30pm Fri. and 8pm-2:15am nightly in the Bar at Times Square.

**The Orleans** • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Willie Nelson, March 10-14; Ray Charles, March 17-21; Anne Murray, March 22-28; Vikki Carr, March 31-April 3; Neil Sedaka, April 6-11; Crystal Gayle, April 13-17; Righteous Brothers, April 19-May 2; Bourbon Street Cabaret: Bands play nightly; strolling Orleans Parade Band (dark Sat.-Sun.).

**Palace Station** • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Trax Nightclub: Don Williams, March 26; bands play nightly in Trax and Thurs.-Sat. in the Palace Saloon.

**Rio Suite** • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Entertainment Complex: Impressionist Danny Gans (dark Mon.-Tues.); "Masquerade Show in the Sky," carnival-themed parade with exotic floats and costumes above the casino, every two hours beginning at noon Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.); Ipanema Piano Bar, Shutters Piano Bar, Voo Doo Lounge, and Cucina, Masquerade, Village, and Mambos bars have live entertainment; Club Rio: Dance-video nightclub Wed.-Sat.

**Riviera** • 794-9301: Grand Ballroom: Bobby Vinton, March 19-20; Top of the Riv: Louie Anderson, May 14-15; Splash Theatre: "Splash," nightly; La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female









impersonators revue (dark Tues.); Chick Corea and Origin, March 2; Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.); "Riviera Comedy Club," comedians appear nightly; Le Bistro Lounge: Groups like Susan McDonald's Reign perform; Jazz on the Strip, Mon.; Lon Bronson's All-Star Band, Fri. and Sat. at 1am; bands play Tues.-Sun.

**Sahara** • 737-2515: Congo Showroom: Amazing Johnathan, March 1-14; Top 40 bands play in the Casbar lounge.

**Sam's Town** • 454-8048: Western Dance Hall: Bands play 9pm-3am; Roxy's Saloon: Entertainers play daily 4pm-6am; Mystic Falls Park: "Festival in the Park," artists, musicians, variety acts, and strolling performers, 11am-5pm Sat.-Sun.

**San Remo** • 739-9000 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Broadway Cabaret" (dark Sun.); Bon Chance Lounge: Entertainers such as Tommy and Louina perform nightly.

**Santa Fe** • 658-4900: Entertainment nightly in the Ice Lounge; Pavilion: Jazz music Wed.-Sat. and Sun., noon-3:30pm, and piano Sun.-Tues.

**Showboat** • 383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Masquerade Room: Interactive murder dinner theater Thurs.-Sat.

**Silverton** • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Opera House: Entertainment TBA; dinner music nightly except Tues.-Wed.; Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Bands play nightly.

**Stardust** • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Stardust Theatre: "Enter the Night," production show (dark Fri.); Stardust Ballroom: Big Band Dance Party, March 6; bands play in the Starlight Lounge.



## The Cowboy Life

Willie Nelson reminds showgoers, "Mamas, Don't Let Your Babies Grow Up to Be Cowboys," at Caesars Tahoe in Stateline on March 5-6, the Orleans in Las Vegas on March 10-14, and the Riverside in Laughlin on June 18-19.

**Stratosphere** • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue (dark Thurs.); "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue 2 and 4pm daily except Sun.; Top of the World Lounge: Bobby Dickerson (dark Mon.); L'Isles Bar: Caribbean and reggae music.

**Treasure Island** • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues. and April 11 and 14); music in Captain Morgan's piano bar and the Hideaway Lounge.

**Tropicana** • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "The Best of the Folies Bergere...Sexier Than Ever" (dark Thurs.); "The Magic of Rick Thomas," 2 and 4pm daily except Fri.; Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly; bands play in the Atrium Lounge; free Wildlife Walk includes live birds and monkeys.

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

**Venetian** • 733-5000: Opens mid-April. Headliner entertainment TBA at the new Strip hotel.

**Westward Ho** • 731-2900: Westward Ho Lounge: Entertainment nightly.

**Wild Wild West Gambling Hall** • 736-8988. Loose Trax Sports Lounge: Karaoke, Thurs.-Sat.

**World Trade Center** • 369-5750: International Showroom: "The Michael La Rocca Show," musical revue (dark Sun.-Mon.).

### LAUGHLIN

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

**Colorado Belle** • 298-4000: "D" Deck: Riverboat Ramblers, strolling musicians; Boiler Room Brew Pub: Live entertainment (dark Mon.).

**Edgewater** • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Groups like Billy Erickson and the Bandits and Cornell Gunter's Coasters play nightly except Mon.

**Flamingo Hilton Laughlin** • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Silver Bullet Showroom: "Dancing to the Hitz," musical revue (dark Fri.); Louie Bellson's All-Star Band, March 19-20; Wynonna, March 28; Sawyer Brown, April 10; Lynyrd Skynyrd, April 23-24.

**Golden Nugget Laughlin** • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739:


# So Much To Do
## So Little Time...

*Full of natural wonders, historic ghost towns, limitless outdoor activities, and the famous Extraterrestrial Highway, Pioneer Territory is the gateway to some of the most famous sights in the West.*

**For more information, write to**
Nevada's Pioneer Territory
P.O. Box 1958
Hawthorne, Nevada 89415
www.travelnevada.com

Historic Railroads
Cowboy Festivals
Wagon Trains
Water Skiing
Silver Mines
Auto Rallies
State Parks
Fly Fishing
Museums
Wildlife
Rodeos
Golf



Tarzan's Lounge: Bands like Stinger, Doo Wah Riders, and The Zippers play nightly except Mon.
**Harrah's Laughlin** • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: Ronn Lucas Show (dark Thurs.); Bobby Rydell, March 4-6; Rio Vista Outdoor Amphitheater:

## Beatle Time

Ringo Starr and His All-Star Band make two appearances in Nevada this spring. The former Beatle appears March 13 at the Hard Rock Hotel in Las Vegas and March 19-20 at the Silver Legacy in Reno.

Chuck Berry, March 26; Paul Anka, April 3-4; Jeff Foxworthy, May 8.
**Ramada Express** • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theater: Back to the 1940s Speakers, Tuesdays at 1:15pm, free; "On the Wings of Eagles: A Tribute to American Heroes," multimedia show, daily on the hour beginning at 9am; Caboose Lounge: Karaoke Madness, Mon.; bands play nightly except Mon. Train rides also are available.
**River Palm** • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Crystal Sands Club: "Spice on Ice," revue, indf.; DJ music or bands perform nightly in the Bermuda Club.
**Riverside Resort** • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Smothers Brothers, March 3-7;



## 'Blue Velvet' Bobby

Former teen heartthrob Bobby Vinton recalls the '60s with hits such as "Blue Velvet" and "Red Roses for a Blue Lady." The Polish Prince appears March 19-20 at the Riviera in Las Vegas.

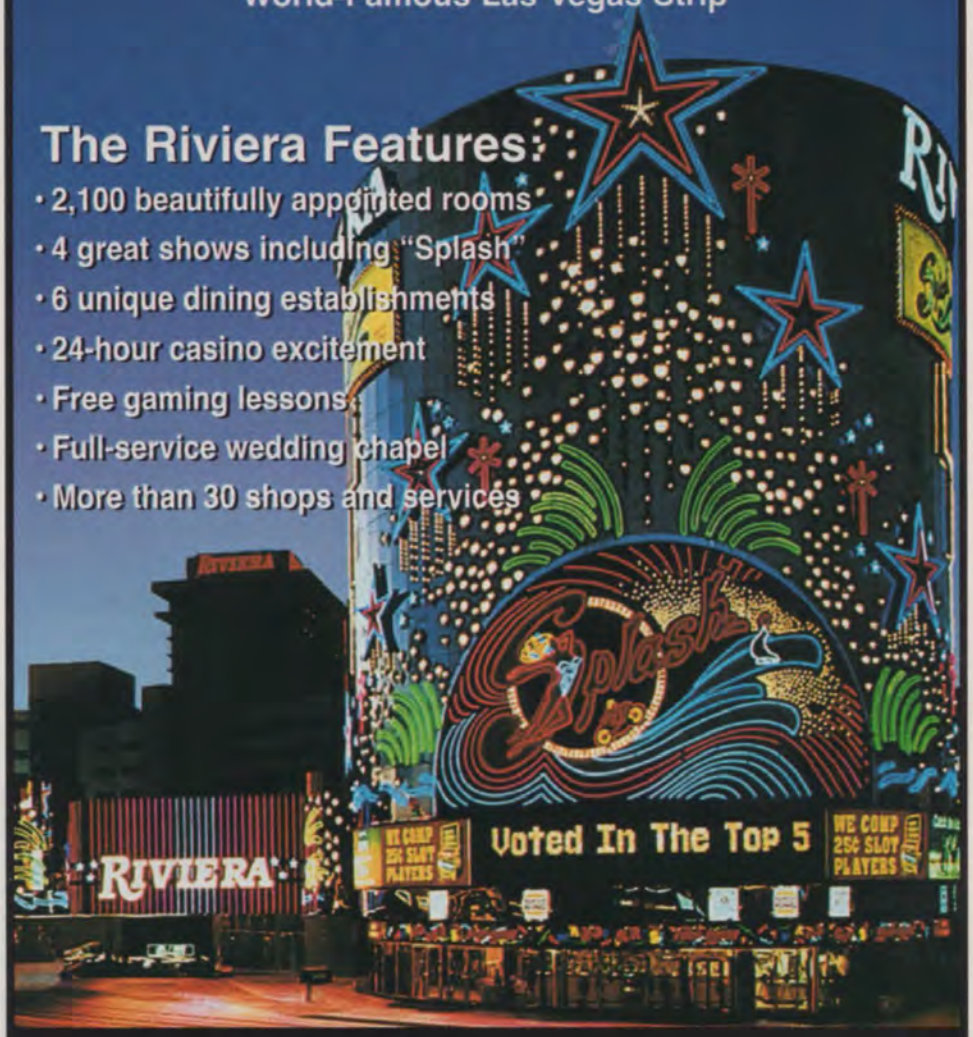
Gael Force Dance, March 16-21; Roy Clark, March 24-29; Anne Murray, March 30-April 3; Chris LeDoux, April 8-10; Gallagher, April 15-17; BTO in Concert, April 23; Oak Ridge Boys, May 29-30; Willie Nelson, June 18-19.

### MESQUITE

**CasaBlanca** • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Theatre: Marshall Tucker Band, March 13; Leon Russell, May 1; bands play nightly except Mon. in the Cascades Lounge; piano bar is scheduled for afternoons.
**Mesquite Star** • 346-1177: Bands play in the Shooters Bar.
**Rancho Mesquite** • 346-4646: Live entertainment in the Wild Cactus and Scorpion lounges.
**Si Redd's Oasis** • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Red Boot


YOU COULD HAVE IT ALL!
Luxury And Convenience
Located on the
World-Famous Las Vegas Strip

The Riviera Features:
- 2,100 beautifully appointed rooms
- 4 great shows including "Splash"
- 6 unique dining establishments
- 24-hour casino excitement
- Free gaming lessons
- Full-service wedding chapel
- More than 30 shops and services




For Room Reservations
Call (800) 634-6753
(702) 734-5110
In Nevada

RIVIERA
Hotel & Casino
The Entertainment Center of Las Vegas
The Alternative for Grown-Ups

Little Chapel of the Flowers
Your friends and family can now see your wedding on the internet for free.
www.littlechapel.com
"Prettiest Chapel in Las Vegas."
– BRIDES MAGAZINE
(702) 735-4331
(800) 843-2410
FAX: (702)735-8577




1717 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89104



## "Chicago" in Las Vegas

A group of "Merry Murderesses" find their way into show business in the Tony- and Grammy-winning "Chicago," which opens March 3 at Mandalay Bay. Chita Rivera moved West to star in the full-length Broadway musical.

Club: Big band dancing, Wed.; karaoke, Thurs.; dance contests, Fri.; live bands perform Fri. and Sat.; Casino Lounge: Bands play nightly.

**Virgin River** • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Country music bands play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

### NORTH LAS VEGAS

**Fiesta Casino** • 631-7000: Entertainment is presented in the Cantina Bar; Mariachis, 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.

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

**Texas Station** • 631-1000: South Padre: Entertainment TBA; Armadillo Lounge: Dancing to Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe, 4-8pm; bands play nightly.

### PRIMM

**Buffalo Bill's Resort** • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Entertainment TBA; Stage Bar: Bands play Thurs.-Sun.; Carolee's Comedy Club: Michael Rapport hosts guest comedians.

**Primm Valley** • 382-1212 or 800-826-4471.

**Whiskey Pete's** • 382-1212 or 800-367-7383 • Whiskey Pete's Showroom: Entertainment TBA.

# Reno-Tahoe Territory

### RENO/SPARKS

**Atlantis** • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Grand Ballroom: Entertainment TBA; bands play nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret, Treasure, Waterfall, Bird, and Atrium bars.

**Boomtown** • 345-6000: Boomtown Cabaret: Entertainers like David Proud, Edy Gainer, and Gary and Sandy play nightly except Mon.

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

**Club Cal-Neva** • 323-1046: Entertainment TBA.

**Comstock** • 329-1880.

**Eldorado** • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Eldorado Showroom: "Spirit of the Dance," Irish dance production show (dark Mon.); Brew Brothers: Bands play nightly; piano music in Bistro Roxy.

**Eddie's Fabulous '50s** • 329-1950: Lounge entertainment.

**Fitzgeralds** • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside



## Politically Incorrect

George Carlin lays out irreverent routines and off-the-wall characters like the Hippy Dippy Weatherman through March 3 at Bally's Las Vegas and March 12-13 at Caesars Tahoe.





*Enjoy two luxurious nights at Caesars Tahoe and two lift tickets to your choice of Heavenly, Kirkwood, Squaw Valley, Sierra at Tahoe or Northstar at Tahoe. Plus:*

- *Breakfast buffet for two each day*
- *Spa admission for two people each day or a $20 massage credit*

***All for just $150 per person, double occupancy for two nights.***

Call 1-800-648-3353

*Not a skier? Ask about our $89 room package.*

CAESARS TAHOE

www.caesars.com

*Plus tax, additional nights available. Sunday through Thursday only. Valid through 4/15/99 or based upon snow conditions.

**Discover Both Ends of the State!**

***Reno/Tahoe***

*The All-New*

**RAMADA INN & SPEAKEASY CASINO**

6th & Lake Streets • Downtown Reno

Sun.-Fri. From $39 Sat. From $59

Ski-Golf-Suite Room Packages

**Toll Free 1-888-RENO777**

**(775) 329-7400**

***Las Vegas***

*The All-New*

**RAMADA INN & SPEEDWAY CASINO**

I-15 at Cheyenne Road

Sun.-Thurs. From $49 Fri. & Sat. From $79

Golf-Suite-Speedway Room Packages

**Toll Free 1-8SPEEDWAY1**

**(702) 399-3297**

*Advance reservations, subject to availability, holiday & special event periods are higher.

Nevada): Bands play nightly in the Reno hotel-casino.
**Flamingo Hilton Reno** • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "Carnival of Wonders," magic production (dark Tues.); bands play in the Show Spot Cabaret; Terry Thompson plays at the Top of the Hilton restaurant (dark Tues.).
**Harrah's Reno** • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Broadway Showstoppers" indf. (dark Thurs.); "Skin Tight," adult musical revue, indf (dark Thurs.).
**John Ascuaga's Nugget** • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Rose Ballroom: Eddie Money, April 2; Wayne Newton, May 14-15; Celebrity Showroom: Louise Mandrell/Carol Hughes, thru March 3; Bill Medley, March 4-17; The Marshall Tucker Band/Fielding West, March 18-31; Roy Clark/Kenny Davis, April 1-14; Sha Na Na/Billy Garan, April 15-28; Lou Rawls/Mark Kornhauser, April 29-May 12; Herb Reed/The Platters/Mark Schiff, May 27-June 9; bands like Tommy Bell play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's restaurant.
**Peppermill** • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Peppermill Showroom: Entertainment TBA; bands play in the Cabaret Lounge.
**Rail City Casino** • Sparks, 359-9440: Entertainers like Siren, Band on the Run, and Heartache Tonight play weekends in the Side Track Lounge.
**Ramada Inn and Speakeasy Casino** • 329-7400: Pretty Boy Floyd's Bar features live entertainment.
**Reno Hilton** • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theater: "Night Beat," musical production opens March 13 (dark Fri.); Hilton Pavilion: Entertainment TBA; The Improv Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon.; live music and dancing in the Aspen Lounge and the Pylon Bar Stage.
**Riverboat** • 323-8877.
**Silver Club** • Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada).
**Silver Legacy** • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Ringo Starr and His All-Star Band, March 19-20; Natalie Cole, April 30-May 1; Johnny Mathis, June 25-26; Dwight Yoakam, July 23-24; comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club.
**Western Village** • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.

### CARSON AREA
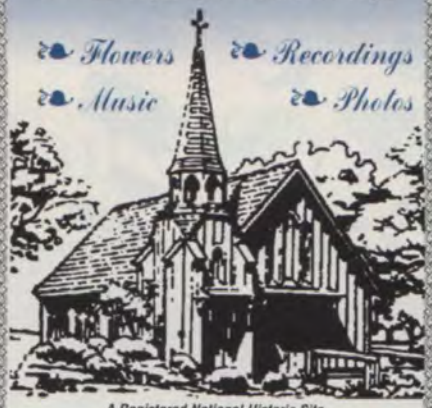
**Carson Nugget** • Carson City, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Bands like Louie Fontaine and Big Tiny Little play nightly.
**Carson Station** • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands play in the casino lounge.
**Carson Valley Inn** • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Bands play in the Cabaret Lounge; Shannon Ballroom: Hotel California, March 20.
**Ormsby House** • Carson City, 882-1890: Mark Twain Lounge: Bands like Blue Flame and X Factor play nightly.
**Piñon Plaza** • Carson City, 885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Fri.-Sat.
**Sharkey's Nugget** • Gardnerville, 782-3133: Live music and dancing Fri. and Sat.
**Topaz Lodge** • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

### STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

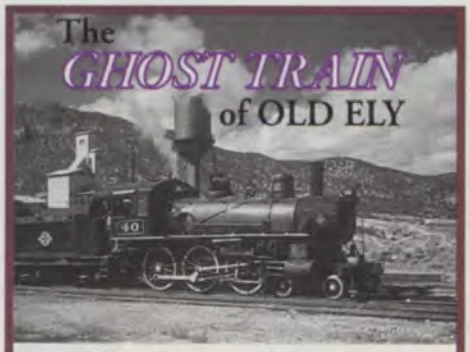
**Bill's Lake Tahoe** • 588-2455.

## Opening Nights

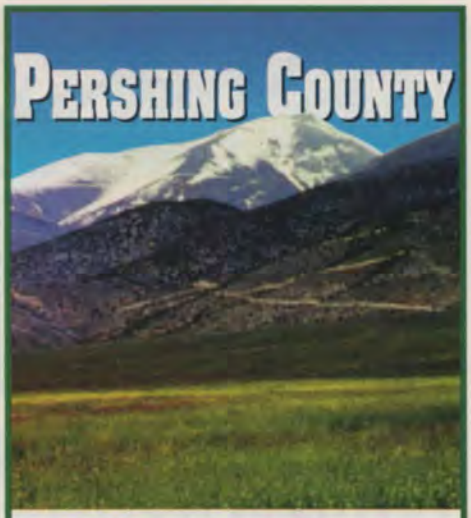
New Las Vegas production shows include the Broadway musical "Chicago" at Mandalay Bay and "Tournament of Kings" at the Excalibur. A disco-swing show is now part of the Rio's free "Masquerade in the Sky," and Tommy Tune has joined "EFX" at the MGM Grand. In Reno, "Spirit of the Dance" returns to the Eldorado, "Carnival of Wonders" opens at the Flamingo Hilton Reno, and "Night Beat" plays at the Reno Hilton. At Tahoe, new shows open at Harrah's Lake Tahoe and Harveys.


The LITTLE CHURCH OF THE WEST
Las Vegas' Famous Chapel of the Stars – Since 1942
Two blocks south of the Luxor
(where Russell Rd. meets the Strip)
4617 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Las Vegas
Flowers · Recordings · Music · Photos

A Registered National Historic Site
702-739-7971
Complete Wedding License Information
Outside Nevada 1-800-821-2452
www.vegas.com/chapels/little church
email: chapel@vegas.net



AUTHENTIC STEAM & DIESEL RIDES
WEEKENDS
May 15th thru September 18th, 1999
(Call or write for detailed schedule.)
Engine Rentals, Bus Tour Groups, Guided Tours & Gift Shop open Wednesday thru Sunday during season
NEVADA NORTHERN RAILWAY MUSEUM
P.O. Box 150040, Ely, NV 89315
(775) 289-2085



In the Heart of Cowboy Country Where Recreation and Wildlife Abound
Visit
Friendly Historic
Lovelock
- Only Round Courthouse in the U.S.
- Marzen House Museum
- State-of-the-Art Parks and Playgrounds

Rye Patch Reservoir
- Camping, Fishing, Boating
- Quality Motel, Casino, and Restaurants at Mill City

Historic Unionville
Black Rock Desert
Humboldt Sink
Famous Indian Caves


Stop by our Chamber of Commerce office at the Marzen House Museum for more information or call
702-273-7213

Las Vegas Never Sold Out!

- Special Hotel Packages
- Room Only Rates
- Golf Arrangements
- Sightseeing Tours
- Car Rentals
- Laughlin Packages Too!
- Individuals & Groups Welcome

We Offer Complete Leisure Travel Services With
ALL COMMISSIONS PAID WITHIN 7 DAYS.

RESERVATIONS PLUS
Las Vegas Laughlin
A PGI Company

800•805•9528
www.resplus.com
e-mail: resplus@pgi.com
FAX: 702•795•8767




PAHRUMP VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
P.O. Box 42 • Pahrump, NV 89041 • (702) 727-5800 • (800) 633-9378

**Caesars Tahoe** • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Willie Nelson, March 5-6; George Carlin, March 12-13; Wynonna, March 19-20; Daryl Hall and John Oates, March 26-27; Carrot Top, April 2-10; Nero's 2000 nightclub presents live music; Cleo's Bar and Entertainment Lounge: Pianist Arthur Hervey appears indf.

**Harrah's Lake Tahoe** • 588-6606 or 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "Eclipse! Magic for the Millennium," thru April 25; The Improv at Harrah's, May 6-8; Neil Sedaka, May 13-16; Tower of Power, May 20-23; Ray Charles, May 28-30; Smothers Brothers, June 3-6; Art Garfunkel, June 12-14; summer production show TBA, June 18-Sept. 26; bands like Zella Lehr and Inside Out play nightly in the Casino Center Stage.

**Harveys** • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Emerald Theatre: "Tap Girls," thru April 3; new production show TBA, opens April 23; Llewellyn's: Ron Rose Sound.

**Lake Tahoe Horizon** • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Phantasy," magic and comedy revue (dark Mon.); bands like White Wing and The Look play in the Aspen Lounge.

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

### NORTH LAKE TAHOE

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

**Crystal Bay Club** • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Bands play nightly in the Crystal Bar.

**Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe** • Incline Village, 832-1234: Ciao Mein Trattoria Lounge: Entertainment TBA; Stage Bar: Live entertainment nightly except Mon.

**Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget** • Crystal Bay, 831-7157.

**Tahoe Biltmore** • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

## Cowboy Country

### BATTLE MOUNTAIN

**Owl Club** • 635-5155.

### ELKO

**Commercial Hotel** • 738-3181: Comedy on Wed.

**Holiday Inn** • 738-8425: Piano bar, Tues.-Sat.; dance club, Thurs.-Sat.

**Red Lion** • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Mike Jenkins, March 2-7; Kenny Block, March 9-14; Mrs. Carol Hughes, March 16-21; Ngaio Bealum, March 23-28; Top 40 bands, Thurs.-Sat.

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

### JACKPOT

**Barton's Club 93** • 755-2341.

**Cactus Petes** • 755-2321 or 800-821-1103: Cabaret Lounge: Entertainment TBA.

**Horseshu Casino** • 755-2321.

### MILL CITY

**Burns Bros. Casino** • 538-7306: Bands often appear in Mr. B's Lounge at the Mill City casino on Interstate 80.

### WENDOVER

**Peppermill** • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play nightly.

**Rainbow Casino** • 664-4000 or 800-217-0049.

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

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

**State Line** • 664-2221, 800-354-3671: Stateliner1 Lounge:

Nevada Events & Shows
is a section of
NEVADA
MAGAZINE



## Long on Country

Wynonna Judd appears March 10-14 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, March 19-20 at Caesars Tahoe in Stateline, and March 28 at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin.

Entertainment TBA at the State Line Hotel lounge.

**WINNEMUCCA**

**Winners Hotel** • 623-2511: Bands play nightly.

# Pony Express Territory

**ELY**

**Hotel Nevada** • 289-6665.

**FALLON**

**Bonanza Inn** • 423-3111 ext. 47.
**Fallon Nugget** • 423-3111.
**Pioneer Territory**

# Pioneer Territory

**AMARGOSA VALLEY**

**Longstreet Inn** • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

**BEATTY**

**Stagecoach** • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Nightly entertainment.

**HAWTHORNE**

**El Capitan** • 945-3322: Entertainment TBA.
**Joe's Tavern** • 945-2302.

**PAHRUMP**

**Mountain View Casino and Bowl** • 727-7777: Bowling alley, entertainment.
**Saddle West Hotel, Casino, and RV Park** • 727-1111 or 800-GEDDY-UP: Casino-lounge entertainment.

**TONOPAH**

**Banc Club** • 482-5409 • Entertainment TBA.
**Mizpah Hotel** • 482-6202.
**Station House** • 482-9777: Bands play nightly.

**YERINGTON**

**Casino West** • 463-2481 or 800-227-4661 (U.S. and Nevada): Weekend music in the Wild West Lounge.
**Dini's Lucky Club** • 463-2868.

**A Reminder:** To confirm dates and times, please use the phone number listed with each event. Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702; the rest of the state's is 775. For hotels' toll-free numbers, call 800-555-1212.


Winnemucca

Shooting The West XI
The Nevada Photographic Experience



March 5-7, 1999

- Premier photography event in the great American West
- World class photographers
- Learn the secrets of publishing

Winnemucca Convention & Visitors Authority
1-800-962-2638
winnemucca.nv.us

Photography by Jess W. Smith



There's More Than Meets The Eye

Saddle all this with legendary Nevada gaming and hold on tight for one fun vacation!

OUTRAGEOUSLY GREAT TIMES
LAKE MEAD CRUISES

See Hoover Dam aboard the
**Desert Princess**

- Outrageous Scenery
- Outrageous Food
- Outrageous Hospitality

**New for 1999**

- PWC Guided Tours
- Jet-Boat Tours

**Reservations & Cruise Information**
**(702)293-6180**

Lake Mead Cruises is an Authorized Concessioner of the National Park Service.

We're Ready to
PLAY!

5 Friendly Casinos
Championship Golf Course

7 7 7

Bonneville Salt Flats
WWII Airfield Museum

WENDOVER USA
Visitor & Convention Bureau

1 (800) 426-6862



# Attractions, Tours & Museums

Places to go and things to do around the Silver State.



## What's Your Sign?

Hoover Dam visitors inspect the 12 signs of the zodiac that circle the terrazzo compass created by sculptor Oskar J. W. Hansen after the dam's completion in the 1930s. The art-deco memorial area includes Hansen's "Winged Figures of the Republic" and memorial plaque (background).

Visitors can explore Nevada's diverse attractions—from the exhibits at the Lost City Museum in Overton detailing the sudden disappearance of the Anasazi Indians to the history and gardens at the Wilbur D. May Museum in Reno—when they visit the Silver State's many museums, hotels, and state and national parks. The area code for Las Vegas Territory is 702, while the remainder of the state is 775.

## Las Vegas Territory

### BOULDER CITY

**Black Canyon River Raft Tours** • 293-3776.
**Boulder City Historic District** • Walking tour. 1305 Arizona, 293-2034.
**Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum** • Displays and books on the dam's construction in 1930s. 1305 Arizona, 294-1988.
**Boulder Dam Hotel** • 1305 Arizona, 293-7731.
**Hoover Dam and Visitor Center** • Tours, theaters, exhibit hall. U.S. 93, 294-3515, 293-8367, 293-8000.
**Lake Mead Cruises/Desert Princess** • Excursion on Lake Mead, 293-6180.
**Lake Mead National Recreation Area** • 601 Nevada Hwy., 293-8906.
**St. Jude's Ranch for Children** • Artifacts, tours, minature car museum. 100 St. Jude's St., 294-7100.

### HENDERSON

**Clark County Heritage Museum** • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.
**Cranberry World West** • Tours of Ocean Spray facility. 1301 American Pacific Dr., 566-7160.
**Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden** • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.
**Favorite Brands Marshmallow Factory** • Tours. 8203 Gibson Rd., 564-3878 or 800-234-2383.
**Mountasia Family Fun Center** • 2050 Olympic, 898-7777.
**Ron Lee's World of Clowns** • 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

### LAS VEGAS

**A.J. Hackett Bungy** • 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.
**All-American Sportpark** • Golf, baseball, in-line skating, and NASCAR racing, corner of Las Vegas Blvd. and Sunset Road, 798-7777 for information on the park.
**Bellagio** • Art gallery, choreographed fountain shows at the Strip entrance, 693-7111.
**Caesars Palace** • Dining, magic shows, and special effects at Caesars Magical Empire, 731-7333.
**Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex** • 9295 W. Flamingo, 253-9832.
**Excalibur** • Dragon battle in front moat, motion simulators, 597-7777.
**Flamingo Hilton** • Wildlife sanctuary. 733-3111.
**Floyd Lamb State Park** • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.
**Flyaway Indoor Skydiving** • 200 Convention Center Drl, 731-4768.
**Forum Shops at Caesars** • Animatronic attractions, "Race for Atlantis" IMAX 3D motion simulator. Caesars Palace, 893-4800.
**Fremont Street Experience** • Light show on the hour from dusk to midnight. Downtown Las Vegas, 678-5600.
**Gameworks** • Climbing wall and arcade. Showcase Mall, 597-3122.
**Grand Slam Canyon** • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.
**Guinness World of Records Museum** • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.



Photo: Carolyn Fox

**Harley-Davidson Cafe** • Motorcycle memorabilia, Harleys and other items on display. The Las Vegas Strip, 740-4555.
**Holy Cow! Casino** • Brewery tours, 732-2697.
**Horseshoe Casino** • $1 million on display, 382-1600.
**Imperial Palace Auto Collec-tion** • Classic and antique vehicles, 794-3174.
**Las Vegas Art Museum** • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 647-4300.
**Las Vegas Club** • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 385-1664.
**Las Vegas Hilton** • Star Trek: The Experience, 732-5111.
**Las Vegas Natural History Museum** • From dinosaurs to desert creatures. 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.
**Liberace Museum** • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.
**Lied Discovery Children's Museum** • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.
**Luxor** • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum, 262-4000.
**Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History** • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
**MGM Grand Adventures** • Theme park opens March 27-April 11, then weekends until June, 891-7979.
**Mirage** • Dolphin habitat, volcano, and Secret Garden with tigers, elephant, lions, and panthers, 791-7111.
**Motown Cafe** • Memorabilia and entertainment, New York-New York, 740-6440.
**Mount Charleston** • Recreation info., 222-1597.
**Nevada State Museum and Historical Society** • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.
**New York-New York** • Roller coaster, 740-6969.
**Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park** • 908 Las Vegas Blvd. North at Washington Avenue, 486-3511.
**Omnimax Theatre** • Caesars Palace, 731-7900.
**Rainforest Cafe** • Bird habitat and animated creatures. MGM Grand, 891-8580.
**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area** • 363-1921.
**Rio** • Treasures of Russia exhibit thru April 15 and free carnival-themed sky parade, 252-7777.
**Sahara Hotel** • Virtual reality Indy car racing on the Strip, 737-2777.
**Sam's Town** • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
**Santa Fe Hotel** • Ice arena. 4949 N. Rancho Dr., 658-4993.
**Shelby American** • Shelby Cobra auto museum and factory tour. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 643-3000.
**Southern Nevada Zoological Park** • 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
**Spring Mountain Ranch State Park** • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
**Stratosphere** • Roller coaster and Big Shot ride, 380-7777.
**Treasure Island** • Sea battle every 90 minutes from 4 to 11:30 p.m., 894-7111.
**Tropicana** • Wildlife walk and tiger habitat, 739-2222.
**Ultrazone** • Laser-tag arena, 734-1585.
**Walker African-American Museum and Research Center** • Exhibits and records, 647-2242.
**Wet 'n Wild** • Water theme park opens for the season April 29, 734-0088.
**World of Coca-Cola** • Showcase Mall, 270-5985.

## LAUGHLIN

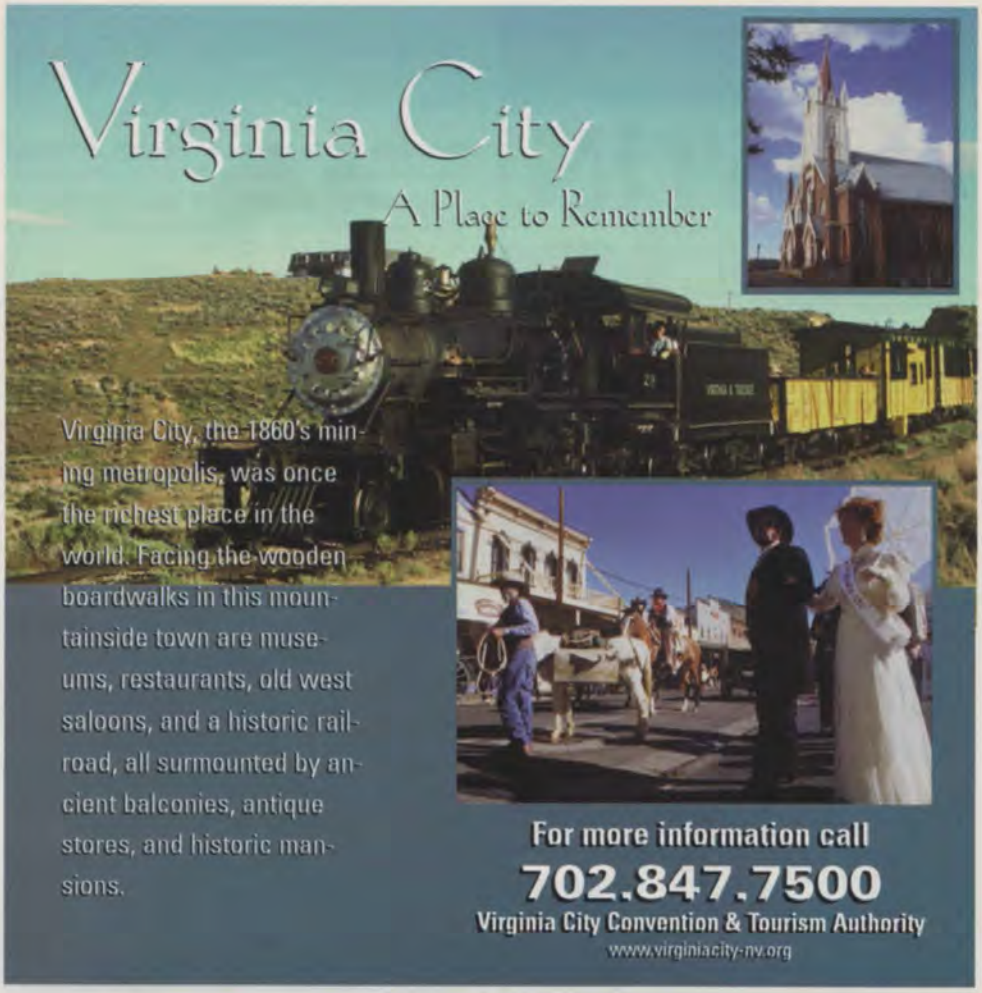
**Big Bend of the Colorado State Recreation Area** • Nature and water sports, four miles south of Laughlin, 298-1859.
**Boiler Room Microbrewery** • Colorado Belle, 298-4000.
**Colorado River Museum** • Arizona Hwy. 95, 520-754-3399.
**Del Rio Beach Club** • Colorado River sightseeing boat tour, 298-6828.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

## MESQUITE

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

## NORTH LAS VEGAS

**The Planetarium** • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.




# EXPLORE AUSTIN

*In The Heart Of Nevada*



Taste the wide open spaces of the great outdoors and enjoy the authentic history of the American West

Nevada's Oldest Mining Camp on the Loneliest Road in America—U.S. 50

**AUSTIN'S SPECIAL EVENTS**

- Annual Gridley Days Father's Day Weekend
- Annual Claim Jumper Mountain Bike Race In August
- Annual Rock and Bottle Show Labor Day Weekend

*For more information, write or call:*

**Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce**
**P.O. Box 212**
**Austin, NV 89310**
**702-964-2200**


### OVERTON

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

### PRIMM

**Primadonna Resorts** • Roller coaster, water flume, and Turbo Drop rides at Buffalo Bill's; cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz at Whiskey Pete's; Ferris wheel at Primm Valley Resort, Primm, on the Nevada-California border, 382-1111.

### SEARCHLIGHT

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

## Reno-Tahoe Territory

### CARSON CITY

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

### DAYTON

**Dayton State Park** • 687-5678.

### GARDNERVILLE

**Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center** • Old Douglas County High School on U.S. 395 S., 782-2555.

### GENOA

**Genoa Courthouse Museum** • 782-4325.
**Mormon Station State Historic Park** • 782-4325, 687-4379.
**Walley's Hot Springs** • 2001 Foothill Rd., 782-8155.

### LAKE TAHOE

**Hard Rock Cafe** • Harveys, Stateline, 588-2411.
**Heavenly Aerial Tram** • Stateline, 586-7000.
**Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park** • 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.
**M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler** • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.
**Ponderosa Ranch** • Opens April 15 for the season, Incline Village, 831-0691.
**Pope House** • Tours daily except Thurs. thru Sept. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3029.
**Tahoe Gal Paddlewheeler** • Tahoe City, 916-583-0141.
**Tahoe Rim Trail** • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
**U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center** • 916-573-2600.
**Vikingsholm** • Tours, 916-525-7232.
**Zephyr Cove Resort** • Beach, cruises, boat rentals. 588-5021.

### RENO

**Animal Ark** • 10 mi. north of Reno, then 12 mi. on Red Rock Road to reach Animal Ark, 969-3111.
**Bartley Ranch Regional Park** • Hiking, horse arena, and one-room Huffaker schoolhouse. Reno, 828-6612.
**Earth Window Museum** • Native American artifacts, 100 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
**Fleischmann Planetarium** • Stargazing programs, U of N, 784-4811.
**Galena Creek Regional Park** • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
**Liberty Belle Slot Collection** • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.
**National Automobile Museum (the Harrah Collection)** • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.
**National Bowling Stadium** • Tournaments and IMAX theater. 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.
**Nevada Historical Society Museum** • 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190.
**Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery** • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.
**Playland** • Train, rides, picnicking. Idlewild Park, 329-6008.
**Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk and Wingfield Park Amphitheater** • 334-2077.
**Reno Hilton** • Water golf, Ultimate Rush thrill ride, 789-2000.
**Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy** • Tours. 300 E. First St., Suite 103, 329-5665.
**Sierra Arts Center Gallery** • 200 Flint St., 329-1324.
**Sierra Safari Zoo** • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.
**Silver Legacy** • Stunt shows, giant mining and laser shows every hour, 325-7396.
**Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.
**Wilbur D. May Great Basin Adventure** • Seasonal, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4064.
**Wilbur D. May Museum** • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961.

### PYRAMID LAKE

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

### SPARKS

**John Ascuaga's Nugget** • Elephant mascots train in their arena, 356-3300.
**Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum** • 355-1144.
**Wild Island** • Water park opens Memorial Day, miniature golf and raceway open year-round. Off I-80, 359-2927.

### VIRGINIA CITY

**Assay Office Museum** • 847-0777.
**The Castle** • 847-0275.
**Chollar Mine** • Tours of workings, 847-0155.
**Fourth Ward School Museum** • 847-0975.
**Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum** • 847-9394.
**Liberty Engine Co. No. 1 Comstock Firemen's Museum** • 847-0717.
**Mackay Mansion Museum** • 847-0173.
**Mark Twain Museum of Memories** • 847-0454.
**Nevada Gambling Museum** • 847-9022.



Photo: Jay Aldrich

## Mining Town Royalty

Anson Phelps Stokes built his three-story summer home in Austin in 1897. Stokes had mining interests in Nevada and constructed the Nevada Central Railroad line. Referred to as Stokes Castle, the structure was only used a few years before being abandoned.

**Piper's Opera House** • 847-0433.
**Ponderosa Mine** • Tours, 847-0757.
**Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum** • 847-0525.
**Virginia and Truckee Railroad** • 847-0380.
**Virginia City Radio Museum** • 847-9047.
**Virginia City Tours** • 786-0866.
**Way It Was Museum** • 847-0766.
**Wild West Museum** • 847-0400.

### VERDI

**Boomtown Family Fun Center** • Climbing wall, motion theater, Ferris wheel, and miniature golf, 345-8668.

### WASHOE VALLEY

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

## Cowboy Country

### BATTLE MOUNTAIN

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

### ELKO

**Jarbidge Wilderness Area** • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.
**Northeastern Nevada Museum** • 1515 Idaho St., 738-3418.
**Western Folklife Center** • 501 Railroad St., 738-7508.
**Wild Horse State Recreation Area** • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

### LOVELOCK

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

### WENDOVER

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

### WINNEMUCCA

**Buckaroo Hall of Fame** • 623-2225.
**Humboldt Museum** • Winnemucca-area history, 623-2912.

## Pony Express Territory

### AUSTIN

**Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site** • 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.

### ELY/GREAT BASIN N.P.

**Cave Lake State Recreation Area** • 15 miles south of Ely, 728-4467.
**East Ely Railroad Depot Museum** • Tours, 289-1663.
**Great Basin National Park** • Baker, 65 miles east of Ely, 234-7331.
**Nevada Northern Railway Museum** • Train rides on historic locomotives. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.
**Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site** • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.
**White Pine Public Museum** • Exhibits on history of Ely area. 2000 Aultman St., 289-4710.

### EUREKA

**Eureka Opera House** • Open Mon.-Fri. or by appointment, tours, 237-6006.
**Eureka Sentinel Museum** • 237-5010.

### FALLON

**Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave** • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., 423-3677.
**Fort Churchill State Historic Park** • 30 miles west of Fallon at Silver Springs, 577-2345.
**Sand Mountain** • Unusual giant sand dune. 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.

## Pioneer Territory

### BEATTY

**Beatty Museum** • Mining exhibits, 553-2424.
**Death Valley National Park** • Park can be reached via Beatty, 619-786-2331.
**Rhyolite Bottle House Historic Site** • Four miles west of Beatty, 553-2424.

### GABBS

**Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park** • 23 miles east of Gabbs, 964-2440.

### HAWTHORNE

**Mineral County Historical Museum** • 400 10th St., 945-5142.
**Walker Lake State Recreation Area** • 945-5896.

### PAHRUMP

**Death Valley National Park** • Park can be reached via Pahrump, 619-786-2331.
**Pahrump Valley Winery** • Tours. 3810 Winery Rd., 727-6900 or 800-368-WINE.

### PIOCHE/CALIENTE

**Cathedral Gorge State Park** • South of Pioche, 728-4460.
**Kershaw-Ryan State Park** • South of Caliente, 728-4460.
**Lincoln County Historical Museum** • Pioche, 962-5207.
**Million Dollar Courthouse** • Pioche, 962-5207.
**Spring Valley State Park** • 728-4460.
**Stone Cabin Living History Museum** • One mile north of Eagle Valley Reservoir near Pioche, seasonal, 728-4460.

### ROUND MOUNTAIN

**Smoky Valley Museum** • 1935 schoolhouse and assay equipment. Open second Wednesday of the month and by appointment, 377-2243.

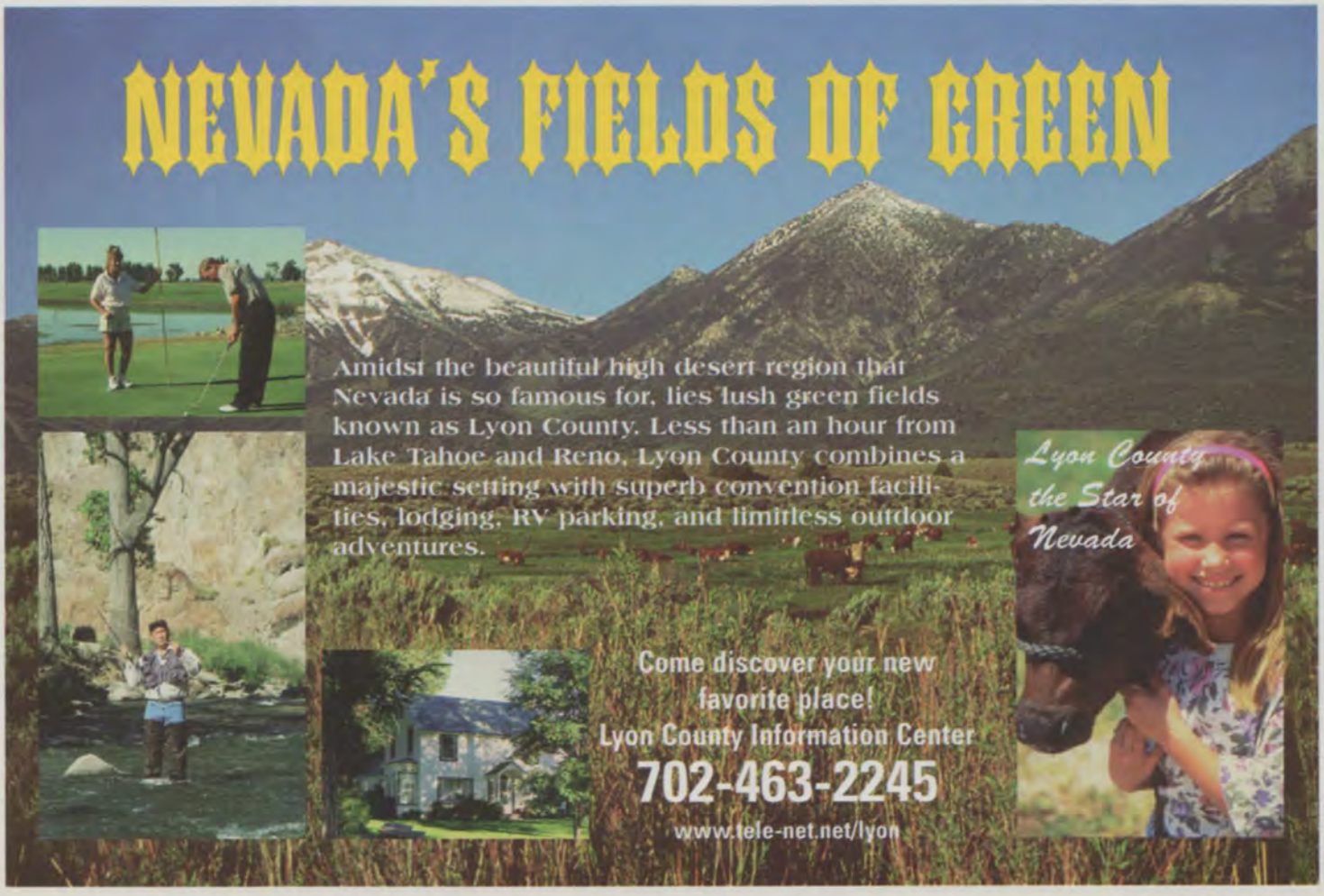
### TONOPAH

**Belmont Courthouse State Historic Site** • 50 miles north of Tonopah, 867-3001.
**Central Nevada Museum** • Artifacts and photographs on Tonopah-area history, 482-9676.
**Tonopah Historic Mining Park** • 482-9274.

### YERINGTON

**Lyon County Museum** • Exhibits and photos on the history of the Yerington area, 463-2245.

**A Reminder:** To confirm hours of operation, please use the phone number listed with each attraction. The area code is 702 in the Las Vegas area, and the rest of the state is 775.

# SUNDANCE HELICOPTERS

Nevada's Oldest and Largest Helicopter Company




• *Multi-lingual Narration*





• *Champagne Picnic On The Canyon Floor*

Fax Us For A Free Brochure!

• *Experience A Western Ranch Adventure*





• *Exclusive Landing Inside Vineyard For Wine Tasting & Gourmet Dinner*



• *Las Vegas City Lights*

## *Reaching Unimaginable Destinations*

http://www.helicoptour.com

# 1-800-653-1881

**Please complete the following information and Fax it back for a Free brochure at (702) 736-4107.**

Name_____

Company _____

Address _____

City/State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Fax Number _____ E-Mail _____

NEVADA
NV2000
Making Millennium Magic

# Millennium Countdown

# CALENDAR

October 1999 January 2001

*of*

## Nevada Events & Shows




Fourth of July celebrants chug down C Street in Virginia City.
**Photo by Cynthia Kennedy**

*A Section of*
NEVADA MAGAZINE

# Millennium Countdown CALENDAR

Nevada ushers in the Millennium with a 15-month celebration that lasts from Nevada Day, October 31, 1999, to Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2001. Following is a statewide, day-by-day guide to Nevada's once-in-a-thousand-years party. Events and dates are subject to change. Be sure to call ahead to confirm dates and times. The Millennium Countdown Calendar will appear in each issue of *Nevada Magazine's* Nevada Events and Shows section during the state's celebration.

## October 1999

• **27-31 Nevada Day Celebration:** Parade (on Sat., Oct. 30), carnival, midway games, entertainment, booths, arts and crafts, and dances kick off Nevada's 15-month millennium celebration. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **28-31 Bud Light Cup Bull Riding World Championships:** PBR bull riding competition has a $1.5-million purse, which includes $200,000 in Bud Light bonus money for the top 10 finishers in the point standings. Caesars Palace and Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

• **28-31 Championship Off-Road Racing:** Stadium race features off-road vehicles such as buggies and trucks. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

•**28-31 La Ka Le'l Bee Powwow:** Indian dancers from Western states, arts, crafts, food vendors, dance and drum contests. Indian Colony, Carson City, 775-885-6818.

• **29-31 (tentative) Laughlin Cool River Nites:** Tribute to the music of the '50s and '60s features classic cars, dances, and live music. Laughlin, 800-4-LAUGHLIN.

• **30-31 Pyramid Lake Rodeo:** Rodeo, dance, arts, crafts, and peewee and junior rodeo events. Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nixon, 775-574-1000.

## November 1999

• **1-7 National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals:** The nation's top cowboys and cowgirls, 40 and older, compete in all the traditional rodeo events. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-323-8842 or 775-688-5751

• **2-3 Pennzoil World of Outlaws:** Sprint cars race on one-half-mile dirt track. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

• **4-6 Western Heritage Festival:** Cowboy poetry gathering featuring Chautauquas, Western music, entertainment, vendors, arts and crafts, pickup truck display, and hot-air balloons. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-658-4679.

• **5-6 National Automobile Museum's 10th Anniversary Celebration:** Drawing for the 1999 raffle car (1988 Corvette) and the unveiling of the 2000 raffle car. Also includes free admission to the museum on Nov. 6. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.




# Nevada Territory Map

To assist you in your travels through Nevada, the state has been divided into the following territories:

- Reno-Tahoe Territory
- Cowboy Country
- Pony Express Territory
- Pioneer Territory
- Las Vegas Territory
- Indian Territory

• **5-7 Rhymer's Rodeer Cowboy Poetry:** Tales of the trail and Western lore. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983.

• **6 Festival Americana:** Native American and pioneer crafts, demonstrations, entertainment, and food. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

• **10 Fall Barn Dance:** Country music and prizes. Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-1939.

• **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Historic town's salute to the military. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **11-14 PageNet Tour Championship:** Top 30 LPGA golfers compete in a season-ending tournament for a $1-million purse. Course TBA, Las Vegas, 888-254-4653.



Map: Nevada Commission on Tourism

• **12-13 Blues and BBQ's:** Free music and entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **12-14 and 19-21 "Annie Get Your Gun":** Musical performed by the Western Nevada Community Theatre Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **13 University of Nevada Football:** Wolf Pack vs. Utah State. U of N, Reno, 775-348-PACK for information.

• **18-21 (tentative) Laughlin Team Roping Finals:** Culmination of a regional roping series. Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 800-4-LAUGHLIN.



**The Nevada Day Parade on October 30, 1999, in Carson City launches the state's 15-month Millennium celebration.**

• **19-21 Valhalla Holiday Faire: A Dickens Experience:** Crafters, artists, and boutiques for shopping, carolers, holiday treats, Father Christmas, and characters from Charles Dickens. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **20-Dec. 27 The Magical Forest:** Annual holiday land with a train, 10-foot candy canes, trees, animated figures, and gingerbread houses. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-2553.

• **21 Holiday of Lights:** Tree lighting in the park, singing, entertainment, and a visit from Santa. Wells, 775-752-3540.

• **21 Thanksgiving Turkey and Ham Shoot:** Flying Saucer Trap Club, Lovelock, 775-273-0745.

• **24 Tree-Lighting Ceremony:** The Country Holiday Festival begins at the Fremont Street Experience. Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **27 Fisherman's Holiday Fish Derby:** Cash prizes for anglers with the big catch. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **27-28 O Tannenbaum Christmas Tree Festival:** Holiday bazaar. Mesquite, 702-346-EVNT.

## December 1999

• **1 Deck the Halls of Valhalla:** Bring an ornament for a Christmas decorating party. Valhalla Grand Hall, Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **1-30 The Magical Forest:** The annual winter wonderland of lights, toy train, candy canes, and gingerbread houses entertains holiday visitors. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-2553.

• **2 Downtown Hoedown:** Pre-National Finals Rodeo party with music and entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **2 Silver and Snowflakes Festival of Lights:** Traditional tree-lighting. Downtown, Carson City, 775-882-1565.

• **3 Christmas at the Liberace Museum:** Entertainment and a Santa clad in a gold lamé suit. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.

• **3-12 National Finals Rodeo:** World's top rodeo athletes compete for $4.2-million in prize money. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

• **3-12 Downtown Rodeo Stampede:** Western music and entertainment in conjunction with the National Finals Rodeo. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777

• **3-12 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** More than 500 exhibitors display Western gifts. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.

• **4 Festival of the Trees:** Week-long craft fair and traditional Christmas events. Lovelock, 775-273-7144.

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

• **4 Sparks Hometowne Christmas:** Colorful 13th annual parade with Santa, holiday music, unique arts and crafts, and a tree-lighting ceremony. Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **4 Christmas on the Comstock:** Parade of lights and fireworks. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **4 Parade of Lights:** Annual parade of 50 highly decorated boats starts at Lake Mead Marina at 6 p.m. and travels south along the public viewing areas on Boulder Beach, Special Events Beach, and Hemenway Harbor. Lake Mead Marina, 322 Lakeshore Road, off U.S. 93, Boulder City, 702-457-2797

• **4-5 Genoa Christmas Faire and Cafe:** Arts and crafts fair, with Christmas carols and appetizers on Friday. Genoa Town Hall and Fire Bay, Genoa, 775-782-TOWN.

• **4-5 Festival of the Trees:** Entertainment, children's activities, street performances, Christmas crafts, holiday lights, and the arrival of Santa. Downtown Reno, Wingfield Park, and along the Truckee River, Reno, 775-334-2417

• **5 Christmas in the Nighttime Skies:** Fireworks, music, chili, and hot chocolate. Kimberly Nurseries, Elko, 775-738-8011 for details.

• **5 RSVP Christmas Show:** Holiday musical variety show. Community Center, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **5 Gallery of Trees and Holiday Open House:** Third annual tree-decorating contest, with trees on display through December. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

• **6 Pioche Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Visit:** Christmas tree lighting, bonfire, hot chocolate, Santa, and gifts for all the children present. Pioche, 775-962-5544.

• **9-12 Squaw Valley Anniversary Celebration:** 50th birthday gala at Squaw Valley USA. Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.

• **10 Luminaria:** Nativity procession, Christmas music, candle decorations in Bicentennial Park. Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

• **10-11 Christmas Indian Market:** Sale of Southwestern art, Indian arts, crafts, and baskets. Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Reno, 775-425-3439.

• **11 Children's Christmas Parade:** Kids lead Santa to his home in front of the Convention Center. Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **11 Christmas Celebration on Main Street:** Parade, tree-lighting ceremony, and caroling. Yerington, 775-463-2245.

• **12 Holiday Treat Concert:** The Carson City Symphony presents seasonal favorites with the Carson Chamber Singers. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

• **12 Bach's Christmas Celebration:** Myron Heaton Chorale's Bel Canto Ensemble performs the sounds of Christmas and Bach's "Magnificent" with orchestra guest soloists. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 702-456-0735.

• **16 Community Singers Songfest:** Traditional holiday music. Lovelock, 775-273-2011




**Opportunity Village's Magical Forest offers a Christmas fairyland each November and December in Las Vegas.**

• **19 Turkey Shoot:** Sport shooting at the Flying Saucer Trap Club. Lovelock, 775-273-0745.

• **24 Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade:** Squaw Valley Ski School lights up the night with a torchlight parade. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.

• **28 Blackjack Tourney:** $25 entry fee. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 711 or 800-321-6983.

• **30-31 New Year's Eve Celebration:**

Photo: Larry Taylor (top)



**Champions gather each December at Thomas and Mack Center in Las Vegas to compete in the National Finals Rodeo.**

Music and entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 678-5777

• **31 Buck 'n Ball '99:** Ring in the new year and the new millennium with a rodeo, live bands, and dancing. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-332-3333 or 800-FOR-RENO.

• **31 New Year's Eve Celebrations:** Watch here for more information.

• **31-Jan. 2 Jarbidge New Year's Eve Party:** New Year's Eve party, dance, buffet. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

## January 2000

• **1-2 Jarbidge New Year's Eve Party:** Dance, live music, buffet. Celebration runs through Sun., Jan. 2. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **9-15 PBA Senior Tour Doubles:** Tournament play at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **15-17 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration:** Events will take place in Las Vegas and Reno/Sparks.

• **20-23 Laughlin Desert Challenge:** Off-road race around the Colorado River community. Laughlin, 800-452-8445.

• **22-29 Cowboy Poetry Gathering:** Poetry readings, music, cowboy gift show. Elko, 775-738-7508.

• **29 Wine Tasting:** Annual chamber of commerce mix and sip. Community Center, Lovelock, 775-273-7144.

## February 2000

• **5 (tentative) Valhalla Winter Microbrew Festival:** Brew tasting, music, and food. Must be 21 or older to attend the brew festival. Harrah's Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **6 Las Vegas International Marathon and Half-Marathon:** More than 6,000 runners from 50 states and 40 countries compete in the 34th annual 26.2- and 13.1-mile races. Event includes a 5K "friendship" run on Feb. 5, and on race day an international food festival and health and fitness expo. Las Vegas, 702-240-2722.

• **11-12 Father/Daughter Sweetheart Dance:** Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

• **19-21 Walker Lake Fishing Derby:** Competition for cash prizes. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **24-27 Annual Shooting Weekend:** Sporting clays, five-stand and trap, plus optional pheasant hunting day. Red Hills Gun Club/Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983.

• **27 Carson City Symphony Concert:** Selections by Tchaikovsky and Suk. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

## March 2000

• **1-July 1 WIBC National Tournament:** Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL

• **3-12 Snowfest Winter Carnival:** 20th annual Mountain Mardi Gras with serious and offbeat ski races, outdoor parties, concerts, parades, bonfire, ice carvings, snow sculptures, polar bear swim, snowshoe races, and torchlight parade. Area ski resorts, North Lake Tahoe, 775-832-7625.

• **11 Mountain Oyster Cook-Off:** Creative cooking and festive booths and clothing. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **12 St. Patrick's Day Parade:** Wearing and sipping of the green in the historic Comstock mining town. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **12 SSEA Fiber Art Show:** Quilt and fiber arts show, includes demonstrations and related art and educational displays. Silver Springs Elementary School Multipurpose Room, Silver Springs, 775-577-3424.

• **12 "Messiah":** Myron Heaton Chorale presents its annual Lenten performance of George Frederic Handel's "Messiah" with orchestra and soloists. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 702-456-0735.

• **25-26 Wendover's Wild and Windy Ways:** Kite-flying contests, wind-powered vehicle races, and live entertainment. Various community locations, Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **29-April 2 "Inherit the Wind":** Western Nevada Community College Dramatic Arts production. Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

## April 2000

• **1-July 1 WIBC National Tournament:** Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL

• **1-2 "Inherit the Wind":** Western Nevada Community College Dramatic Arts production. Carson High School Black Box Theatre, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **5-9 Summerlin Street Fair:** Carnival, food festival, arts and crafts, home exhibits, and vendors. Summerlin Library, Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.

• **6-9 Clark County Fair and Rodeo:** PRCA rodeo, concert, entertainment, carnival, junior livestock judging and auction, juried art show, and antique farm equipment displays. Fairgrounds, Logandale, 888-876-FAIR.

• **7-9 Desert Quilters:** Convention Center, Henderson, 702-437-2768.

• **7-15 Henderson Heritage Days:** 50th anniversary celebration includes a parade, carnival, talent show, picnic in the park, chili cook-off, car show, dance, barbecue, softball tournament, and beauty pageant. Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **8 Hatchery Open House:** Tour of the Lahontan National Fish Hatchery south of Gardnerville on U.S. 395. 775-265-2425.

• **14-16 Las Vegas Gem Club:** Convention Center, Henderson, 702-566-1698.

• **14-16 (tentative) Spring Fling:** Carnival in the park and a senior pro rodeo. Petrack Park, Pahrump, 775-727-8195 or 775-727-1555.

• **15 Chili Cook-Off and Craft Fair:** Cooking competition with more than 40 cooks. Live music, entertainment, arts and crafts, and chili tasting. Topaz Lodge, Topaz Lake, 775-266-3468.

• **15-16 Annual Fly Fishing Festival:** Demonstrations, classes, and exhibits. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-265-2626 or 775-782-2522.

• **16 Sampler: Millennium of Choral Art III:** Myron Heaton Chorale's Bel Canto Ensemble presents the last of its millennium series exploring the changes of choral music from eighth-century plainsong chant through Renaissance, Classical, and Romance to the 20th century sounds of Leonard Bernstein and Alan Hovhaness. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 702-456-0735.

• **18-19 Loon Festival:** Boat tours of Walker Lake during the loons' migration season appeals to photographers and naturalists. Walker Lake, 12 miles north of Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **19-23 World Cup 2000:** American hunter/jumper horse show. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

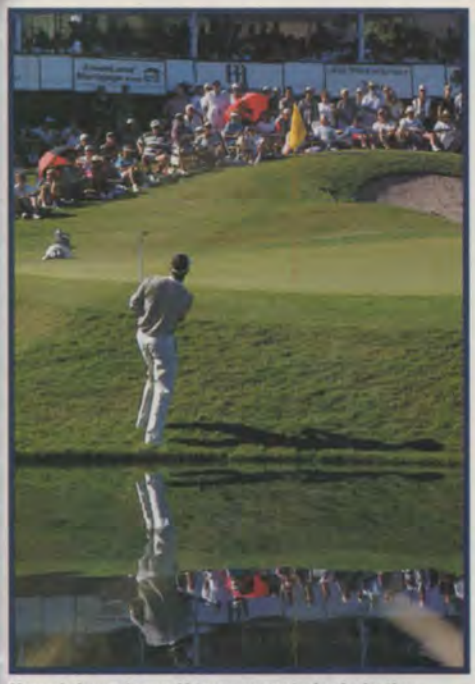


**In March, creative cooks and judges gather in Virginia City for the Mountain Oyster Fry.**

• **23 Easter Social:** Egg hunt, lunch, and Easter bonnet contest. Community Hall, McDermitt, 775-532-8742.

• **25-30 RSVP Spring Fun Fair:** Carnival, food booths, arts and crafts, entertainment, games, contests, and dances. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

Photos: Chris Leedham (top), Cynthia Kennedy (bottom)



**Nevada's major golf tournaments include the Las Vegas Invitational, Las Vegas Senior Classic, PageNet Tour (Las Vegas), Reno-Tahoe Open, and the Celebrity Golf Championship (Lake Tahoe).**

**•27-30 Laughlin River Run:** The West Coast's largest motorcycle event featuring displays, trade show exhibits, custom bike show, and concerts. Laughlin, 800-357-8223.

**• 30 Carson City Symphony:** Concert features Beethoven's Symphony No. 7 Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

## May 2000

**• 1-July 1 WIBC National Tournament:** Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL

**• 5-6 Cinco de Mayo:** Food, arts and crafts, live music, and a parade down Wendover Boulevard. Scobie Park, Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

**• 5-7 Silver State Square and Round Dance Festival:** Styles include square, round, clogging, and country-western dancing. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, 775-673-2557

**• 5-7 Pioche Heritage Days:** Local actors present humorous and heartwarming true stories from the past. Town Hall, Pioche, 775-962-5308.

**• 6 Cinco de Mayo Chili Cook-Off:** Cooking and tasting of the spicy frontier dish. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

**• 6 Jewel in the Desert 5K:** A 5K run around Toana Vista Golf Course. Wendover, 775-664-3289.

**• 6-7 Spring Jamboree:** More than 125 craft booths, food, music, entertainment, and a car show. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

**• 6-7 Western States Racing Association Grand Prix:** Motorcycle race around the hills of historic Virginia City. 775-847-0311

**• 6-7 Third Annual ArtFest of Henderson:** Arts, crafts, and music. Water Street, Henderson, 702-566-2681

**• 12-14 and 18-21 "South Pacific":** Western Nevada Community College's Musical Theatre Company presents the Broadway musical. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

**• 13-14 Art Faire:** Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-4771

**• 13-21 Northern Nevada Senior Olympics:** Variety of competitive events to participate in or watch. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828 or 775-782-8165.

**• 18-21 Comstock Historic Preservation Week:** Theatrical presentations, lectures, guided tours, demonstrations, costume ball, fireman's muster, and parade. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

**• 20-21 Armed Forces Day:** Salute to the military features a parade, displays, open house at the Hawthorne Army Depot, stock car races, dances, kids' games, barbecue, and horseshoe tournament. Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

**• 21 Europe 2000 Pre-Tour Concert:** Myron Heaton Chorale performing a variety of secular and sacred music that will be performed during its European 2000 Concert Tour. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 702-456-0735.

**• 26-28 Snow Mountain Powwow:** Tribal songs and dances, arts, crafts, and foods. Paiute Indian Reservation, U.S. 95 North, Las Vegas, 702-386-3926.

**• 27 Henderson Memorial Day Celebration:** Branches of the service will be recognized for their part in protecting the nation and freedom. Henderson, 702-565-2367

**• 28 Memorial Weekend Barbecue:** Barbecue pork ribs and all the trimmings, bingo, and live music. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

**• 31-June 4 Reno's Historic Motor Sports Festival:** For 1954 cars and older, on rural roads. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

## June 2000

**• 1-July 1 WIBC National Tournament:** Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL

**• 3-4 and 10-11 Valhalla Renaissance Festival:** Knights in armor, jousting, musicians, jugglers, 100 vendors. Historic Camp Richardson Resort, Highway 89, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

**• 3-4 Celebrate the River:** Entertainment, arts and crafts, food and beverages, and children's activities. Downtown Reno, 775-334-2417

**• 4-5 Kids Fishing Derby:** For ages three-12. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

**• 5-6 Railroad Days:** Historical festival featuring a train display, parade, car show, talent show, and vendors. Beatty Park, Beatty, 775-553-2424.

**• 9-11 Carson City Rendezvous:** Civil War reenactment and living-history camps. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

**• 9-11 and 15-18 "Cinderella":** Western Nevada Community College Theatre for Youth presents the classic fairy tale. Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

**• 10 Rock Point Mill Site:** Park rangers will give a tour of the historic 1860s mill and its importance in the development of the Comstock and Tonopah and Goldfield mining booms. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

**• 10-11 Carson Valley Days:** Arts and crafts, food, rodeo, dance, and millennium parade. Downtown, Gardnerville, 775-265-2021

**• 11-17 PBA Reno Stadium Open:** Senior professional bowlers and players with more than a 220 average compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

**• 15-18 14th Annual Farwest Regional and International Wheelchair Tennis Championship:** Competition among 14 divisions of men, women, juniors, and seniors. Plumas Tennis Center, Washoe County Tennis Courts, Reno Hilton, Reno, 775-852-7077 or 530-587-2108.

**• 16-18 Quinn River Father's Day Open Rodeo:** Horse roping Friday, open rodeo Saturday and Sunday. Fort McDermitt Pai-Sho Indian Reservation, McDermitt, 775-532-8304.

**• 17-18 VC Hillclimb: Audi Quattro:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

**• 17-25 Reno Rodeo:** Major PRCA rodeo with a cattle drive, parade, carnival, entertainment. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-329-3877

**• 18 Pops Party Concert:** Carson City Symphony performs with the Carson Chamber Singers. Garden of the Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

**• 23 The Drifters in Concert:**

## NEVADA 2000: A Millennium Race

Racing enthusiasts can celebrate the Millennium with the Nevada 2000, the longest off-road race in the United States. The 2,000-mile race will take place July 1-8, 2000, with its start and finish in Las Vegas. The route will circle the state, so crowds of fans, drivers, and crew members will visit Ely, Elko, Reno, Tonopah, and other towns during the circuit. Organizers say they are working with the Bureau of Land Management to minimize the impact on the land. For more information on Nevada 2000: A Race Into the Millennium contact Best in the Desert Racing Association, 3475C Boulder Highway, Las Vegas, NV 89121; call 702-457-5775 or www.bitd.com.

Photo: Chris Leedham




**Fireworks light up Nevada's skies during New Year's Eve and Fourth of July celebrations.**

New and old fans listen to hits of the 1950s and '60s. Community Center, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **23-24 Fat Tire Madness:** Cross-country mountain bike race, fun ride, off-road biathlon, 12-hour night race. Fundraiser for Make-A-Wish, Children's Miracle Network, and the Humane Society. Virginia City, 775-265-1657

• **24 Nevada's One-Room Schools:** Slide show and talk on one-room schools past and present. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **24-25 Snowshoe Thompson Festival:** Arts and crafts, demonstrations, entertainment, antiques, carnival, children's games, German beer garden and ethnic foods. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-265-6097

• **25 Tallac Site Celebration:** Grand opening of the Tallac Historic Site and the Valhalla Arts and Music Festival offers a sampling of fine art, photography, music, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **25 Pizen Switch Roundup:** Old-timers and newcomers picnic and potluck. Walker River Resort, Smith Valley, 800-446-2573 or 775-588-5372.

• **26 Lamoille Country Fair:** Arts and crafts, exhibits, food court, entertainment, and demonstrations. Lamoille Women's Club House and Grove, Lamoille, 775-738-4488.

• **30-July 2 37th National Basque Festival:** Entertainment, games of skill and strength, dancing, food and drink. Fairgrounds and City Park, Elko, 775-738-7135.

• **30-July 4 RSVP Cavalcade of Spectaculars:** Fireworks, dance, carnival, midway games, arts and crafts, food booths, and entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **30-July 2 Fourth of July Powwow and Rodeo:** Native American dancing and traditional rodeo events. Celebration Campgrounds, Owyhee, 775-757-3080.

## July 2000

• **1-2 National Basque Festival:** Traditional dances, games, food, drink, and contests of strength and skill. Fairgrounds and City Park, Elko, 775-738-7135.

• **1-4 RSVP Cavalcade of Spectaculars:** Fireworks, dance, carnival, midway games, arts and crafts, food booths, and entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **1-8 Nevada 2000:** A 2,000-mile off-road race loops around the state to celebrate the millennium. The start and finish will be in Las Vegas. Best in the Desert Racing Assn., 702-457-5775.

• **1-31 Uptown Downtown ARTown:** Summer arts festival with performances and exhibits citywide. Reno, 775-329-1324.

• **3-4 Freedom Fest 2000:** Parade, barbecue, arts and crafts, live music, and fireworks. Scobie Park, Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **4 Independence Day Celebration:** Anything that floats can compete in the Liar's Boat Race, plus games, food, and water sports. Cliff House Beach, Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **4 Damboree:** Old-fashioned celebration with parade, games, patriotic program, food, and fireworks. Central Park, Boulder City, 702-293-9256.

• **4 Parade and Fireworks:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **4 Henderson's July Fourth Celebration:** Family event highlighted by an evening of fireworks. Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **4 Jarbidge's Fourth of July Celebration:** Live music, bingo, barbecue, and parade. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **4 (tentative) Berlin Centennial Celebration:** Featuring an open house, guest speakers, and exhibits. Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 775-538-7321

• **6-9 Silver State International Rodeo:** High school champions from the U.S. and Canada. Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4674.

• **7-8 Music at Sand Harbor:** Well-known jazz and acoustic-guitar performers appear with Lake Tahoe as the background. Sand Harbor State Park, Incline Village, 775-832-7625.

• **7-9 Traditional Fandango:** Games, gambling, dancing, free admission. Ely Shoshone Reservation, Ely, 775-289-3013.

• **8 Birds of Prey:** Slide show on native and migratory birds and how animals and birds are rescued, rehabilitated, and released. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **8-10 White Pine 4x4 Rally:** All four-wheel drive vehicles invited. Full- and half-day runs in White Pine County. Ely, 775-289-6798.

• **14-16 Storey County Fair and Carnival:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **15-16 Squaw Valley World Cup Downhill:** World Cup mountain bike race featuring pro racers from 40 nations. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-582-8900.

• **16 Celtic Festival at Valhalla:** Traditional music, dance, crafts, food, and ale from Ireland and Scotland. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

• **16-18 Fallon All-Indian Rodeo and Powwow:** Rodeo, Native American dancers, handgames, arts and crafts, dance, parade, and food booths. Regional Park, Fallon, 775-423-4474.

• **22 Mountain Run I:** The 3.6-mile uphill course follows the 1960 Olympic downhill ski route to the High Camp facility. Event includes an alternate fitness walk. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-550-0885.

• **22 (tentative) Valhalla Brews and Blues Festival:** Unlimited tasting of 150 brews from 80 microbreweries and distributors. Admission includes a souvenir beer glass and a concert. Must be 21 or older to attend. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

• **23-24 Way It Was Rodeo:** Virginia City,



**Ethnic dances highlight Basque festival celebrations in Elko and Reno during July and Las Vegas in October.**



Photos: Patrick Kennedy (top), Nevada Commission on Tourism (bottom)




**Hot August Nights in Reno and Sparks brings out rock 'n' rollers, hot cars, and poodle-skirt fans.**

775-847-0311 for more rodeo information.

• **26-29 Land Speed Opener:** World-class racing to set land speed records on the Bonneville Salt Flats. Wendover, 801-785-5364.

• **29-30 Renaissance Fair:** Arts and crafts, antiques, actors, jugglers, jousters, and rapier fighters. Antiques Plus, Genoa, 775-782-4951 or 775-782-2893.

• **30-31 Children's Festival:** Mask making, T-shirt printing, and papermaking. Location TBA, North Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4602.

• **31-Aug. 4 Hot August Nights:** Hot rods, music of the '50s and '60s, dances, and concerts. Reno and Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **TBA Celebrity Golf Championship:** Sports and entertainment stars compete in golf tourney. Edgewood Tahoe, Stateline, 530-544-5050.

• **TBA Jim Butler Days:** Annual town party will celebrate Tonopah's founding in 1900. Tonopah, 482-3558.

## August 2000

• **TBA Shakespeare at Sand Harbor:** The Bard on the beach at Lake Tahoe. Incline Village, 800-74-SHOWS.

• **1-4 Hot August Nights:** Hot rods, music of the '50s and '60s, dances, and concerts. Reno and Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **5 Basque People of Nevada:** Slide show on the Basques and why they immigrated to Nevada. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **11-12 Concours d' Elegance:** On-the-water boat show featuring more than 125 antique and wooden boats dating back to the 1800s. Show includes tented exhibits, presentations, clinics, food and beverages, and live music. Proceeds benefit Lake Tahoe charities. Sierra Boat Company, Lake Tahoe, 530-581-4700.

• **11-13 Jarbidge Days:** Live music in the bar on Friday and outdoor music on Saturday afternoon. Arts and crafts and food and drink booths. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **12 Mule Deer in Nevada:** Slide show on mule deer population trends and habitat. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **13 (tentative) Reggae Sunday on the Valhalla Lawn:** Music, food, and beverages on the large grassy lawn of Valhalla. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

• **18-20 Annual Valley Cruisers Main Street Event:** Car show open to all vehicles 1969 and older. Steak dinner, dancing in the street, and pancake breakfast also featured. Minden and Gardnerville, 775-265-2256.

• **19 Railroads of Nevada:** Slide show on railroads significant to the development of Nevada during the Comstock and Tonopah-Goldfield booms. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

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

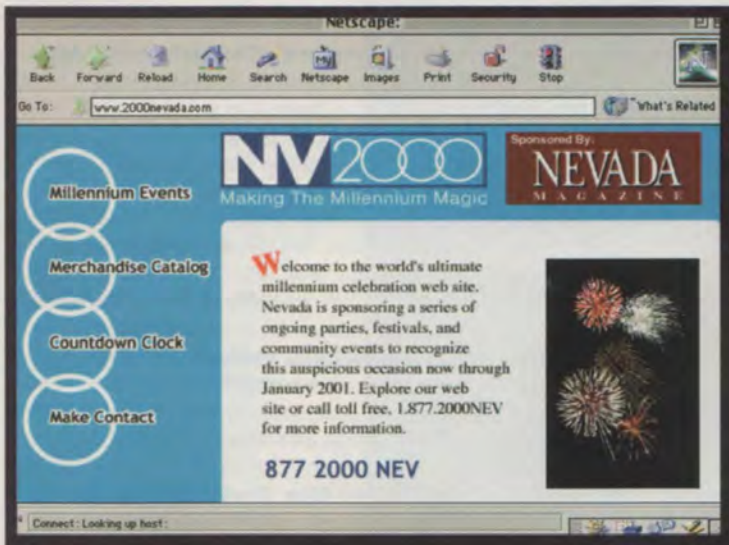
• **19-25 Bonneville National Speed Week:** Largest and most popular event on the Bonneville Salt Flats featuring straight-track racing against the clock, with times expected in the 500-600 mph range. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 805-526-1805.

• **21-27 Reno-Tahoe Open:** Golf tournament featuring top PGA players. Montreux Golf Club, Reno, 322-3900.

• **23-27 (tentative) Nevada State Fair:** Livestock exhibits and auction, creative living competition, food booths, carnival, and entertainment. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5767

**23-Jan. 29 Corvair: An American Car in Controversy:** Exhibit on the small car and the uproar it unleashed. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

• **26 Star Gaze:** Astronomers from the University of Nevada, Reno will guide viewers through the




The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar and further details on the state's 15-month celebration can be found at www.2000nevada.com.

## Nevada's Millennium Web Site

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

Photo: Carolyn Fox



It's beast versus human during the Virginia City International Camel Races each September. The camels often gallop across the finish line before their riders.

major constellations and explain astrological myths. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **26 Sertoma Truck Pull:** Food, drinks, and T-shirts. Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-4437

• **26-Sept. 4 Elko County Fair:** Quarter horse and thoroughbred racing, working cow horse competition, team-branding contests, 4H livestock shows and sale, arts and crafts, food booths, dancing, and a carnival. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

## September 2000

• **1-4 Elko County Fair:** Quarter horse and thoroughbred racing, working cow horse competitions, team-branding contest, 4-H livestock show and sale, home art exhibits, food booths, carnival, and dances. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

• **1-4 Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off:** A world-class event featuring the West's best rib cookers competing for fame and the crowd's acclaim. Also featured are nightly entertainment and an arts and crafts fair. Victorian Square and John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **1-4 Pioche Labor Day Celebration:** Mining events, parades, contests, booths, dancing, and arts and crafts. Pioche, 775-962-5544.

• **2-3 Annual Corn Feed:** Potluck dinner, live music in the bar on Saturday, and bingo in the Town Hall on Sunday. Proceeds go to community needs. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **6-15 (tentative) Snaffle Bit Futurity Horse Show:** This prestigious horse show, expected to draw 15,000 spectators, features competitors from around the world competing for more than $700,000 in prize money. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 559-992-9396.

• **8-9 Boulder City Chautauqua:** History comes alive as scholars portray historical characters. Event includes arts and crafts, food booths, and musical entertainment. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-4365.

• **8-10 Virginia City International Camel Races:** Camel, ostrich, and water buffalo races, specialty acts, daily parades, and food and beverages. Camel Arena, Virginia City, 775-847-0311 or 775-329-7469.

• **8-10 Great Reno Balloon Race:** A top ballooning event that draws 120,000 people. The early morning rally has been voted as one of Northern Nevada's Best Events. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 775-826-1181

• **9-10 Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration:** Annual arts and crafts fair features live entertainment and food booths. Downtown Minden, 775-324-6435 or 775-782-8144.

• **9-10 Nevada State Museum/Carson City Mint Coin Show:** More than 35 dealers from across the U.S. showcase coins, collectibles, historical papers, books, stamps, jewelry, and medals. There will be free appraisals and free admission. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810 ext. 221

• **14-17 National Championship Air Races:** Four classes of racers—Unlimited, Formula One, AT-6, and Biplane—plus military displays and aerobatics. Reno, 775-972-6663.

• **15-17 Pahrump Harvest Festival and Rodeo:** Entertainment, PRCA rodeo, vendors, dancing under the stars, deep-pit barbecue, and fair exhibits. Also includes the Tod Canada Memorial Race, with 10K, 5K, and one-mile walk. Fairgrounds, Pahrump, 775-727-8195 or 775-727-1555. Tod Canada Race, 775-751-8382.

• **16 Horseback Endurance Ride:** Annual 100-mile ride in 25-mile loops around the hills of the Comstock mining town and scenic areas such as Washoe Lake. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **16 Tahoe Rim Trail Annual Hike-A-Thon:** Tahoe Rim Trail, 775-588-0686.

• **16-17 Dayton Valley Days:** Craft fair, parade, silent auction, pet parade, food, senior pro rodeo, cowboy poetry, and art show. Old Town, Dayton, 775-246-3378.

• **20-23 World of Speed:** Straight-track racing as jet-powered cars attempt to break land speed records in their respective categories. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364.

• **20-24 Las Vegas Street Fair/San Gennaro Feast:** Featuring an Italian food festival, carnival, live bands, and more than 80 vendors. Corner of Flamingo Road and Valley View, Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.

• **21-24 Street Vibrations Music, Metal and Motorcycles Festival:** Motorcycle tours, entertainment, ride-in shows, a parade, poker run/walk, vendors and concerts. Various community locations, Reno, 775-329-SHOW or 800-200-4557 for Street Vibrations information.

• **21-24 World of Speed:** Land speed time trials and record runs. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364.

• **22-24 Annual Nevada Shakespeare in the Park:** Outdoor presentation of plays by the Bard. Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **23 Great Basin Book Festival:** Authors, publishers present readings and book events. Reno, 775-784-6587

• **23-24 Ferrari Club of America Hillclimb, Parade, and Car Show:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **23-24 Genoa Candy Dance:** 80th annual arts and crafts fair featuring more than 300 fine arts and crafts booths. Dinner and dance held on Saturday night. Genoa, 775-782-TOWN.

• **23-24 Salt Fest 2000:** Attempt to set the world-record saltwater taffy pull, salt block sculpture contest, car show, live entertainment, and arts and crafts. Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **23-24 High Desert Classic Softball Tournament:** Coed softball tournament. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

• **24 Mountain Run II:** This event includes a 10K run and a four-mile fitness walk on a high mountain loop course following dirt roads and trails from Roller Pass and the Pacific Crest Trail. Lake Tahoe, 530-550-0885.

• **24 Stew-Doo:** Stew-cooking contest, food, arts and crafts, and a classic car show. Penny Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-3424.

• **29-Oct. 1 Annual Tahoe Donner International Wheelchair Tennis Sectional Championship:** More than 80 players are expected in the 14th annual event. Tahoe Donner Tennis Club, Truckee, 530-587-2108.

## October 2000

• **1-31 16th Annual Comstock Art Show:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **7-8 Art in the Park:** More than 300 booths featuring fine art and crafts for sale and browsing. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-1611

• **7-8 Valhalla Book Fair:** Used books sale, children's storytelling, a book appraiser, and book signing. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **7-8 Great Italian Festival:** Activities include a grape-stomp, spaghetti-eating contest, Italian food booths, and entertainment. Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 775-786-5700.

• **8 Las Vegas Basque Festival:** Authentic Basque food, dancing, exhibitions, including weightlifting and wood chopping. St. Viator Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-361-6834.

• **11-March 5 Exhibit on 1907 Thomas Flyer: Around the World in 170 Days:** The car that won the 1908 New York to Paris Race. Workshop, Oct. 14. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

• **14 Wendover Air Show:** Wendover Air Field, Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **15 Americana: Tribute to Leonard Bernstein:** Myron Heaton Chorale's Bel Canto Ensemble performs the music of the American com-



Photo: Carolyn Fox

poser. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 702-456-0735.

• **15-Nov. 30 ABC/WIBC Festival of Bowling:** Amateur bowlers compete at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **18-21 World Finals:** Cars and motorcycles try one last time in the year 2000 to set new land speed records. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 805-526-1805.

• **18-22 "Steel Magnolias":** Western Nevada Community College Theatre Company presents the dramatic play. Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **19-22 Henderson Expo:** Art show, food booths, carnival, and businesses exhibit. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **20-21 Deer Widows Weekend:** Non-deer-hunting spouses head to Wendover for the weekend. Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **20-22 Elko Te-Moak Powwow:** Tribal Gym, Elko, 775-753-5055.

• **21-22 Fort Churchill Living History:** Troop formations, apple butter spinners, camp cooking, and crafts. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, 775-358-2284.

• **24-31 Nevada Day Celebration:** Parade, carnival, midway games, entertainment, food booths, arts and crafts, and dance bands. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **28 Black and Black Ball:** Ghosts, ghouls, live music, appetizers, and potions. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **28 Pig Roast/Halloween Party:** Pig roasted on a spit on Saturday afternoon with a bake auction by Jarbidge School following the barbecue. There will also be a costume party on Saturday night. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

## November 2000

• **1-Nov. 30 ABC/WIBC Festival of Bowling:** Amateur bowlers compete at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **3-5 Western Heritage Festival:** Cowboy poetry gathering featuring chautauquas, Western music entertainment, vendors, arts and crafts, pickup truck display, and hot-air balloons. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-658-4679.

• **3-5 Rhymer's Rodeer Cowboy Poetry:** Tales of the trail and Western lore. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983.

• **3-5, 10-12, and 16-19 "My Fair Lady":** Western Nevada Community College Musical Theatre Company presents the musical comedy. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **4 Festival Americana:** Native American and pioneer crafts, demonstrations, entertainment, and food at the home of the Anasazi Indians. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

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

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

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

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

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

• **30-Dec. 9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** Anything cowboy can be found among the 500 exhibitors. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.

## December 2000

• **1-9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** With 500 exhibitors. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.

• **1-10 National Finals Rodeo:** Top 126 rodeo contestants compete for more than $4.2 million in prize money. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

• **1-30 The Magical Forest:** Holiday lights and decorations create the annual winter wonderland. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-2553.

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

• **2 Christmas on the Comstock:** Parade of lights and fireworks. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **2 Parade of Lights:** Annual parade of 50 decorated boats on Lake Mead. The parade starts at Lake Mead Marina at 6 p.m. and travels south along the public viewing areas on Boulder Beach, Special Events Beach, and Hemenway Harbor. Lake Mead Marina, 322 Lakeshore Road, off U.S. 93, Boulder City, 702-457-2797

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

• **2-3 Festival of Trees:** Area businesses decorate trees in three themed categories for prize money. Wingfield Park and the Truckee River, Reno, 775-334-2417

• **2-3 Genoa Christmas Faire:** Arts and crafts fair, with Christmas carols and appetizers on Friday. Town Hall and Fire Bay, Genoa, 715-782-TOWN.

• **4 Pioche Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Visit:** Christmas lighting, bonfire, hot chocolate, Santa arrives with gifts for all the children. Pioche, 775-962-5544.

• **8-9 Christmas Indian Market:** Indian arts, crafts, baskets, and Southwestern art. Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, 775-425-3439.

• **9 Children's Christmas Parade:** Santa meets and greets children after parade through town. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **10 Christmas With Vivaldi:** The Myron Heaton Chorale performs the classical sounds of Christmas and presents Antonio Vilvaldi's "Gloria." Favorite carols from different countries will be performed by the Bel Canto Ensemble. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 702-456-0735.

• **10 Holiday Treat Concert:** The Carson City Symphony presents seasonal favorites with the Carson Chamber Singers. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

• **10 Christmas Celebration on Main Street:** Parade, tree-lighting ceremony, and caroling. Yerington, 775-463-2245.

• **24 Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade:** Squaw Valley's ski school lights up the night with a torchlight parade. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.

• **31 Jarbidge New Year's Eve:** Party, dance, buffet featuring live music and dancing. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **31 Buck 'n Ball 2000:** Rodeo, live bands, and dancing. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-332-3333 or 800-FOR-RENO.

• **31 New Year's Eve Celebrations:** Watch here for more information.

## January 2001

• **13-15 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration:** Events will take place in Las Vegas and Reno/Sparks.



**Spectators get a lift each September from the spectacle of colorful hot-air balloons competing in the Great Reno Balloon Race.**

Photo: Carolyn Fox

# Shopping!

A guide to Nevada's malls and shopping meccas.

*By Carolyn Graham*

## Mall Guide

### Las Vegas

**Belz Factory Outlet World** is the largest outlet mall under one roof in the United States. In fact, to explore each of the mall's 140 stores you'd better wear your walking shoes. The four-year-old mall on Las Vegas Boulevard, a couple miles south of the Strip, has undergone two expansions, including the addition of Off Fifth Saks Fifth Avenue outside at the south end of the parking lot. Inside stores include Spiegel, Levi's, Casual Corner, Reebok, Burlington Brands, and others that carry clothing, shoes, home decorating items, and casino logo merchandise. Belz also has two food courts, one of which has an old-fashioned carousel. Phone 702-896-5599.

The **Boulevard Mall** sprawls across 1.2 million square feet with 144 stores, making it Nevada's largest. The mall, which opened in 1968, is big but not overwhelming—the layout is easy to navigate. Anchor stores include Macy's, Dillard's, JC Penney, and Sears. The mall is located at Maryland Parkway and Desert Inn Road, two miles east of



Treasure Island on the Strip. Phone 702-732-8949; www.blvdmall.com.

The **Fashion Show Mall** has always had glamour appeal due to glitzy anchors Saks Fifth Avenue, Nieman Marcus, Robinson May, Dillard's, and Macy's. The mall, next door to Treasure Island, has more than 130 stores and is known for its trendy eateries, including Sfuzzi, Dive!, and Chin's. The Fashion Show also has interesting specialty shops such as the Discovery Channel Store, Walt Disney Gallery, and San Francisco Music Box Company. Phone 702-369-8382.

Your shopping bags—as well as your senses—will be overloaded at the **Forum Shops at Caesars** with its 94 shops and 11 restaurants. The attractions—the "Race for Atlantis" IMAX motion-simulator ride, Omnimax theater, talking sculptures, and 3-D Cinema Ride—nearly overwhelm the opulent stores and restaurants. Shops include the Museum Company, Nike-Town, and Versace. Phone 702-893-4800.

**Galleria Mall** at Sunset in Henderson, across the street from the Sunset Station Hotel, is the Las Vegas area's newest mall. Neglected shoppers in the rapidly growing city of Henderson anxiously awaited the February 1996 opening of the mall, where they now enjoy Dillard's,




Robinson May, JC Penney, Mervyn's California, and 130 specialty stores. Phone 702-434-0202.

**Las Vegas Factory Stores** is an open-air outlet mall south of Vacation Village at the far southern end of the Strip. Shoppers will find 41 stores, including Mikasa and Vanity Fair as well as other clothing and specialty shops. Phone 702-897-9090.

A focal point of **Meadows Mall** is its replica turn-of-the-century carousel, where shoppers can reward their weary children (and themselves) with a 50-cent whirl. Meadows Mall, at U.S. 95 North at Valley View Boulevard, is anchored by Macy's, JC Penney, and Dillard's. Phone 702-878-4849.

## Laughlin

The **Horizon Outlet Center** in Laughlin has bargain shopping. The enclosed mall next to the Ramada Express on the southern end of Casino Drive has 55 outlet stores, including Geoffrey Beene, Wild Things, Mikasa (which has a nice view of the river), Bugle Boy, Levi's, and the London Bridge Candle Factory. The mall has a movie theater, food court, and covered parking as well as the Muddy Rudder Pub and Cecil's Market and Deli, both of which are open 24 hours. Phone 702-298-3003.

## Primm

The outlet mall scene heated up last summer in Southern Nevada when the **Fashion Outlet of Las Vegas** opened in Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas. The indoor mall has a New York Times Square theme with huge billboards and a cityscape look. Shoppers can hunt for bargains at the mall's 90 stores. The Williams Sonoma Marketplace, Pottery Barn, and Hold Everything offer home decor items. Clothing stores include Last Call (the clearance store for Neiman Marcus), J. Peterman, Versace, Donna Karan, and Kenneth Cole, among others. The $75-million mall, which is adjacent to the Primm Valley Resort, is a joint venture between TrizecHahn, which developed the Fashion Show Mall on the Strip, and Gordon Group Holdings, developer of the Forum Shops at Caesars. Phone 702-874-1400; www.fashionoutletlasvegas.com.

## Reno

**Meadowood Mall** is Reno's largest with 130 stores, including anchors Macy's, JC Penney, and Sears. The mall, located at McCarran and South Virginia, has a large Sears and a food court, where offerings range from hot-buttered pretzels to fresh-squeezed juices. If you're shopping for a new sofa or lamp, you'll find Macy's Furniture Store across Virginia Street. Phone 702-827-8450.

**Park Lane Mall** at South Virginia and Plumb Lane is anchored by Gottschalks and has 77 stores, including Jay Jacobs, Hot Cats, Lin's Imports, and Frederick's of Hollywood. If you like to exercise while getting a leg up on your window shopping, Park Lane opens daily at 7 a.m. for its mall-walking program. Phone 702-825-9452.

---

*Carolyn Graham is* Nevada Magazine's *highly dedicated associate editor who logged many hours in the state's malls, all in the name of research.*

---


Visit White Pine County, where the only negatives come from your camera.







Annual Events

January
Ice Fishing and Ice Skating on Cave Lake
Nevada Fur Trappers Fur Sale

February
Indoor Invitational Archery
Model Railroad Display

March
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Dinner
Annual Greek Party

April
Community Choir Performance
Easter Egg Hunt

May
Beginning of the Ghost Train season
Silver State Open Road Challenge
Eastern NV Paint Horse Show
Run to the Red Lights-Harley Run

June
Long Steel Rails Festival
Annual Pony Express Ride
Men's One-Pitch Tournament
Eastern NV Umpires Co-ed Tournament
Rides on the Ghost Train

July
Fireworks
Nevada 4-Wheelers Rally
Jr. Jazz Fund Raiser - Slow Pitch Tourney
Lund Pioneer Days
More great Train Rides

August
Bristlecone Arts in the Park
Senior Olympics
White Pine County Fair & Horse Races
S.N.O.R.E.
Fantasy Classic & Antique Car Show
Cattlewoman's Deep Pit BBQ

August (cont.)
Coyotes Motorcycle Race
Budge Stanton Memorial Co-ed Tourney
More Exciting Train Rides

September
NV Northern Rail Days
Ultra-light fly-in
Silver State Classic Open Road Challenge
WPC High School Rodeo

October
Trains Unlimited - Photographer's Weekend
Merchant's Showcase

November
Doll & Teddy Bear Show
Toys for Tots Co-ed Pitch
Turkey Shoot at Mosier Canyon

December
Crafter's & Merchant's Bazaar
Holiday Sweet Tooth Extravaganzas

White Pine County
NEVADA

For more information...

| | |
|---|---|
| Bristlecone Convention & Visitors Bureau | 1-800-496-9350 |
| White Pine Chamber of Commerce | 702/289-8877 |
| Nevada Northern Railway Museum | 702/289-2085 |
| Great Basin National Park Lehman Caves | 702/234-7331 |

# Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. **By Ann Henderson**

## Las Vegas Territory

**Wrestlemania:** The Excalibur is building a new restaurant, the Nitro Grill, which will combine live wrestling events, celebrity appearances, live music, shopping, and dining. The wrestling-themed grill, expected to open this spring, will be the first of its kind in the world.

**Surfing at the Bay:** Mandalay Bay, the newest Circus Circus resort on the Las Vegas Strip, is scheduled to open in early March. The hotel's total of 3,733 rooms includes an exclusive Four Seasons Hotel with 424 rooms on the 35th through 39th floors. Located on the old site of the Hacienda, Mandalay Bay has more than a dozen restaurants, such as a cousin of the New York eatery Aureole, and a wave pool with surfable waters. Luciano Pavarotti is scheduled to perform April 10 for the opening of the 12,000-seat Mandalay Bay Special Events Center.



**Tenor Luciano Pavarotti appears April 10 at the new Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas.**

**Jump, Jive, and Wail:** The Rio's latest Masquerade Show in the Sky, "Disco Swing Street Parade," premiered on New Year's Eve. The high-energy, dance-music extravaganza combines swing and disco and includes a 10-foot-tall Disco King, a Howlin' Wolf Swing Daddy, neon-clad Chinese pole acrobats, and 35 other specialty performers. Visitors can watch the performers from the sidelines at the Masquerade Village or pay $9.95 to don a costume and climb aboard one of the floats. The disco-swing performance joins three other shows, which alternate and appear daily every other hour from 2 p.m. to midnight (dark Wednesday).

**Steak Out:** Sunset Station in Henderson recently opened the Sonoma Cellar. The restaurant's specialties are porterhouse and New York steaks with special Sonoma seasonings. Wines from Sonoma and Napa wineries are aged in the restaurant's redwood wine cellar. Hardwood floors, wrought-iron chandeliers, domed ceilings, and faux-stone walls create an elegant ambiance, and there is a cigar lounge where puffers can sip cognacs.

**Venice in Vegas:** Another Strip megaresort set to open this spring is the Venetian, located on the former site of the Sands. With 3,036 suites, meeting space, and the Sands Expo Center, the Venetian claims the title of the world's largest hotel and convention complex under one roof. The resort will offer sights of Venice such as gondolas, Doge's Palace, and the Rialto Bridge as well as the Grand Canal Shoppes.




**Bagpipers help ring in St. Patrick's Day in downtown Reno.**

## Reno-Tahoe Territory

**Atlantis Rises:** The Atlantis Casino is adding a third tower consisting of 400 rooms, convention rooms, additional gaming rooms, a 200-seat bistro, and a skywalk that spans Virginia Street.

**Fast Games:** Keno players at the Carson Valley Inn in Minden can now play up to 100 games in 15 minutes. The inn is offering Kwik Keno, in which a generator reels off 100 games every 30 minutes and displays the results one game at a time every few seconds. If customers play 100 games, the cost is only 10 cents a game.

**Green Day:** The Irish-themed Fitzgeralds Casino in downtown Reno will celebrate St. Patrick's Day under the green Reno Arch with a weekend of music, crafts, and green beer. On March 12-14, the Fitz will hold its 10th annual St. Patrick's Day Arts and Crafts Faire on Virginia Street. During the weekend and on March 17, visitors can kick up their kilts to live street entertainment by Clan Na Gael and other musicians singing traditional Irish tunes. Bagpipe bands will roam Virginia Street and the casino. On March 17, visitors can join the Irish Ceili ("kaylee") in O'Lucky's Buffet and Showroom for corned beef and cabbage and live music.

**Meeting Time:** The Silver Legacy recently added 42,000 square feet to its convention facility, the Silver Legacy Pavilion, for meeting planners to hold trade shows and special events.

## Good Deals

**Player's Club:** Boomtown Casino in Verdi, eight miles west of Reno, has created a player's club that gives gamers the chance to win prizes such as free meals, a weekend getaway, a cruise, and a million dollars.

**Eats and Entertainment:** Harrah's Reno offers "Night on the Town" packages that pair dinner and a show. You can catch a revue and dinner at Cafe Andreotti for $29.50 per person or Planet Hollywood for $31.50 per person. Headliners are $37.50 for dinner at Cafe Andreotti or $39.50 at Planet Hollywood. Overnight packages are available. Call the Sammy's Showroom box office, 775-788-2900, or the hotel, 800-HARRAHS, for information.

# The Bus Stops Here... Where Locals Play.


BOWLING


HOME-MADE ICE CREAM


T-BONE STEAK



SHUTTLE BUS



TABLE GAMES


BUFFET


MYSTIC FALLS PARK


MEXICAN FOOD



HOT SLOTS


FINE DINING

## Seen the Strip? Ready to Play? Play Sam's Town!

Locals know where they get the best deal. In fact, on average Sam's Town slots pay back more than machines on the Las Vegas Strip or downtown. And that's according to official Gaming Control Board statistics. But don't take our word for it. Ask a local. Then go to town. Take the **free shuttle** to Sam's Town for the hot casino action that brought you to Las Vegas in the first place.

**Sam's Town,**
**where locals bring their friends℠.....to win!**

# SAM'S TOWN®
LAS VEGAS

**(800) 634-6371 • (702) 456-7777 • www.samstownlv.com • Flamingo & Boulder Highway**

BOYD GAMING CORPORATION



# Vacation Hot Lines

Where to call or write for Nevada travel tips.

When planning your Nevada trip or vacation, be sure to write or phone these one-stop sources for information. Also, Internet users can visit the Web sites listed. If you plan to stop by a chamber of commerce (C of C) office, chances are it will be open in the daytime Monday through Friday.

### Statewide Information

**Nevada Commission on Tourism:** Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; www.travelnevada.com; 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada.

### Las Vegas Territory

**African American Activities:** 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 702-456-3838.

**Boulder City C of C:** 1305 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-293-2034.

**Boulder City Visitor Center:** 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-294-1252.

**Henderson C of C:** 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; www.hendersonchamber.com; 702-565-8951.

**Hoover Dam Visitors Services:** Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; www.hooverdam.com; 702-294-3523.

**Jean Visitor Center:** Interstate 15 South, Exit 12, Jean, NV 89019; 702-874-1360.

**Las Vegas C of C:** 3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109; lvchamber.com; 702-735-1616.

**Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority:** 3150 Paradise, Las Vegas, NV 89109; www.lasvegas24hours.com; 702-892-0711.

**Latin C of C:** 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; LasVegasLatincc.com; 702-385-7367.

**Laughlin C of C:** Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; www.laughlinchamber.com; 702-298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada.

**Laughlin Visitor Center:** 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; www.visitlaughlin.com; 702-298-3321 or 800-4LAUGHLIN.

**Mesquite Area C of C:** 850 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; 702-346-2902.

**Mesquite Visitor Center:** Interstate 15 Exit 122, 460 Sandhill Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; 702-346-2702 or 877-MESQUITE.

**Moapa Valley C of C:** Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 702-397-2160.

**North Las Vegas C of C:** 2290 McDaniel, North Las Vegas, NV 89030; www.vegas.com\nlvcofc; 702-642-9595.

### Reno-Tahoe Territory

**Carson City C of C:** 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; carsoncitychamber.com; 775-882-1565.

**Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau:** 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; www.carson-city.org; 775-687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

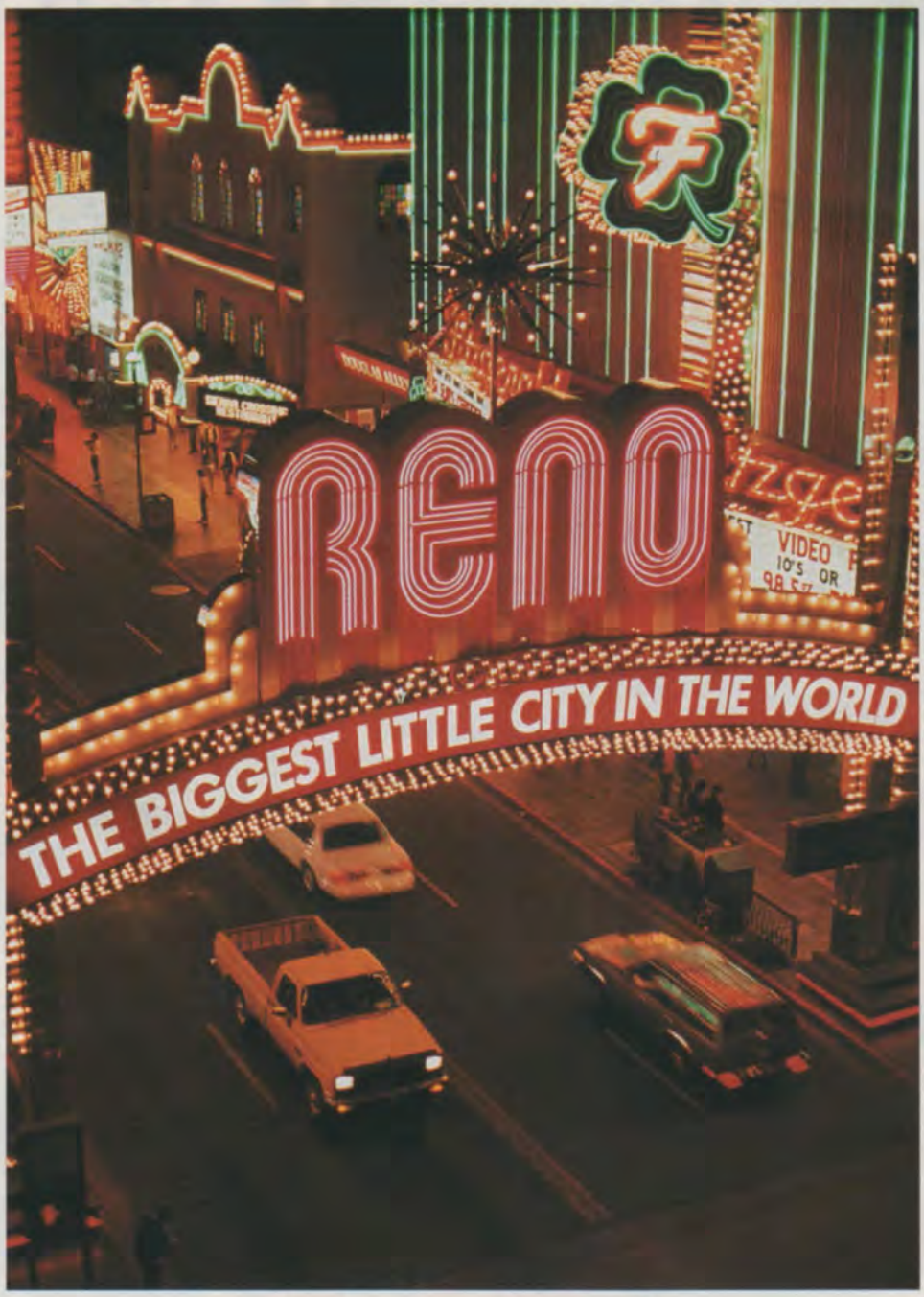
**Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority:** 1512 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-5283; www.carsonvalleynv.org; 775-782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

**Dayton Area C of C:** 15 Main St., Box 2408, Dayton, NV 89403; 775-246-7909 (open Thurs.-Sun.).

**Greater Reno-Sparks C of C:** 405 Marsh Ave., Reno, NV 89505; www.reno-sparkschamber.org; 775-686-3030.

**Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C:** 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; www.laketahoechamber.com, 775-831-4440.

**Lake Tahoe, Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau:** 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; www.gotahoe.com; 775-832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.




## Glowing Reno Landmark

After dark, the famous arch lights up Reno's downtown corridor. The current arch is the sixth version of the sign, which was first dedicated on October 23, 1926.

**Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority:** 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; www.virtualtahoe.com; 530-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S.

**North Lake Tahoe C of C:** 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145; 530-581-6900.

**North Lake Tahoe Resort Association:** Box 5459, Tahoe City, CA 96145; www.tahoefun.org; 530-583-3494 or 800-824-6348 for travel information on the North Lake Tahoe area.

**Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority:** 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; www.playreno.com; 775-827-7600 or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

**Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council:** 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 775-329-2936.

**South Lake Tahoe C of C:** 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; www.tahoe.com; 530-541-5255.

**Sparks C of C:** 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431;



Photo: Nevada Commission on Tourism/Larry Prosor

www.sparkschamber.org; 775-358-1976.
**Tahoe-Douglas C of C:** Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; www.tahoechamber.org; 775-588-4591.
**Virginia City C of C:** V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 775-847-0311.

## Cowboy Country

**Battle Mountain C of C:** Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 775-635-8245.
**Elko C of C:** 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; www.elkonevada.com; 775-738-7135.
**Elko Convention and Visitors Authority:** 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 775-738-4091, 800-248-3556 outside Nevada.
**Jarbidge Community Association:** c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbidge, NV 89826; e-mail Jarbidge@aol.com; 775-488-2315.
**Lovelock C of C:** Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 775-273-7213.
**McDermitt Information:** Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 775-532-8742.
**Wells C of C:** Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 775-752-3540.
**Wendover USA Chamber/Visitors Bureau:** Box 2468, West Wendover, NV 89883; www.wendover-usa.org; 775-664-3414 or 800-426-6862.
**Winnemucca C of C:** 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 775-623-2225.
**Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau:** 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; www.winnemucca.nv.us; 775-623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

## Pony Express Territory

**Austin C of C:** Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; 775-964-2200.
**Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center:** 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720.
**Eureka County C of C:** Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 775-237-5484.
**Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority:** 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; www.fallon.net; 775-423-4556 or 800-874-0903.
**Fernley C of C:** 70 N. West St., Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; fernleynevada.com; 775-575-4459.
**Great Basin Business and Tourism Council:** Information on Baker and Great Basin National Park. Box 166, Baker, NV 89311; 775-234-7323.
**Greater Fallon Area C of C:** 65 S. Maine St., No. B, Fallon, NV 89406; www.fallonchamberofcommerce.com; 775-423-2544.
**Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs):** Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 775-577-5094.
**White Pine C of C:** 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 775-289-8877.

## Pioneer Territory

**Amargosa C of C:** HCR 69-2, Box 401W, Amargosa, NV 89020; 775-372-5459.
**Beatty C of C:** Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 775-553-2424.
**Caliente C of C:** Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 775-726-3129.
**Gabbs, City of:** Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 775-285-4019.
**Goldfield C of C:** Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; members.xcom.com/gfldchamber; 775-485-3560.
**Greater Smoky Valley C of C:** Box 1977, State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 775-377-2490.
**Mason Valley C of C:** 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; www.tele-net.net/lceda; 775-463-2245.
**Mineral County C of C:** 932 E. Street, Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; e-mail info@mcchamber.hawthorne.nv.us; 775-945-5896.
**Pahrump Valley C of C:** Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 775-727-5800 or 800-633-WEST.
**Pioche C of C:** Box 127, Pioche, NV 89043; www.pioche.com/chamber.htm; 775-962-5544.
**Tonopah C of C:** 301 Brougher Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 775-482-3859.
**Tonopah Convention Center:** Box 408, Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahminingpark.org; 775-482-3558.

## Indian Territory

**Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada:** 680 Greenbrae, Sparks, NV 89431; 775-355-0600 for information.
**Indian Territory:** Nevada Commission on Tourism, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8.

## State and National Parks

**Death Valley National Park:** Beatty Visitor Center: 307 Main St., Beatty, NV 89003; 775-553-2200. Park: Death Valley, CA 92328; 760-786-2331.
**Great Basin National Park:** Baker, NV 89311; www.nps.gov/grba; 775-234-7331.
**Lake Mead National Recreation Area:** 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; www.nps/gov/lame; 702-293-8907.
**Nevada Division of State Parks:** 1300 South Curry St., Carson City, NV 89710; 775-687-4370.
**Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area:** HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; 702-363-1921.

## More Outdoor Activities

**Bicycling in Nevada:** Nevada Department of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; e-mail: bicycle@dot.state.nv.us; 775-888-RIDE for information on bike paths and other bicycling opportunities.
**Bureau of Land Management:** Main office, Reno, www.nv.blm.gov, 775-861-6400; Las Vegas, 702-647-5000; Elko, 775-753-0200; Winnemucca, 775-623-1500; Carson City, 775-885-6000; Ely, 775-289-1800; Caliente, 775-726-8100; Battle Mountain, 775-635-4000; Tonopah, 775-482-7800.
**Nevada Division of Wildlife:** Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; www.state.nv.us/cnr/nvwildlife/, 775-688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 702-486-5127.
**Pyramid Lake Fisheries:** Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 775-476-0500.
**Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest:** www.fs.fed.us/htnf/; 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 775-331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 702-873-8800; 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 775-738-5171.





Las Vegas/Reno
Visitors Hotel Hotline
• Most Hotels! • Up to 70% Off!
800-964-6835
www.180096hotel.com
A SERVICE OF HOTEL RESERVATIONS NETWORK

# Dining Directory

*The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to $10 ($), $11 to $20 ($$), $21 to $30 ($$$), and more than $30 ($$$$). Nevada's area codes are 702 in the Las Vegas area and 775 in the rest of the state.*

## Las Vegas Area

### AMERICAN

**Imperial Palace/Betty's Diner**—794-3261. Shakes, malts, and sundaes as well as sandwiches, soup, breakfast bakery. B, L, D. $, major.

**Imperial Palace/Burger Palace**—794-3261. Burgers, fries, and other fast-food items. B, L, D. $, major.

**Imperial Palace/Emperor's Buffet**—731-3311. Carving station featuring roast baron of beef. B, L, D. $, major.

**Imperial Palace/Rib House**—794-3261. Barbecued ribs, chicken, blackened and cajun entrees. D. $$, major.

**Imperial Palace/Teahouse**—731-3311. Carving station featuring prime rib of beef. Weekend brunch. B, L, D. $, major.

**Ramada Inn and Speedway Casino/The Speedway Cafe**—399-3297. B, L, D. $, major.

**Riviera Hotel/Kady's Coffee Shop**—794-9318.

**Monte Carlo/Buffet**—730-7777. Exhibition-style kitchen. B, L, D. $, major.

**Sahara Hotel/Caravan Coffee Shop**—737-2407. Crab legs, New York steak. B, L, D. $, major.

**Sahara Hotel/Casablanca**—737-2407. Prime rib. D. $$, major.

**Sahara Hotel/Sahara Buffet**—737-2407. Pizza, roast beef, turkey, ham. B, L, D. $, major.

**Sam's Town Hotel/Mary's Diner**—454-8073. All-American cuisine and blue plate specials in a 1950s-style diner. B. L, D. $, major.

**Sam's Town Hotel/Smokey Joe's Cafe and Market**—456-7777. 24-hour coffee shop in a market-style atmosphere featuring prime rib and two-pound Dungeness crab dinner. B, L, D. $$, major.

**Sam's Town Hotel/The Great Buffet**—456-7777. Variety of entrees and side dishes. B, L, D. $, major.

### INTERNATIONAL

**Monte Carlo/Cafe**—730-7777. Traditional fare and specialties. B, L, D. $, major.

**Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court**—734-5110. Nine quick-service eateries. B, L, D. $, no CC.

**Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet**—794-9400. International cuisines presented in buffet, plus prime rib. B, L, D. $, major.

### ITALIAN

**Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace**—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D. $, major.

**Monte Carlo/Market City Caffe**—730-7777. Antipasto bar, fresh pastas, grilled entrees. L, D. $$, major.



*The Broiler Room at Caesars Tahoe offers steaks.*

**Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano**—794-9363. Lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. D. $-$$$$, major.

**Sam's Town Hotel/Papamios Italian Kitchen**—454-8041. Choose your pasta and sauce with bottomless salad and a glass of wine. D. $, major.

### ASIAN

**Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace**—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D. $$, major.

**Monte Carlo/Dragon Noodle Company**—730-


It's Showtime!

Tasteful entertainment? It's downright delicious!



Not only is Cranberry World West both educational and entertaining, it's also scrumptious! Take a look into the rich and unique history of this truly all-American fruit. Then take a taste. You'll love both. Theater • Exhibit Hall • Museum • Bottling Plant • Juice Sampling Center • Demonstration Kitchen • Gift Shop

CRANBERRY WORLD® West

1301 American Pacific Dr.
Henderson, NV 89014
Open Daily 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

(702) 566-7160
1-800-289-0917

Ocean Spray

FIND OUT HOW (AND WHY) 250,000 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN CROSSED THE DESERTS OF NEVADA ON THEIR WAY TO CALIFORNIA IN THE 1800'S.



Trail of the '49ers Interpretive Center

453 N. 2nd St., Battle Mountain

I-80 Exit 229 & follow the signs

(702) 635-5720

e-mail: Trailofthe49ers@compuserve.com

Visit our website at http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/trailofthe49ers

7777. Authentic Asian noodle dishes, tea emporium, roasted meats, chicken, and fresh seafood. L, D. $$, major.
**Riviera Hotel/Rik' Shaw**—794-9537. Pineapple duck, orange roughy with black pepper sauce. D. $-$$, major.

### MEXICAN

**Sahara Hotel/Paco's Hideaway**—737-2407. D. $, major.
**Sam's Town Hotel/Willy and Jose's Mexican Cantina**—454-8044. Combination platters, enchiladas, fajitas, American specialties, margaritas. D. $$, major.

### STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Imperial Palace/Embers**—794-3261. Steaks and continental dishes, 28 menu choices. D. $$, major.
**Imperial Palace/Seahouse**—794-3261. Alaskan crab legs, seafood salads. D, $$, major.
**Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's**—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. D. $$, major.
**Sahara Hotel/Sahara Steak House**—737-2407. Steak and prime rib, open all evenings. D. $$, major.
**Sam's Town Hotel/Billy Bob's Steak House**—454-8031. Entrees include 28-ounce ribeye steak, rotisserie chicken, fresh catch of the day, prime rib. D. $$, major.
**Sam's Town Hotel/Diamond Lil's**—454-8009. Mesquite broiled steaks, shrimp scampi, veal loin, king crab legs, smoked salmon. D. $$, major.

## Reno-Carson Area

### AMERICAN

**Atlantis/Purple Parrot**—Reno, 825-4700. 24-hour restaurant with steaks, seafood, sandwiches, and salads. B, L, D. $-$$, major.
**Atlantis/Toucan Charlie's Buffet**—Reno, 825-4700. B, L, D. $-$$, major.
**Carson Nugget/Buffet**—882-1626. Sunday champagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday seafood buffet. B, L, D. $, major.
**Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop**—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.
**Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's**—Minden, 783-6650. Steaks, seafood, and nightly specials. D, $$, major.
**Carson Valley Inn/Katie's**—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers, and breakfast specials. B, L, D. $-$$, major.
**Carson Valley Inn/ Michael's**—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and fresh seafood creations. D. Closed Tuesdays. $-$$, major.
**Peppermill/Island Buffet**—Reno, 826-2121. Chicken, seafood, prime rib, salads. B, L, D. $, major.
**Peppermill/Food Court**—Reno, 826-2121. Mexican, Italian, hamburgers, and salad bar. B, L, D. $, major.
**Peppermill/Peppermill Restaurant**—Reno, 826-2121. Burgers, salads, seafood, chicken. B, L, D. $$, major.
**Ramada Inn and Speakeasy Casino/The Gatsby Cafe**—Reno, 329-7400. B, L, D. $, major.
**Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange**—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken. B, L, D. $, major.
**Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet**—Reno, 329-4777. Buffet with prime rib, shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli, chicken cacciatore. B, L, D. $, major.

### CONTINENTAL

**Peppermill/White Orchid**—Reno, 826-2121. Filet mignon, seared ahi, medallions of elk. D. $$$$, major.

### ITALIAN

**Atlantis/Café Alfresco**—Reno, 825-4700. Brick-oven pizzas, pastas. L, D. $, major.
**Eldorado Hotel/La Strada**—Reno, 786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees. Award-winning wine list. D. $$, major.

### INTERNATIONAL

**Eldorado Hotel/Choices**—Reno, 786-5700. Express cafe with hofbrau, deli, bakery, ice cream. B, L, D. $, major.
**Eldorado Hotel/Chefs' Pavilion Buffet**—Reno, 786-5700. Rotisserie chicken, mushroom ravioli, salad bar, prime rib. B, L, D. $, major.
**Eldorado Hotel/Bistro Roxy**—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet dishes include Chilean sea bass with Yukon gold potatoes and creamed spinach. D. $$, major.
**Eldorado Hotel/Tivoli Gardens**—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. B, L, D. $, major.

### BASQUE

**Louis' Basque Corner**—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. $$, major.

### ASIAN

**Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe**—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D. $, major.

### STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Atlantis/Atlantis Seafood Steakhouse**—Reno, 825-4700. Flaming coconut prawns, New York pepper steak. D. $, major.
**Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar**—882-1626. Clam chowder, fish and chips, and pan roasts. L, D. $, major.
**Carson Nugget/Steak House**—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce, and more. D. $$, major.
**Eldorado Hotel/Grill and Rotisserie**—Reno, 786-5700. Mahogany-fueled rotisserie and grill, fresh fish, fowl, lamb. D. $$, major.
**Peppermill/Steak House**—Reno, 826-2121. Steaks, seafood, chicken, salads. D. $$$$, major.
**Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar**—Reno, 329-4777. Crab cakes, oyster pan roast. L, D. $$, major.
**Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse**—Reno, 329-4777. Entrees include medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken. D. $$, major.

### BREW PUBS

**Eldorado Hotel/The Brew Brothers**—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet pizzas, ribs, barbecued shrimp, sausage sampler. L, D. $, major.

## Lake Tahoe

### AMERICAN

**Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma**—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

### ITALIAN

**Caesars Tahoe/Primavera**—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola. D. $$, major.

### ASIAN

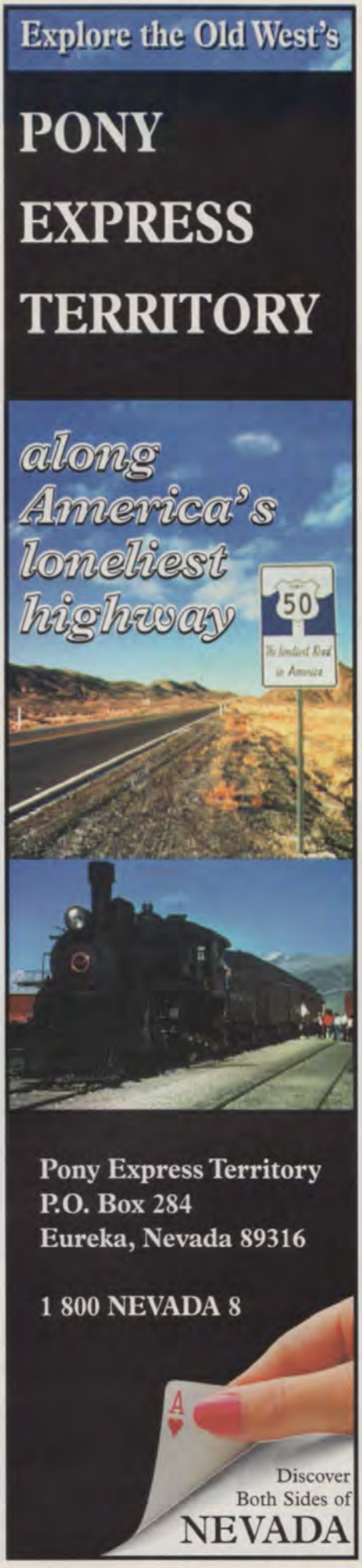
**Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court**—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. $$, major.

### STEAK & SEAFOOD

**Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room**—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. $$, major.

## Around the State

**LOVELOCK: Ramada Inn/Sturgeon's**—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. $-$$$, major.
**WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Casino Restaurant**—623-2588. Chicken strips, chicken-fried steak, prime rib special, ribeye steak, fried prawns. B, L, D. $, major.
**WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Kentucky Fried Chicken Express**—623-2588. L, D. $. No CC.



# Gaming Tournaments

A guide to hotel-casino tourneys.

Gaming tournaments are designed for players of all levels. Some hotels offer daily, weekly, and monthly tournaments—some of them free. Participants in the weekly "Local Motion" keno tournament at the Rail City Casino in Sparks must wager at least $100, and the weekly Wild Wednesday Slot Tournament at Caesars Tahoe costs players $25 in cash or comp credits. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a list of spring gambling events.

## Las Vegas Territory

**$30,000 Blackjack** • March 11-13 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**Big Bucks Slots** • March 11-14 • Pioneer, Laughlin, 702-298-2442.
**The Four Slotketeers** • March 14-17 • MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-929-9410.
**Luck of the Irish Slots** • March 14-17 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**Emperors Extravaganza Slots** • March 19-22 • Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 800-722-2727.
**Academy Awards Slots and Video Poker** • March 21-23 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**Blackjack** • March 26-28 • Pioneer, Laughlin, 702-298-2442.
**March Madness Slots and Blackjack** • March 28-31 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**Slots** • April 4-6 • Imperial Palace, Las Vegas, 800-351-7400, ext. 1.
**The Easter "Munny" Slots** • April 4-6 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**April Showers Slots** • April 6-8 • Harrah's Las Vegas, 888-257-8787.
**April Showers Slots and Video Poker** • April 11-14 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**Cash Combat Slots** • April 13-15 • Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777.
**You Only Win Twice** • April 15-18 • MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-929-9410.
**Captain's Challenge Blackjack** • April 16-18 • Nevada Landing, Jean, 702-387-5000.
**$30,000 Super Slot Spectacular** • April 22-24 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**Super Star Bingo** • April 26-27 • Showboat, Las Vegas, 800-876-BOAT.
**Cinco de Mayo Slots and Blackjack** • May 2-5 • Lady Luck, Las Vegas, 800-523-9582.
**Legends of the '50s Slots** • May 14-15 • Golden Nugget Laughlin, 800-955-7568.
**Bingo Blowout** • May 16 • Showboat, Las Vegas, 800-876-BOAT.
**Mother's Day Slots** • May 16-18 • Harrah's Las Vegas, 800-221-1806.


Properties Plus, Inc.

For all Your Nevada Real Estate Needs



TRUST YOUR MOVE **ONLY** TO A RELOCATION SPECIALIST!

CALL NOW FOR YOUR FREE RELOCATION PACKAGE:

**1-800-723-0291**

www.nevada-lasvegas.com/realestate

residential, new or resale; land; commercial; investment properties; business opportunities

NEVADA'S LARGEST NON FRANCHISE – FULL SERVICE BROKER

PROPERTIES PLUS, INC. Corporate Office, 3785 E. Sunset Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89120


## Reno-Tahoe Territory

**Keno Klassic** • March 6 • Harrah's Reno, 775-786-3232.
**$5 Shootout Slots** • March 6-8 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**March Slots** • March 12-13 • Harrah's Reno, 775-786-3232.
**Craps** • March 13-14 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Bucks and Benz Slots** • March 13-15 and May 15-17 • Eldorado, Reno, 800-648-5966.
**March Into Money Slots** • March 14-15 • Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-687-7733.
**March Madness Slots** • March 14-17 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**St. Patrick's Slots** • March 14-17 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2WIN.
**Slot Olympics** • March 19-20 • Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-648-3353.
**Super Slots** • March 19-21 • Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862, ext. 7231.
**Pai Gow Poker** • March 19-21 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2WIN.
**4-5-6 Tournament** • March 19-21 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2WIN.
**Winner Take All Blackjack** • March 19-22 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Keno** • March 26-28 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Bingo Blowout** • March 27 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Over the Rainbow Slots** • March 31-April 4 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2WIN.
**Winners' Weekend Slots** • April 2-4 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Three-Card Poker and Blackjack** • April 9-11 • Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862, ext. 7231.
**It's Raining 7's Slots** • April 11-12 • Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-687-7733.
**$1 Slot Marathon** • April 11-13 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Spring Keno** • April 11-14 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2WIN.
**Mini Slots** • April 17-19 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Hawaiian Slots** • April 18-21 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2WIN.
**Krazy Keno** • April 23-25 • Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862, ext. 7231.
**Blackjack** • April 23-25 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Super Slots** • May 7-9 • Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862, ext. 7231.
**Mother's Day Slots** • May 9-12 • Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-950-2WIN.
**Slots** • May 9-12 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Keno Shootout** • May 14-16 • Comstock, Reno, 800-266-7862.
**Winners' Weekend Slots** • May 14-16 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.
**Bingo Blowout** • May 22 • John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427.

# NEVADA MAGAZINE READER SERVICES

You can receive FREE information from the NEVADA MAGAZINE advertisers listed below. Simply circle the number on the Reader Service Card that corresponds to those advertisers' products or services in which you have an interest. Then complete the name and address portion of the card and drop it in the mail. You will be sent free brochures loaded with information.

### TOURISM AGENCIES

001 Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce
003 Beatty Chamber of Commerce
004 Boulder City Chamber of Commerce
007 Carson City Convention & Visitors Authority
008 Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce
013 White Pine County Fair & Rec. Board/Ely
015 Eureka Opera House & Chamber of Commerce
016 Fallon Convention & Tourism Authority
022 Elko Convention Center
027 Las Vegas Convention & Visitors Authority
035 Mineral County Chamber of Commerce
038 Nevada Commission on Tourism
041 Pahrump Chamber of Commerce
043 Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority
048 Virginia City Convention & Tourism Authority
050 Wendover Convention & Visitors Authority
052 Winnemucca Convention Bureau
053 Pershing County Convention & Visitors Authority/Lovelock
055 Pony Express Territory
062 Truckee Donner Chamber of Commerce
063 Lyon County Information Center

### HOTELS/CASINOS

113 Caesars Tahoe
116 Carson Nugget/Carson City
117 Carson Valley Inn/Carson Valley
119 Atlantis Casino Resort/Reno
122 Colorado Belle Hotel/Laughlin
135 Eldorado Hotel/Reno
163 Imperial Palace/Las Vegas
183 Peppermill Hotel Casino/Reno
198 Riviera Hotel & Casino/Las Vegas
200 Sahara Hotel/Las Vegas
201 Sam's Town/Las Vegas
207 Ramada Inn, Sturgeon's/Lovelock
236 Silver Legacy Hotel/Casino/Reno
240 Model T Casino/Hotel/RV Park/Winnemucca
243 Monte Carlo Resort/Las Vegas
249 Ramada Inn Speedway Casino/Las Vegas/Reno

### HOUSEBOAT RENTALS

396 Forever Resorts

### ATTRACTIONS, GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

400 Cranberry World West/Henderson
405 Liberace Museum & Foundation/Las Vegas
406 Nevada Northern Railway Museum/Ely
415 Central Nevada Emigrant Trails

### EVENTS

420 Pioneer Territory

### EVENTS (CONT.)

421 White Pine Trails/Ely
429 Nevada's Cowboy Country/Winnemucca

### WEDDING CHAPELS

451 Little Chapel of the Flowers/Las Vegas
453 Little Church of the West/Las Vegas
457 Viva Las Vegas Wedding Chapel

### RECREATION

488 Black Canyon Raft Tours
489 Lake Mead Cruises

### TOURS

565 Sundance Helicopters/Las Vegas
566 Drive Yourself Tours
567 Guaranteed Tours

### TOUR INFORMATION

576 Las Vegas Freebies

### RESTAURANTS

653 Louis' Basque Corner/Reno

### REAL ESTATE

701 Job's Peak Ranch/Minden
731 Properties Plus/Las Vegas

### SENIOR RECREATION

751 Senior Silver Strike Club/Carson City Convention & Visitors Bureau

### RETAIL SHOPPING

810 Ghosttowns.Com
815 Golden Triangle Bullion Co./Las Vegas
823 Casino News Newsletter
835 Gamblers General Store/Las Vegas

### RESERVATIONS

875 Hotel Reservations Network/Las Vegas/Reno
881 Epic Enterprises/PGI
882 National Reservation Bureau/Las Vegas

### NEVADA MAGAZINE

999 Nevada Magazine Subscription




*It's the greatest variety show in Reno!*
For information and reservations, call 329-4777 (Toll-free 1-800-687-7733)

SILVER LEGACY
RESORT • CASINO • RENO

# Endless Ways to Indulge

**Sweetwater Cafe**
For your favorite American and the best Chinese food in town.
*Open 24 hrs a day*

**Fairchild's Oyster Bar**
Enjoy fresh seafood and shellfish specialties in a casual Oyster Bar setting.

**Sterling's Seafood Steakhouse**
An elegant, yet casual, seafood steak house featuring a variety of fresh seafood and traditional entrees. Also, Reno's most spectacular Sunday Brunch.

**The Victorian Buffet**
Enjoy an ever-changing array of salads, pastas, delicious entrees, USDA Choice Prime Rib and homemade desserts.

**Sips Coffee & Tea**
A fresh selection of espresso and specialty coffees and teas, pastries, desserts, Italian sodas, and chocolates.

407 N. Virginia Street • Downtown Reno • Free Valet and Self-parking • www.silverlegacy.com

# Dial "O" for Show

The water-themed show at Bellagio dives in with splashy costumes, sets, and acrobats. **By Mike Weatherford**

Las Vegas stages always have been battlefields of sorts in the war between incredible sets and costumes and the people who occupy them. Cirque du Soleil's "Mystère" at Treasure Island managed to step up to the larger playing field of Las Vegas without losing the human focus that made the French Canadian circus so special. With Cirque du Soleil's new "O" show at the Bellagio, however, one could say the stage and the human performers wrestle to a draw.

You'd expect as much from a $92-million production that realizes the most expensive concept ever imagined for Las Vegas: staging a show on, in, and above water, with the stage itself a 100-by-150-foot lake. It's so amazing to watch the computer-controlled pool change shape—even congealing into a solid land mass in moments—that the more familiar human feats of acrobatic and gymnastic derring-do seem old hat by comparison.



**At the Bellagio, acrobats, trapeze artists, contortionists, and high divers perform above, on, and in a stage made of water in "O," the most expensive show in Las Vegas history.**

The opera-house design of the 1,800-seat auditorium also distances the audience. The sight lines are good, but the unusual staging prohibits the kind of intimacy the cast and audience share in "Mystère" at Treasure Island, Bellagio's sister property. Perhaps this is why co-creator Gille Ste-Croix calls "O" (a play on "eau," the French word for water) "a theater show instead of a circus show." Its vague theme revolves around the magic of theater—the lake perhaps signifying the wellspring of imagination—and the show launches on a breathtaking note when the theater's giant red curtain is whisked into the recesses of the 60-foot proscenium.



Cirque du Soleil's trademark brand of dreamlike surrealism is even more at play here than in previous shows. As the acrobats begin performing on or above the water, Fellini-esque characters appear on the periphery: a maid oddly out of place as she piles discarded costumes into a laundry cart, or a man who calmly reads a newspaper as his body bursts into flame.

The athletic feats, however, don't go unappreciated. For the Mongolian contortionists and the aerialists on board the *Bateau*—a steel ship swinging like a pendulum above the water—the water is more of a frame for an existing act.

Other acts plunge right in. Russian swing performers fling themselves into the air, arcing to a weightless moment before plummeting into the water. High divers vault 60 feet into the 25-foot-deep pool.

When Steve Wynn opened the $1.6-billion Bellagio last October, it was proclaimed the most expensive hotel ever built. Likewise, "O" is the most expensive show in Las Vegas history. The $100 top ticket computes to almost a dollar for every minute of running time. Reviewers have learned to avoid the question, "Is it worth it?" After all, $100 might be chump change to one patron but a substantial investment for the person in the next seat.

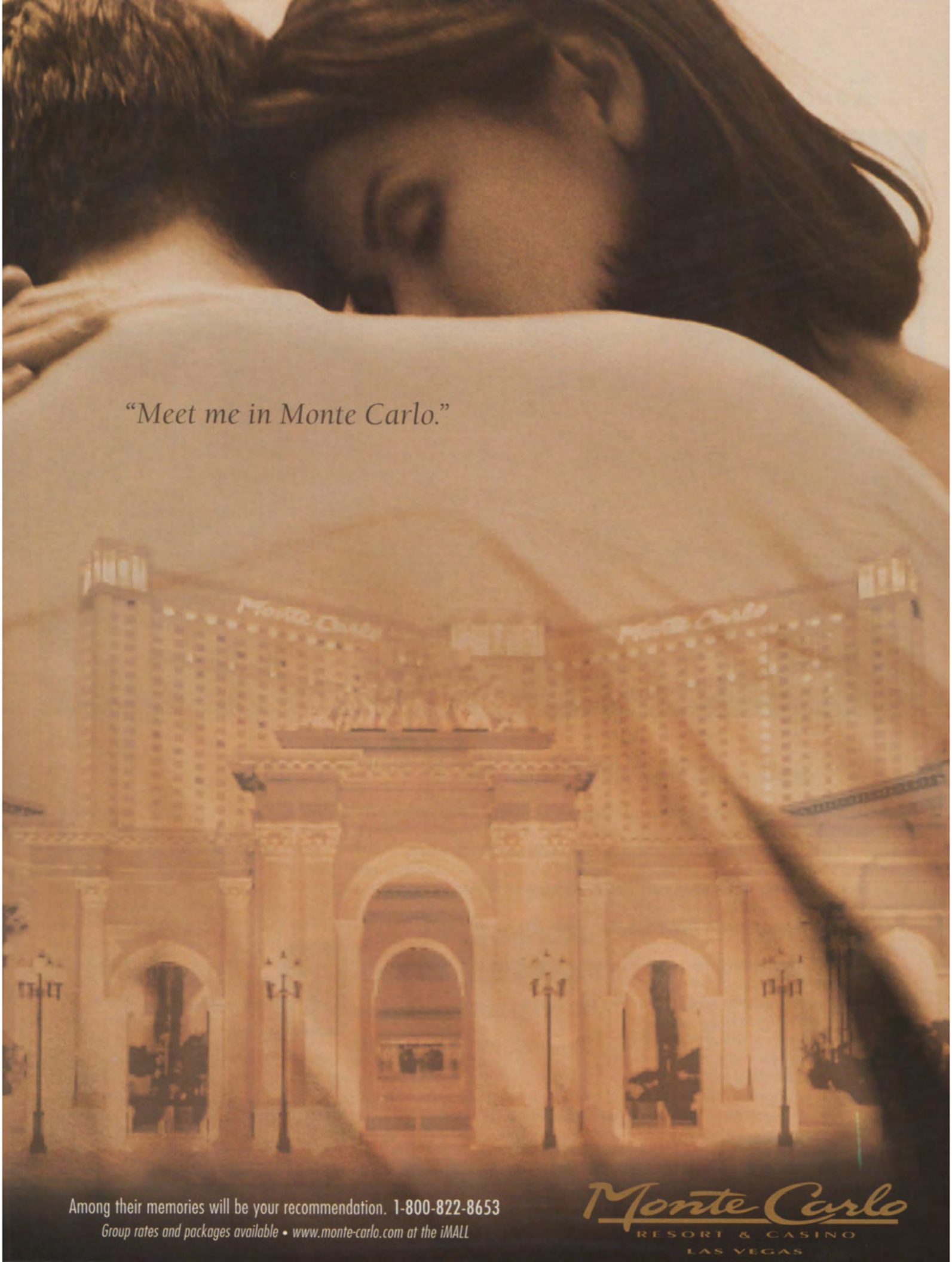
The ticket price does create an irony. Like most Cirque productions, you can't absorb it all the first time. With a second viewing, the elements seem more of a whole, and the human feats more in the spotlight. But the acrobats, costumes, and spectacle make "O" worth testing the waters, guaranteeing that entertainment at the Bellagio won't run dry.

## Show Notes

Cirque du Soleil's "O" appears at 7:30 and 11 nightly except Wednesday and Thursday at Bellagio in Las Vegas. Tickets are $100 for orchestra seating and $90 for balcony, including tax but not drinks. Children six and older are permitted. Call 702-693-7722 or 888-488-7111.

*Mike Weatherford is a* Las Vegas Review-Journal *entertainment reporter.*

Photos: Joan Marcus


"Meet me in Monte Carlo."
Among their memories will be your recommendation. 1-800-822-8653
Group rates and packages available • www.monte-carlo.com at the iMALL
Monte Carlo
RESORT & CASINO
LAS VEGAS

# *Reno/Lake Tahoe. Drive in the country.*



*Thirty golf courses above 4,000 feet in altitude, all within an hour's drive of downtown Reno. Play everything from championship alpine resort courses to challenging high desert links. Here, you'll find a variety of resort hotel/casinos, fine dining and big name entertainment. Having a great time in Reno/Tahoe is simply par for the course.*

PGA TOUR

*PGA*
*Reno • Tahoe Open*
*at Montrêux*
*August 23-29, 1999*

*Information/Reservations*
*800-FOR-RENO • www.playreno.com*

*© 1999 Reno-Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority*

*The Treasure of the Sierra Nevada*



RENO • LAKE TAHOE



Emma Bobb, who rarely permits her face to be photographed, learned the art of basket weaving from her mother.

# Woman of the Willow

## Shoshone elder Emma Bobb weaves a lifetime of tradition into her baskets.

**Story and Photos by Anna Macdonnell Wilmans**

After more than 75 years of weaving willow branches into delicate baskets, Emma Bobb of Reese River finally agreed to exhibit her work publicly in 1997. When she returned home after the annual Festival of Native American Arts (Wa She Shu E'deh) at Lake Tahoe, she brought two blue ribbons with her. It was a rare trip for a woman who has left Nevada only three times in her long lifetime, and she remembers it with some ambivalence.

"It was one of the few times I've been away from here," Emma says, gesturing toward the window and a view of the snow-capped mountains that border the Yomba Indian Reservation, where she and her son Jeremie live. "I was born here, as were all my people, and mostly I like to stay at home. But my baskets sold well there, so I was glad I went."

Emma was born about a mile from her present house in the Reese River Valley, 40 miles south of Austin on County Road 212, a largely unpaved and little-traveled road. Her home is built on the Yomba Shoshone tribal lands, which cover approximately 5,000 acres of ranch land and meadows irrigated by the Reese River. Emma learned her craft from her mother, Mattie Dyer, who was an accomplished basket weaver. Mattie was also well known for her longevity. "The records only give her credit for being 106 when she died, but she was really 116. I guess nobody believed she could have been that old, but she was," Emma says proudly. Emma is Mattie's last living child. Like most of their neighbors, Emma's late husband, Elmer, raised cattle. Jeremie has taken over the ranch work, and Emma devotes much of her time to her baskets. As a tribal elder she leads a quiet and private life.

**Like her ancestors, she finds the central themes of her works in child care and food preparation.**

The baskets Emma weaves are intertwined with the Shoshone culture. Both her weaving techniques and the forms she creates are characteristic of her people, continuing a centuries-old craft. Like her ancestors, she finds the central themes of her works in child care and food preparation. She makes cradleboards that keep infants physically and emotionally snug. She also makes baskets used for pine nuts, a diet staple. Large, conical containers are used to gather pine cones and flat baskets to winnow and roast the pine nuts after

FIND OUT HOW (AND WHY) 250,000 MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN CROSSED THE DESERTS OF NEVADA ON THEIR WAY TO CALIFORNIA IN THE 1800'S.



Trail of the '49ers Interpretive Center
453 N. 2nd St., Battle Mountain
I-80 Exit 229 & follow the signs
(702) 635-5720
e-mail: Trailofthe49ers@compuserve.com
Visit our website at
http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/trailofthe49ers

they are removed from the cones. Emma also creates intricate, round vessels, often with lids, for gathering medicinal herbs. Depending on the basket's function, her weaving style varies: looser for cradleboards and nut baskets, tighter for the lidded coiled vessels.

The covered vessels can take up to a month to weave. Traditionally they were prized as gifts that symbolically connected giver and receiver. The buying and selling of these treasures is now customary. Emma enjoys making baskets for an appreciative clientele. "It's how I make my living," she says simply.

Watching Emma patiently weaving willow strands is like looking through a window to the past. As she weaves, she explains how basket forms have evolved: "My mother made a lot of water jugs. They needed them in those days. But we have running water, so I never bothered with them." Those pitch-lined woven jars were indispensable to her ancestors. Now seldom made, they are prized by collectors.

"I do make a lot of cradleboards because people still use them," she says as Jeremie nods in agreement. He says, "I still remember mine. I got too big for it, but I still wanted to crawl back inside. So for a long time I used to lie on top of it."

Emma makes each cradleboard, which is really a "cradlebasket" since it has no board, with a willow-twig foundation covered with either deerskin or canvas. A woven willow hood protects the infant's face from the sun and wind. The child's gender is designated by a design decorating the front of the cradleboard. If the hood has a pattern of joining geometric elements, the child is boy. If the elements consist of separate diamond shapes, a girl is tucked inside.

Emma harvests willow branches in winter, when there are no buds to weaken the strands. She has her own secret source for the material. Even so, she isn't always satisfied with the willows. "These are not as good as in my mother's day," she muses. "Not as strong. That's because there's not as much water now."



Emma Bobb's son Jeremie Jackson helps her gather willows from their Yomba Indian Reservation land in the Reese River Valley.

## Weaving Through Nevada

For more information about Nevada's Indian basketmaking tradition, consult *Weavers of Tradition and Beauty: Basketmakers of the Great Basin* (University of Nevada Press, 1995, 138 pages, softcover, $19.95). Basketmakers Mary Lee Fulkerson of Reno and Kathleen Curtis of Truckee provided the text and photos respectively, and the foreword on basketry techniques was written by Catherine S. Fowler of the University of Nevada, Reno. The authors spent two years traveling remote areas of the Great Basin and discovering contemporary craftsmen who work in traditional ways.

Emma Bobb sells her work from her home in Reese River. To reach her, write Emma Bobb, HC 61, Box 6205, Austin, NV 89310.

*—Anna Macdonnell Wilmans*

TRUCKEE



*History and so much more...*

Distinctive shops, excellent restaurants, fun bars, cozy inns, surrounded by six world-class ski resorts.

Truckee Donner Chamber of Commerce
For more information and a FREE gift, call
530-587-2757
Fax: 530-587-2439
10065 Donner Pass Road, Truckee, CA 96161



**Emma, who never signs her baskets, has a hand in passing down traditional basket-weaving techniques. She uses a tighter weave on coiled baskets (above) and looser for cradleboards and nut baskets.**

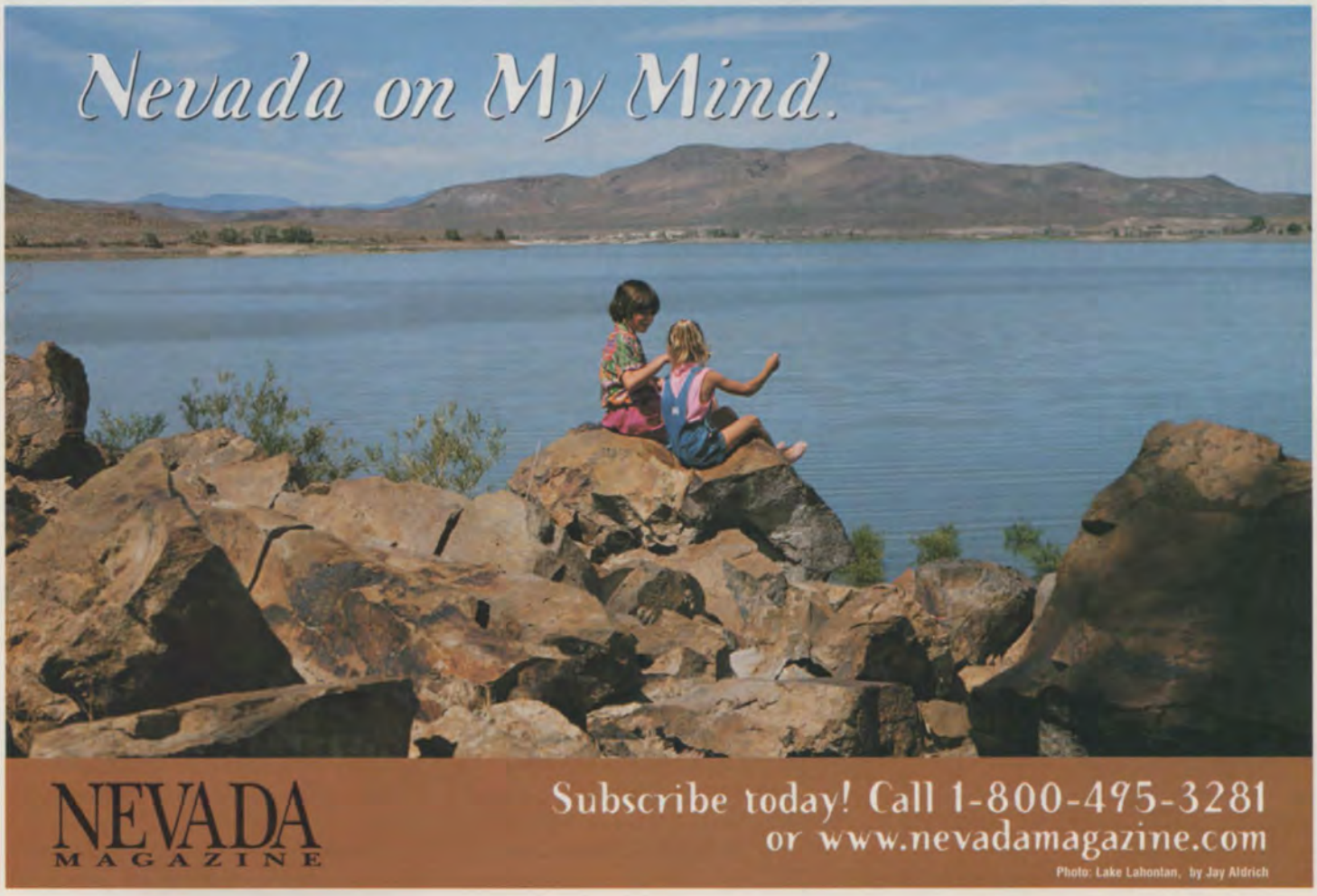
Remembering the strong willows of her youth reminds Emma of the legend of the Water Babies. She tells the story of those malevolent spirits: "When I was a girl, I was always careful when I went down near the river to get willows. That's where the Water Babies were. They cry just like real babies, but if you feel sorry and go too close to the edge of the water trying to help them, they'll pull you in and drown you. I'm still careful."

Emma removes the bark from each willow branch and splits it into three strands. The strands have to be kept damp during weaving so they won't snap, and each must be of equal thickness. Emma solves this last problem by pulling each piece through a hole she has punctured in the lid of an old tin can. She uses wild-rose strands to achieve delicate design patterns. Subtle designs also come from dying some willow strands with black mud.

The only way to learn to weave a basket is by watching someone else, Emma insists. "You first have to look at how they do it, then try it on your own." Emma learned by watching her mother and gradually developing her own style. In recent years she has become involved with the Nevada State Council on the Arts' Folk Arts Apprenticeship Program, which matches master craftspeople like Emma with young people.

As with other works of art, a basket's value is increased by attribution to a specific maker. Yet Emma Bobb, weaving quietly at her Reese River home, resists any form of signature on her creations. She explains, "We all know our own work, so why should I sign anything?"

*Anna Macdonnell Wilmans, a writer and lecturer, has taught tribal art at Otis College of Art and Design in Los Angeles. She lives on a ranch near Round Mountain.*

# Howard Hughes Slept Here

## The mystique of the reclusive billionaire lures guests to his former penthouse suite at the Desert Inn.

**By Carolyn Graham**






**Howard Hughes moved into the ninth floor of the Desert Inn in 1966 and liked it so much he bought the whole hotel. As a movie and aviation mogul (right), Hughes often made the Vegas scene.**

Just before dawn on Thanksgiving Day, 1966, Howard Hughes was quietly slipped into the ninth-floor suite at the Desert Inn in Las Vegas. The 61-year-old recluse no longer resembled the dashing, handsome pilot and Hollywood man-about-town he had once been. Forced into hiding by his own phobias, the enigmatic billionaire had selected the Desert Inn penthouse as his roost.

To this day, the Hughes mystique continues to intrigue Las Vegas visitors—so much so that the Desert Inn now offers guests the chance to spend the night in the former lair of the bashful billionaire.

"We do get a lot of interest in the suite," says Caroline Coyle, director of advertising and public relations at the Desert Inn. "People are aware of the history of it."

Although the bedridden Hughes occupied only a 15-by-17-foot bedroom, the entire ninth floor and the one below it were closed off to guests. His staff awaited orders in the parlor, which was connected to Hughes' room and another bedroom. Known as Penthouse One, the Hughes suite was protected by guards who never caught a glimpse of their boss. While most visitors today don't rent the entire floor (unless they have a Hughes-sized bankroll), guests can request Penthouse One and stay where Howard slept, plotted his next Las Vegas casino purchase, and watched old movies late into the night.

When Hughes checked in, the penthouse was remodeled "to accommodate his secrecy fetish," according to John Phelan, author of *The Hidden Years*. The ninth-floor button was removed from the elevator and was accessible only by a key. The doorknob at the stairwell entrance was removed. The windows in Hughes' room were covered, and daylight rarely creeped inside. Hughes spent much of his time watching old movies and scribbling memos to his aides regarding TV programs or ideas for future business conquests. Phelan wrote, "Sometimes he would sit for hours, silent and brooding, in his little Desert Inn bedroom. He would gather the long hair streaming down his back, pull it up over the top of his head, then let it fall, gather it up, let it fall."

Due to his germ phobias, Hughes slept atop sheets that were covered with a layer of paper towels. He wrote his aides meticulous memos about how to wrap Kleenex around his eating utensils.

He became emaciated due in part to his extreme pickiness about the food he ate. Despite the excellent reputation of the Monte Carlo Room, the Desert Inn's gourmet restaurant, Hughes during one period would eat only Campbell's chicken soup. He also developed a fondness for Baskin-Robbins' banana-nut ice cream. When the flavor was discontinued, a panicked staff member requested a special batch—350 gallons, the smallest order possible. When the ice cream arrived at the Desert Inn, the chefs scrambled to make room for it. That very day, Hughes declared that he wanted to switch to French vanilla. According to Phelan, "It took the Desert Inn almost a year to get rid of the stockpile of ice cream."

Shortly after Hughes had become settled on the ninth floor, D.I. proprietor



Photo: Desert Inn (left)





**Only Hughes' closest aides were allowed into the parlor (above) of Penthouse One, which has been refurbished for hotel guests. The bashful billionaire rarely left the confines of his bedroom (below).**

Moe Dalitz sent word that he wanted to open up the suites to high rollers in time for the holidays. Hughes managed to stall for a few weeks, but Dalitz was insistent.

"When the recluse failed to budge, Dalitz threatened to march upstairs and drag him out into the street if he was not gone by New Year's Eve," according to Michael Drosnin in *Citizen Hughes*, a book based on Hughes' memos. "Faced with eviction, the billionaire decided to become his own landlord: he would buy the hotel."

Hughes purchased the hotel for $13.25 million in March 1967. The move spawned an unrivaled hotel-casino buying spree, during which he bought the Sands, Castaways, Silver Slipper, Frontier, and Landmark in Las Vegas and Harolds Club in Reno. Hughes also ushered in a new era of corporate ownership of hotel-casinos.

In 1971 Hughes vacated the suite. Ironically, for a man obsessed with avoiding germs, he would not allow maids into the suite, which had developed a thick layer of dust and was littered with files, newspaper clippings, and Kleenex. His aides stayed behind to clean up.

Today, except for the architecture, Penthouse One contains no hints of Hughes' time there. "The furnishings have been refreshed and updated, thank goodness," Caroline Coyle says.

Guests can rent a two-bedroom configuration (which includes a parlor) on Hughes' floor for $2,100 per night or the one-bedroom option (with Hughes' room and a parlor) for $1,800 per night and gaze out the once-blacked out windows that overlook the Strip. With its marble floors the suite is an elegant hideaway, even for nonbillionaires who check into the room knowing that Howard slept here.

*Carolyn Graham is* Nevada Magazine's *associate editor.*

Photos: Chris Leedham


LOUIS & LORRAINE ERREGUIBLE'S

LOUIS' BASQUE CORNER

*Since 1967 – Where the locals go*

AUTHENTIC BASQUE FOODS SERVED FAMILY STYLE

Lunch: Tuesday thru Saturday, 11:30am 2:30pm
Dinner: Tuesday thru Sunday, 5:00pm 9:30pm
Closed Mondays

PRIVATE DINING ROOM FOR SPECIAL PARTIES

HONORING:
AMERICAN EXPRESS • VISA
MASTERCARD • CARTE BLANCHE

PHONE 323-7203

301 EAST FOURTH STREET, RENO
*FREE PARKING, JUST 3 BLOCKS FROM CASINOS*
ONE BLOCK FROM NATIONAL BOWLING STADIUM

*"Reno's most unique dining experience"*

LAS VEGAS INFOPAK

A vast selection of coupons for discounts on show tickets, fun parks, free photos and much more!

*COUPONS FOR FREE LAS VEGAS SOUVENIRS*

A-BASIC INFOPAK $14.95
B-FOR 2 PERSONS $24.95
C-INFOPAK PLUS GAMBLERS PAK $24.95
$4.00 S & H / Visa & Mastercard

TO ORDER CALL
702-368-1779
800-621-4167
INTERNET ORDERS:
http://www.lvfree.com
E-MAIL
lvfree@lvfree.com

LAS VEGAS INFOPAK



# Beating the Plow to Jarbidge

They told us no springtime travelers had ever successfully driven the unplowed, snowbound road to Jarbidge. We decided to be the first.

**By Bill Jayne**

It was lunchtime on a warm April day when my four-wheeling buddy Dave Nelson and I drove into Jarbidge for the first time. The former gold-mining village was tucked in a canyon in the shadow of 10,793-foot Jarbidge Peak. The icy cold Jarbidge River, tumbling down from snow-capped peaks, ran the entire length of Main Street. The residences were modest, most of them pine board-and-batten turned silver gray with time. Jarbidge appeared much as it did when the miners departed with their picks, shovels, and empty pockets for Deadwood, Virginia City, Tonopah, and the Klondike.

Dave and I had left our Reno-area homes the day before, bursting with anticipation as we recalled the glowing accounts of Jarbidge's pristine beauty that a friend had related to us. We drove Interstate 80 to Elko and then State Route 225 north to catch a trout dinner at Wild Horse Reservoir. The next morning we circled northeastward past the Bruneau River and the Diamond A Desert on dirt and gravel roads that took us into Jarbidge from the north, or Idaho, side. Our vehicle was Dave's Toyota Land Cruiser, equipped with a winch and pulling a utility trailer packed with a tent and supplies for 10 days. Later we were thankful that we had made such thorough preparations.

**"The shortcut don't get plowed till the Fourth of July. Ain't nobody gets over that road till it's plowed."**

We found that Jarbidge consisted of the Barn Motel, a bed-and-breakfast inn, three



Illustration: Mike McGarvey



restaurants, and two bars. Although the town had as many as 50 residents in summer, there were only a handful of full-time, winter residents in what we figured must be the most inaccessible ghost town in the country.

We were fascinated with the Outdoor Inn, a gathering place with the only cafe open that day. The unofficial chamber of commerce representative—who was also the bartender, cook, janitor, and fishing guide—asked us which road we came in on. We told him we had driven from Elko over the snowy but passable northern loop road from Wild Horse Reservoir.

"You are the only guys to come in here from Elko for about a week," he said. "Not too many people come here this time of year, except a few fishermen, till summer when families come campin' "

He then stated emphatically, "The shortcut from the south through Charleston is a faster road from Elko, but it don't get plowed till the Fourth of July. Ain't nobody gets over that mountain road till it's plowed."

Two men sat close to a potbellied stove, one puffing on a pipe. They nodded vigorously in agreement. That afternoon in the saloon, the key topic for all 14 permanent residents became the shortcut. The shortcut began about eight miles south of Wild Horse. It turned into a rugged dirt road as it passed the ranching area of Charleston and then over the mountain passes to Jarbidge. The shortcut was 46 miles long, which was about 20 miles shorter than the northern route. However, the residents' chiseled-in-stone consensus was that no one had ever traversed that road until the snowplow cleared it in early summer—and no one ever would.

That night, while enjoying the warmth of a fire at our Forest Service campsite outside town, we were gratefully aware of the clarity and brilliance of the stars unaffected by urban lights. We appreciated the silence. We also reflected upon the residents' claim that it was impossible to get from Charleston to Jarbidge before the plow did.

The shortcut was on our minds.

Gazing into the fire, Dave said, "You know, we came here expectin' to do and see different things than we've done before. What do you think about gettin' outta here in the morning and comin' back here on that shortcut they're talkin' about?"

**We exchanged jobs to allow one of us to huddle in the warm cab while the other slogged in the snow.**

I looked over at the Land Cruiser, its winch, and our trailer filled with equipment. Having considered Dave's question for at least 60 seconds, I replied, "How about leavin' here at sunrise?"

We had packed parkas, ski gloves, and insulated Sorel foot gear. In the trailer were shovels, ropes, tarps, extra gas, replacement cable for the winch, an abundance of food—all of which could be used to attain our goal.

Dave and I left the village before the townsfolk awoke. We retraced our northern route back to Wild Horse and the turnoff to Charleston. From there we would head east and north toward Jarbidge.

For the first five miles we encountered only patches of snow on the gravel road, but at the 6,500-foot elevation the snow completely covered the road, and two-foot drifts hugged the curves. The Land Cruiser easily moved forward in four-wheel drive until a drift five yards wide stopped us. We both shoveled through the drift and put the chains on. We were concerned about the frozen road bed. The unstable, melting ice on the surface could force us to slide over the edge of the road—which in some places dropped off 500 feet or more.

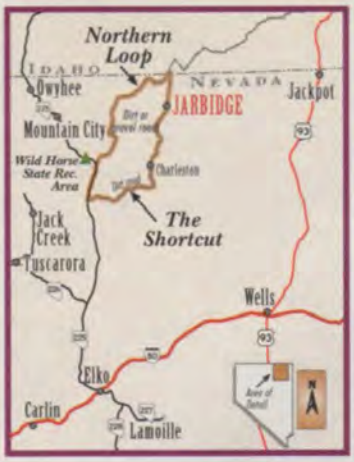
Our progress slowed. As we climbed higher and the air grew thinner, we became exhausted, and talking took a great effort. Even though we had put chains on all four wheels, the snow and ice often forced us to shovel down to the road bed to assure traction.

When we encountered more drifts, we decided to use the winch mounted on the front of Dave's Land Cruiser. The winch was fitted with a 164-foot-long cable with a length of chain and a hook attached at the end. Since the winch functioned on engine power, it had to be operated from the cab. We developed a routine. One of us would walk the cable to its greatest length and attach it to a tree while the other would sit in the cab, engaging the winch to pull the vehicle as far forward as possible. We would exchange jobs to allow one of us to huddle in the warm cab while the other slogged in the snow.

Several times we hooked the cable to a heavy nylon rope we had tied across the road between two trees. This helped maneuver the vehicle in a straight line.

By now Dave and I were committed to wading through heavy drifts and pools of water covered with ice. Our feet were soaked inside the otherwise impenetrable Sorels. Moving our gloved

hands, now also wet, became excruciatingly painful. Our faces had taken on a blood-red color, and the frost from our breath had made our eyebrows look like giant icicles. We began to wonder about our impetuous decision, but each time we stopped to rest, we reveled in the silence, the clean air, the deep-blue skies, the aroma of the pines, and the magnificent view. Our determination was renewed.




As we approached the last mountain pass, the snow was nearly three feet deep. We pulled the Land Cruiser up the road with the winch and ropes. We labored and trudged through hip-deep snow until, exhausted, we realized we had passed the last summit and were heading downhill.

The downhill grade was less than three miles but seemed to take forever. We had to winch downhill on ice, snow, and mud, using the Land Cruiser's brakes to control its descent. Pausing to rest, we saw far below us the Jarbidge River and smoke rising from the chimneys of Jarbidge. We both breathed a sigh of relief and hoped we'd be enjoying a warm fire and dry clothing before nightfall. With our goal so near, we worked at a furious pace.

When we drove into town on the undrivable road, nearly all the townsfolk were waiting in front of the saloon, mouths agape. We had been creating a lot of noises that were unusual for that road in April, with the roar of the Land Cruiser's engine, the sound of the winch, and our shouts echoing through the canyon.

We must have been quite a sight. The Land Cruiser was covered with mud except for a small area we had cleared on the windshield. The mud was so heavy on the bumper you could hardly see the winch. The trailer tarp was smothered by mud and snow.

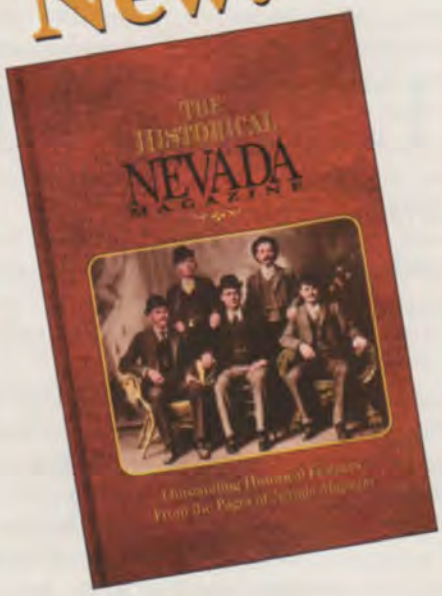
We drove up to the assembled residents and got out. Their eyes opened wide when they beheld two men standing before them with wet clothes clinging close to their bodies, completely covered with mud and snow, faces sunburned, appearing too exhausted to take another step.

One bearded local commented, "I was gonna do that for years but never got around to it." His neighbor smirked and jabbed him in the ribs, saying, "You coulda never done it anyhow!" A very prim-and-proper lady said, "If you were my husband, I wouldn't let you in the house." Another woman, obviously very kind, said, "I manage the Barn Motel. I'm offering you a well-deserved shower and a free night's lodging." Everyone followed us into the saloon to get warm, eager to question every detail of our experience on the shortcut. One of the men near the potbellied stove looked up as we entered and said, "Looks like we have our own Lewis and Clark."

Reflecting later on our memorable journey, Dave and I decided that the route from Charleston is unsurpassed for lack of traffic and scenic grandeur. Nevertheless, we strongly recommend that travelers take the Charleston shortcut only *after* it is cleared by the snowplow.

*Bill Jayne lives in Prescott Valley, Arizona. The former Sparks resident and general contractor, who is legally blind, has long been a law and medicine advocate for the physically handicapped. He presently is writing a novel about the Powder River country of Montana.*


New!




To order, send **$9.95**
plus $3 shipping and handling to:
**The Historical Nevada Magazine**
**Nevada Magazine Merchandise**
**401 N. Carson Street, Suite 100**
**Carson City, NV 89701-4291**
Order by phone: **775-687-5890**
Order online: **www.nevadamagazine.com**

# THE HISTORICAL NEVADA MAGAZINE

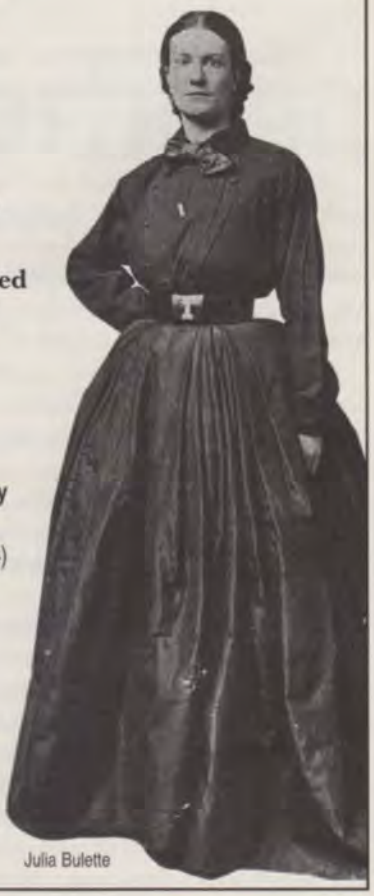
Outstanding Historical Features
from the pages of *Nevada Magazine*

**17 of the best historical articles that have appeared in *Nevada Magazine* during the past six decades are featured in a new 148-page book, "The Historical Nevada Magazine."**

Among the stories included are:

- **Mornin' on the Desert** (1936)
- **Butch Cassidy and the Great Winnemucca Bank Robbery** by David W. Toll (May/June 1983)
- **Julia Bulette: Queen of Tarts** by Susan James (Sept/Oct 1984)
- **Gunfighters of Pioche** by A.D. Hopkins (Sept/Oct 1986)
- **The Great Verdi Train Robbery** by Terri Sprenger-Farley (May/June 1986)
- **The First Black Rancher** by Ed Johnson and Elmer Rusco (Jan/Feb 1989)
- **Dat So La Lee and the Myth Weavers** by Christopher Ross (Sept/Oct 1989)

**Order Your Copy Today!**


Julia Bulette




Map: NDOT/Nevada Magazine

# GOOD-NATURED VACATIONS



**Canoeists glide down the Colorado River below Hoover Dam. Based in Boulder City, Black Canyon Raft Tours offers large-raft outings, and Boulder City Water Sports rents canoes and kayaks.**

*(Continued from page 15)*

first volunteered two years ago, "but it's a real sense of accomplishment when you see what you've built, not just for yourself but for all who will use the trail. Then you look at this beautiful area with fresh eyes and get a new appreciation for it."

## ECO-VACATION AS ART

When one joins dufurrena and dufurrena Adventures on a trek to the Black Rock Desert and other parts of Northwestern Nevada, watercolors and zoom lenses are standard equipment.

Based at her ranch near Denio, photographer Linda Dufurrena operates d and d Adventures with her daughter-in-law, geologist and Winnemucca schoolteacher Carolyn Dufurrena. Poet Linda Hussa and artist Sophie Sheppard host other creative activities as participants record their impressions with cameras, sketch pads, paints, and creative-writing sessions.

The field seminars, conducted by foot and four-wheel drive, offer artistic camping retreats. Carolyn Dufurrena points out, "People see how important it is to make time to get away and get connected with the land."

During a three-day seminar last fall, 17 participants from California, Utah, and Nevada pitched tents among the sage at the DeLong Winter Camp, an old ranching post near the Black Rock playa. The camp hosts encouraged everyone to record their personal impressions of the rustic setting. One writer was inspired by an old windmill standing against the crisp, blue sky. The saw-toothed, volcanic Jackson Mountains spurred some to pull out watercolors and sketch pads. Morning light on the old corral attracted the photographers.

Linda Dufurrena conducted a portraiture session, positioning several volunteer models in a patch of yellow-flowered rabbitbrush near an old barn. She illuminated their shadowed sides with a reflector, and those campers with cameras shot away. The photographers sounded like movie directors: "Cock your head this way." "Now turn it to me over here." "How 'bout a big smile?" "Great! Now wink at me."

Sharing experiences is a big part of the d and d philosophy. Carolyn Dufurrena recalls a three-day tour in the grassy uplands of the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge that included five energetic teenagers from back East. She says she tries to "create a scenario where people of different generations can interact. Our society today no longer provides a situation where they can mingle like that."

The d and d folks show that food can be a major ecotour ingredient. "I want people to come in with grand, decadent style and go away without leaving an impact," says Joyce Vetter, the Winnemucca-born singer-songwriter who serves as camp cook. Her mouth-watering meals are prepared from scratch. After a hot, dusty day in the desert, dinner might include beef stroganoff, gingerbread, and salad followed by pumpkin cake, raspberries, and whipped cream. Next morning one can look forward to the

# BEAR ESSENTIALS

While eco-campers relish good food, the improper storage of camp grub can lead to startling encounters with the wild's permanent residents. Tahoe Rim Trail volunteer Kathy Quinden of Reno recalls one morning when she and her crew came upon two young men standing barefoot on the trail. The pair pointed to a fallen tree 50 feet away.

"There was this bear popping his head up above the tree to look at everyone," says Quinden. "He disappeared behind the log for a while, and then a backpack went flying into the air. One of the boys said, 'He's got the pack with the food in it!'" The bear had been attracted to the smell of spices in the pack, which the campers had not made aroma-proof or stored out of reach.

"The next time the bear poked his head up, he had curry all over his face. Then he tried getting into the peanut butter jar. He stood up on his hind legs, and he was huge. He held the jar in his paws and let out a loud, frustrated growl because he couldn't open it," she says. While the two campers pondered their next move, Quinden returned to work on the trail.

When she stopped at the boys' empty camp that afternoon, she noticed they had learned one of the basic rules of ecotourism.

"To their credit, not one scrap of food or trash was left. They'd completely cleaned up the place," Quinden says. "But I think they learned their lesson not to leave food so accessible in camp."—*Mark Vollmer*

Photo: Gail Bandini

aromas of breakfast: spinach and cheese quiche, pancakes, and bacon with cantaloupe and orange slices, as well as big mugs of steaming coffee.

After meals, d and d's camp hosts show their concern for the desert through example. Plastic utensils are washed and reused. Cans and bottles are recycled. The hosts pack out all garbage and anything else brought in. Like other ecotourism groups, d and d encourages both appreciation and preservation.

Whether people go on tours for the food, photos, or rock climbing, eco-vacationers are taking greater advantage of Nevada's unique attractions. As Becky Purkey says, "The big three—ecotourism, historical tourism, and heritage tourism—are more in demand here."

Judy Kunkler, a frequent Lake Tahoe visitor from Southern California, joined an Eco Adventures nature walk in search of an experience that other tours don't offer. "You come up here for years and see the lake, and it's just there," she says. "Now I have a behind-the-scenes, in-depth story of it. Another thing that's neat is you have all these people coming here, and someone just says, 'Stop! Let's spend some time here and really get to know it.'"

---

*Mark Vollmer, a Reno-based geologist, photographer, and writer, enjoys eco-vacationing at Lake Tahoe, Mount Charleston, and remote peaks and streams throughout the state.*

# ECO-VACATION TOURS

Following is a sampling of commercial tour companies and nonprofit groups that offer eco-vacations in Nevada. Costs are per person. Most guides can arrange custom tours.

## LAS VEGAS/ SOUTHERN NEVADA

**Adventure Photo Tours:** Photography is the focus on four-wheel-drive outings to Red Rock Canyon, Goodsprings Valley, Valley of Fire, Eldorado Canyon, and other locales. Half-day trips cost $75, full-day $150. Camera rentals available. Write proprietors Donna and Will Tryon, Adventure Photo Tours, 3111 S. Valley View Blvd. X-106, Las Vegas, NV 89102. Call 702-889-8687. Fax 702-889-6900.

**Black Canyon Raft Tours:** Twelve-mile float trips on the Colorado River below Hoover Dam year-round. Geology, flora, and fauna discussed. Cost of $64.95 includes lunch and bus return to Boulder City. Add $15 for Las Vegas hotel pickup. Group charters available. Write Black Canyon Raft Tours, Expedition Center, 1297 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005. Call 800-696-7238 or 702-293-3776. Fax 702-293-3515. E-mail info@rafts.com.

**Boulder City Water Sports:** Canoe and kayak rentals on Colorado River below Hoover Dam. Call 702-293-7526. First, however, you'll need a launch permit and date from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Call 702-293-8204 or www.hooverdam.com for permit information.

**Rocky Trails:** One-day natural and cultural history hiking adventures at Valley of Fire (Nov.-May), Red Rock Canyon (year-round), and Mount Charleston (June-Oct.). Cost of $159 includes lunch, water, knapsacks, and light jackets. Overnight trips to Death Valley in winter. Hotel pickup and custom tours available. Write Ed Price, Rocky Trails, Box 371324, Las Vegas, NV 89137. Call 888-867-6259 or 702-869-9991. Fax 702-869-9992. E-mail rockytrl@intermind.net.

**Sky's the Limit Climbing School and Guide Service:** Day hikes and technical rock climbs at the Red Rock Canyon area for groups and families year-round. Cost: $69 for hike of the day; $169 to $220 for weekend climbs including equipment. Hotel pickup and customized group activities available. Write Randal Grandstaff or Laura Sanders, HCR 33, Box 1, Calico Basin, Red Rock, NV 89124. Call 702-363-4533 for information. Fax 702-363-0038. E-mail climb@skysthelimit.com.

**Southern Nevada Zoological-Botanical Park (Nonprofit):** Desert Eco-Tour program conducts wildlife, gem collecting, cultural history, and wilderness off-road

# RULES OF THE TRAIL

The National Outdoor Leadership School of Lander, Wyoming, offers this advice on environmentally smart vacationing in the booklet *Leave No Trace.*

- Plan ahead. Know the regulations and special concerns for the area you'll visit.
- Visit the backcountry in small groups. Whenever possible, avoid popular areas during times of high use.
- Travel on durable surfaces. Stay on designated trails. Do not cut switchbacks. When encountering pack stock, step to downhill side of trail and talk softly. When traveling cross-country, choose the most durable surfaces available—rock, gravel, dry grasses, or snow.
- Camp on durable surfaces. Choose an established, legal site that will not be damaged by your stay. Restrict activities to the area where vegetation is absent or compacted. Keep pollutants out of water sources by camping at least 200 feet from lakes and streams.
- Pack it in, pack it out. Be sure to carry everything you bring into the wild country back out with you. Pick up all spilled foods. Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations securely.
- Minimize use and impact of fires. Use a lightweight stove for cooking. Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings or fire pans. Put out campfires completely. Scatter the cool ashes over a wide area.

*Leave No Trace,* a guidebook series on outdoor skills and ethics, can be obtained from the National Outdoor Leadership School, 288 Main St., Lander, WY 82520; call 800-332-4100 or 307-332-8800.—*Mark Vollmer*



Hikers enjoy their own personal ecotour of the Rubies' Lamoille Canyon.

tours in Southern Nevada. Rates per person include all transportation from hotels and naturalist-guides: $129 half day, $179 full day; $109 full-day bus tours. For reservations, write Southern Nevada Zoological-Botanical Park, 1775 N. Rancho Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89106. Call 702-647-4685. E-mail nvzoolv@aol.com.

## RENO/TAHOE/ NORTHWESTERN NEVADA

**Detours:** Custom earth science, historical, and natural history tours of Virginia City, Lake Tahoe, Pyramid Lake, Carson City, and Reno. Offered year-round. Write Becky Purkey, Detours, Box 151, Virginia City, NV 89440. Call 775-847-9255. Fax 775-847-9233. E-mail purkey@worldnet.att.net.

**dufurrena and dufurrena Adventures:** Multiday earth science and creative arts field seminars in the high desert of Northwestern Nevada. Write Linda Dufurrena, d and d Adventures, HC02, Box 397, Winnemucca, NV 89445. Call 775-941-0357.

**Eco Adventures:** Natural and cultural history and adventure tours at Lake Tahoe and in the Sierra Nevada and Western Nevada. Write Bob Anderson, Eco Adventures, Box 11953, Zephyr Cove, NV 89448. Call 775-588-6142. Fax 775-588-9660. E-mail ecoadv@sierra.net.

**River Adventures and More:** Whitewater rafting, kayaking, and backcountry trips on the Truckee and Carson rivers from April to Aug., depending on water levels. Truckee River rates $48 to $88 for half- or full-day tours ending in Reno. Add $7 for hotel pickup from Reno/Sparks. Carson River rates $98 to $188 for one- or two-day outings. Meals provided. Special rates for youth groups. Write River Adventures and More, Box 5283, Reno, NV 89513. Call 800-466-7238. E-mail ram@raam.com.

**Tahoe Rim Trail (Nonprofit):** Welcomes volunteers workers on round-the-lake loop. Write Tahoe Rim Trail, Box 4647, 298 Kingsbury Grade, Stateline, NV 89449. Call Lynda McDowell or Shannon Raborn, 775-588-0686. Fax 775-588-8737.

**Tahoe Trips and Trails:** Lake Tahoe hiking and walking tours, mountain-bike trips, and a Multi-Sport Sampler. Packages range from three to five nights and from $637 to $1,240. Also trips to High Sierra. Write Tahoe Trips and Trails, Box 6952, Tahoe City, CA 96145. Call 800-581-HIKE. E-mail www.tahoetrips.com.

## ELKO/NORTHEAST NEVADA

**Cottonwood Ranch:** Horseback fishing and photography trips into the Jarbidge Wilderness. Horses, packers, guides, and meals provided. Bring personal items and a warm bedroll. June 21 to Sept., $1,200 per person. Write Cottonwood Ranch, HC 62, Box 1300, O'Neil Route, Wells, NV 89835. Call 800-341-5951 or 775-752-3604 (ranch) or 775-488-2355.



Carolyn Dufurrena (left), one of the leaders of dufurrena and dufurrena Adventures, and Rachel Bogard get advice from artist Sophie Sheppard as singer-chef Joyce Vetter looks on.

**HawkWatch International (Nonprofit):** Salt Lake City-based group welcomes volunteers for its hawk migration counts and banding programs in the Goshute Mountains southwest of Wendover, Aug. to Nov. E-mail dhogaza@pacifier.com.

**Jarbidge Wilderness Guide and Packing:** Horseback tours for fishing and photography in the Jarbidge Wilderness. Horses, tents, and food provided. Backpackers accommodated. June to Sept., $1,350 per person. Write Lowell Prunty, Murphy's Hot Spring, Rogerson, ID 83302. Call 208-857-2270.

**Ruby Crest Ranch:** Bill Gibson offers customized vacations at the Ruby Crest Ranch. Gibson, operator of Elko Guide Service, also leads fishing and hunting trips. Write Ruby Crest Ranch, HC 30, Box 197-13, Elko, NV 89801. Call 775-744-2277.

## STATEWIDE

**National Audubon Society (Nonprofit):** One-day and overnight field trips for bird and wildlife viewing. Lahontan Chapter (Reno area): Bert Swade, 775-575-4206; Red Rock Chapter (Las Vegas): Smokey LaPlant, 702-458-7956, or JeAnne Strott, 702-451-6843.

**Sierra Club (Nonprofit):** Hikes, backpacks in the Great Basin, Mojave Desert, and Sierra Nevada. Southern Nevada Group: Ursula Wilson-Booth, 702-293-7774, or Chris Nienaber, 702-566-6566; Great Basin Group (Reno): Sally Lyon, 775-747-1759, or John West, 775-882-7437. National Sierra Club: 85 Second St., San Francisco, CA 94105. Call 415-977-5522. E-mail national.outings@sierraclub.org.

## CALIFORNIA

**Great Basin Guides (Nonprofit):** Llama-style pack trips to the wilderness areas of Central and Northwestern Nevada and the Sierra Nevada. June to Aug., $51 to $80 per person per day covers meals and llama rentals. Write Great Basin Guides, Box 2841, Truckee, CA 96160. Call 530-587-5412. E-mail greatbasin@thegrid.net.

**Tierra Verde Ventures Adventure Travel:** Eight-day hiking and driving tours of Central and Eastern Nevada and the Sierra Nevada, including visits to Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, Toquima Cave, and Wheeler Peak. Mixed camping and hotel accommodations. Aug. and Sept., $975 per person includes transportation from San Francisco to Reno, all meals, hotels, and park admissions. Add $90 for tent and sleeping bag rental. Write Tierra Verde, 940 S. Ninth St., San Jose, CA 95112. Phone or fax 408-947-1807. E-mail tverde@best.com.

## NATIONAL

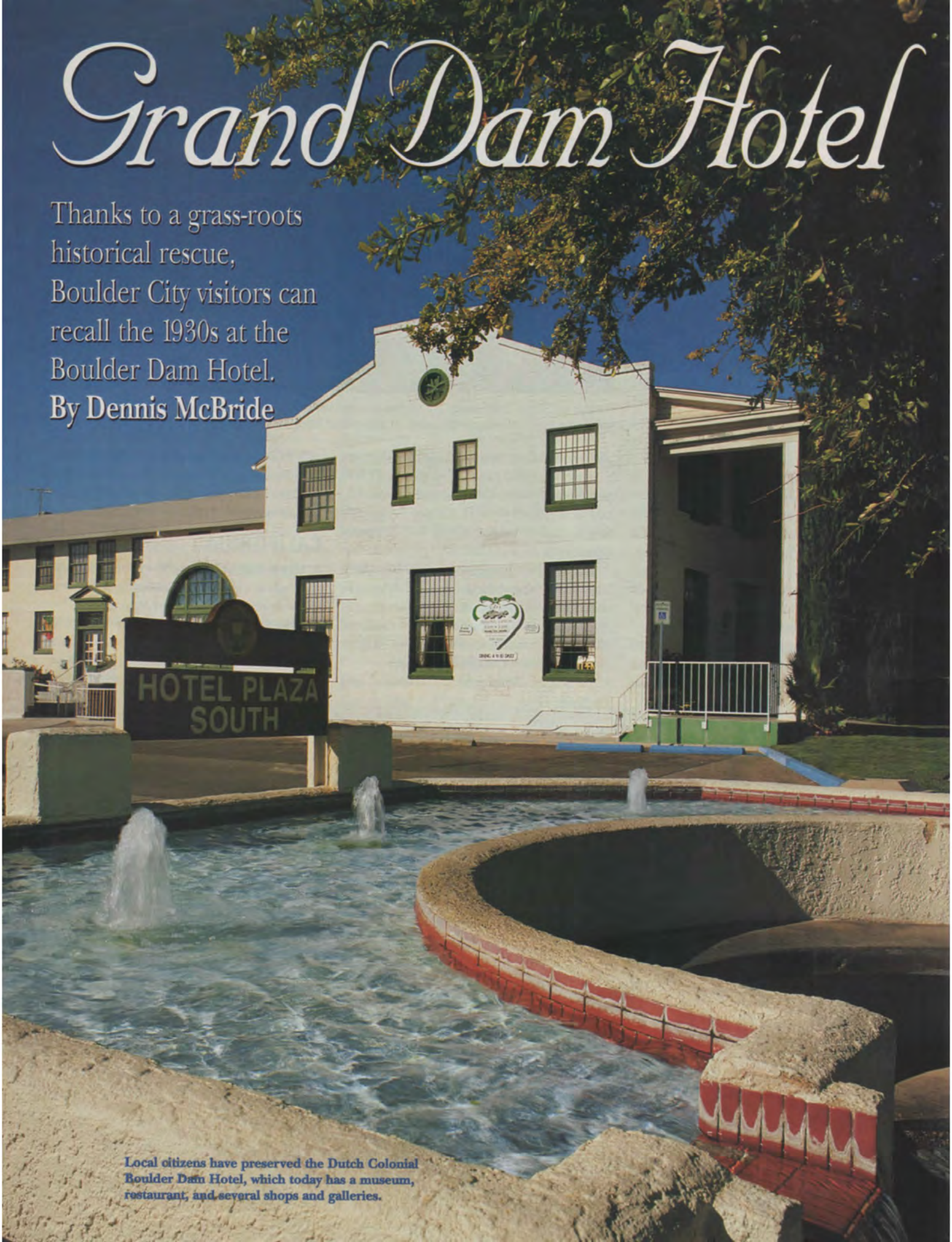
**The Ecotourism Society (Nonprofit):** Its stated mission: "To liase with tour operators, conservation professionals, park managers, government officials, and others interested in conserving natural environments and sustaining the well-being of people through responsible travel." Write the Ecotourism Society, Box 755, North Bennington, VT 95257. Call 802-447-2121. Fax 802-447-2122. E-mail info@ecotourism.org.—*Mark Vollmer*

Photo: Mark Vollmer

# Grand Dam Hotel

Thanks to a grass-roots historical rescue, Boulder City visitors can recall the 1930s at the Boulder Dam Hotel.

**By Dennis McBride**




Local citizens have preserved the Dutch Colonial Boulder Dam Hotel, which today has a museum, restaurant, and several shops and galleries.

Las Vegas today is famous for its pirate ships and Egyptian pyramids, medieval castles and a Manhattan skyline. But when Vegas was still just a division point on the railroad, Boulder City had a charming paradox all its own: the Boulder Dam Hotel.

When it was built in 1933, the Boulder Dam Hotel stood surrounded by creosote and undeveloped lots in the middle of Boulder City, the government town created to house the builders of Hoover (Boulder) Dam. The hotel's architecture was alien to Nevada—Dutch Colonial with soaring columns like Tara, an elegant lobby paneled in rare Southern gumwood and a brick fireplace that burned mesquite logs gathered from the banks of the Colorado River and pine from Mount Charleston. The hotel's tall windows overlooked a veranda where guests sipped iced tea from trays carried by uniformed waitresses while the dining room inside served seven-course meals for as little as $1.50. And the Boulder Dam Hotel provided an amenity that was rare in Southern Nevada until the 1950s—air conditioning. If the heat and wailing sand storms drove guests inside, they could lounge in the lobby and read books from the hotel's library, write letters at the mahogany desks, or listen to Franklin Roosevelt on the Philco in the corner.

*"The hotel was oozing with celebrities," recalls Anne Pittman, a hotel waitress in the 1930s.*

Signatures in the hotel's guest registers reflected the *beau monde* of a time we know today only through novels and films. Bette Davis stayed in 1934 and spent much of her time drunk and chain smoking in the lobby. Will Rogers twirled his lariat in the dining room just weeks before he and Wiley Post were killed in an Alaska plane crash. The Maharajah and Maharanee of Indore, India, arrived in 1936 with a retinue of 14 and two trailers hauling 60 steamer trunks. A former president of Mexico, Pascual Ortiz de Rubio, brought his family to the hotel, while publisher George Palmer Putnam, former husband of Amelia Earhart, got married to Jean Marie James on the East Terrace in 1939.

"The hotel was oozing with celebrities,"







**In the 1930s and '40s, the Boulder Dam Hotel, with its elegant lobby (top) and rooms, was a stomping ground for celebrities. A chain-smoking Bette Davis (above) stayed there in 1934 while Fred MacMurrary (below, second from right) fished at Lake Mead during visits. Joe Pittman (right) chauffeured the stars.**



Photos: Carolyn Fox (left), Boulder Dam Hotel (right)

recalls Anne Pittman, a hotel waitress in the 1930s who lives in Las Vegas. "Fred MacMurray came up to Lake Mead to fish, and he always stayed at the hotel. The kitchen used to fry up the fish he caught for his dinner. I remember Sonja Henie was there and Sophie Tucker. And Robert Taylor—so handsome. He came in the summer when the temperature was around 114 degrees, and he was astounded anyone could live in a climate like that. The atmosphere of the hotel in those days was friendly, relaxed, informal. You mingled more with the guests at the Boulder Dam Hotel than you would have in a bigger, more expensive hotel on the East or West Coast because there was nothing to do in Boulder but hang around the hotel. People talked to one another. A lot of the guests were just lonely: the divorcees, the travelers, the millionaires."

*Part of the attraction may have been the fact that in a town where liquor and gambling were illegal, both could be had at the Boulder Dam Hotel.*

Part of the attraction may have been the fact that in a town where liquor and gambling were illegal, both could be had at the Boulder Dam Hotel. Manager Victoria Thompson kept a stash of rye whiskey and brandy in her room, while the cooks hid beer in the kitchen's cooling vents. Marathon poker games and floating crap shoots brought a lot of people in—and they weren't all tourists.

"Bill Getts, Boulder City's chief ranger, was at the games more than anyone," says former bellman and chauffeur Joe Pittman, the husband of Anne Pittman. "I was there when I could afford it. The stakes weren't very high: $10, $20. We kept games going for two or three days at a time down in the help's hall or in one of the employees' private rooms."

There were romantic intrigues and deadly scandals, too. Lloyd Nolan and Sonja Henie used the hotel for their liaisons and were once caught in *flagrante delicto* by maid Julia Moore. In 1945 Raymond Spilsbury, the hotel's owner, was found drowned in the Colorado River near Nelson. Suicide or murder? The case remains unsolved to this day.

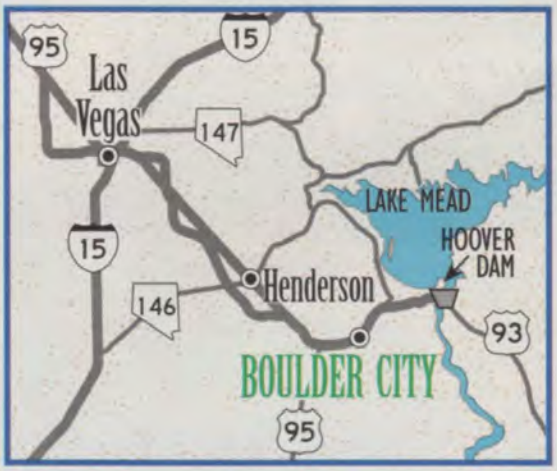
The hotel even attracted—by default—reclusive billionaire Howard Hughes. Using Boulder City's airport as a base, Hughes was test-flying his Sikorsky S-43 when he wrecked it on Lake Mead. Badly injured and phobic about hospitals, Hughes spent several weeks recuperating in a suite at the Boulder Dam Hotel. He insisted the hotel manager allow only one maid to take care of him, and that was Edna Dryden.

"I waited on him and did his room," Dryden remembers. "He was very quiet and never had much of anything to say. He just thanked me for doing his room and for going and getting him coffee and things. And when he left, he gave me a $100 tip."

However, the halcyon days at the Boulder Dam Hotel didn't last. World War II restrictions on travel combined with food rationing and the government's closing of Hoover Dam to tourists were blows to the hotel, and the postwar rise of the Las Vegas resort industry killed any chances of its revival. The hotel limped through the next four decades and by the early 1990s had reached the end of a long decline. The Boulder Dam Hotel had deteriorated into a seedy, overgrown flophouse whose next step seemed to be demolition. That was when local citizens stepped in to save it.

Boulder Dam Credit Union manager Bill Ferrence recalls the restoration's beginnings. "In May 1993, [longtime resident] Fred Donaldson walked into my office and asked if I'd like to listen to an idea about saving the hotel." Out of those meetings grew a plan whereby the city of Boulder City, the Boulder City Arts Council, the chamber of commerce, and the Boulder City Museum and Historical Association pooled their resources to form the nonprofit Boulder Dam Hotel Association, which in turn bought the hotel. The association hired Vern and Darlene Burk to manage the building and oversee an ambitious renovation plan.

During the past five years the association has carried out its renovation on a pay-as-you-go basis, depending upon private donations and grants. Boulder citizens pitched in to strip walls and paint, to weed and trim the gardens, and to plan and sponsor fund-raisers. Mimi Rodden, resi-






The Boulder City Art Guild opened a gallery at the hotel.

## Hotel Highlights

The **Boulder Dam Hotel** (702-293-7731) is located at 1305 Arizona Street in downtown Boulder City, 24 miles southeast of Las Vegas and eight miles west of Hoover Dam. The hotel houses a number of attractions that highlight the town's historic nature. The **Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum** (702-294-1988) describes the dam's construction in the 1930s and the early days of Boulder City, the federally planned community that housed dam workers and their families. Visitors can browse the **Boulder City Art Guild Gallery, Burk Gal'ry**, and several gift shops. The **Boulder City Chamber of Commerce** (702-293-2034) has offices in the hotel. **Tiffany's** (702-294-1666) serves lunch and dinner.



Photo: Gene Hertzog Map: NDOT/Nevada Magazine



The Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum (above) will include a two-story "hi-scaler" exhibit.



Darlene Burk poses at Burk Gal'ry, one of the shops that now occupy the refurbished hotel.

dent and former Nevada state historic preservation officer, got the renovation and fund-raising programs started, acquiring $280,000 in community development block grants. But she is careful to point out that what is being accomplished at the Boulder Dam Hotel is not a restoration.

"It's an adaptive rehabilitation," Rodden says. "A restoration would be pure, and they would take the hotel back to a period in time. They would make sure that there were no liberties taken with design or the accouterments that you add to the hotel. But they're not only changing parts of the building's use, they're taking liberties with the decorations."

If the Boulder Dam Hotel proves anything today, it's the success of grass-roots efforts to save Nevada's disappearing heritage. Rather than blowing it up as an entertainment event, Boulder City residents preserved their community's central landmark, made it useful and attractive, and showed that progress does not require destruction.

*If the Boulder Dam Hotel proves anything today, it's the success of grass-roots efforts to save Nevada's disappearing heritage.*

"It's the heart of the town," manager Darlene Burk says of the hotel. "It's that simple."

The hotel would never survive today if it were restored and operated as a profit-making hotel—1930s amenities in Nevada's modern tourist economy would kill it.

"We can't live on grants forever," says Vern Burk, so much of the space has been turned into retail shops and rent-paying professional offices. In 1995, the Boulder City Art Guild Gallery opened on the first floor, followed by several small gift shops. The Burks opened a gallery in 1996, and last year the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce moved into the basement. Eventually, rooms on the second floor will be renovated and operated as hotel rooms in association with the College of Hotel Administration at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

"The university has all sorts of gaming properties for their students to be involved with, but they don't really have any small nongaming properties," says Vern Burk. "They also have a hard time housing doctoral or post-graduate students, and one of the things that will be available when we get the rooms done will be a manager's apartment."

But the most ambitious portion of the hotel's renovation has been creating space for the Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum, which moved into the south wing last August. For 10 years the museum had been operating out of a small storefront across the street, which cramped its ability to mount substantial exhibits on the construction of Hoover Dam and early Boulder City. Anticipating its move into the hotel, the Boulder City Museum and Historical Association engaged Formations, Inc., of Portland, Oregon, to direct construction of the museum's space and to design its exhibits and install them as fund-raising allows.

"Our revolving display area and gift shop take up probably 10 percent of the area we have," says Frank Carroll, who recently took over from the museum's founding curator, Pat Lappin. "The other 80 percent that Formations has designed will include a two-story-tall 'hi-scaler' demonstration of how the men worked on the sides of the canyon, removing the loose rock. And there will be a demon-

Photos: Gene Hertzog

# NEVADA MARKETPLACE & CLASSIFIEDS

## BOOKS

**"SOILED DOVES: PROSTITUTION IN THE EARLY WEST"**
*By Anne Seagraves*

This tastefully written, well illustrated book provides a touching and intriguing insight into the lives of 19th Century ladies of the evening in Nevada and the West.

Order your copy, $11.95 ea. (includes postage)
E-Mail PJK4434@AOL.Com
Olde West Distributors
4195 Chino Hills Parkway, #429, Chino Hills, CA 91709

## EVENTS

NEVADA
UNITED FOUR WHEELERS ASSOCIATION

**Fifth Annual Convention**
**July 8-10, 1999**
**Rally ~ July 10-12, 1999**

- Informative
- Good Friends
- Great hospitality in White Pine County
- Join us in picturesque

**P.O. Box 46521, Las Vegas, NV 89114**
**1-800-496-9350**

## LODGING

LAKE TAHOE ACCOMMODATIONS
LUXURY VACATION RENTALS

*Fabulous Homes*
*Condominiums*
*Chalets*
FOR RESERVATIONS, BROCHURES, VIDEO
**800-544-3234**

## NEWSLETTER

**Casino News Newsletter**
Keep abreast of what's happening at your favorite casino. FREE sample issue.
Casino News, 81 Unger Ave. Buffalo, NY 14210-2221
http://members.aol.com/casinonews/casino.htm

## REAL ESTATE

**10 ACRES $7,950**
**$50 DOWN, $90 MONTH**
*9.5% interest ~ 168 months*
Acreage in Elko County ~ Montello, Northeast Nevada
**1-800-373-6538**
Bud Aldrich, Owner/Bkr • Box 3178, Reno, NV 89505

## WEBSITES

**Nevada Magazine Gift Catalog Is Online**
Now you can purchase items from *Nevada Magazine's* gift catalog, including subscriptions—**online**.
It's easy. Just visit our Web site at **www.nevadamagazine.com** and go to our gift catalog.
Buying *Nevada Magazine* T-shirts, suspenders, guidebooks, and other products has never been easier!

## BOOKS

**ORDER TODAY!** Only a few copies remain—*The Backyard Traveler Returns: 62 Outings in Southern, Eastern and Historic Nevada* by Richard Moreno. Send $12.50 (includes postage) to Children's Museum of Northern Nevada, 1813 North Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701. All proceeds benefit the Children's Museum.

## HISTORY

**READ ABOUT NEVADA'S COLORFUL HISTORY** from past to present by purchasing valuable back issues of Nevada Magazine. Select issues: 1940s to 1990, $1.00 each (for sale, private party). For information call (702) 841-3696.

## REAL ESTATE

**NINE MILES FROM LAKE TAHOE,** just inside the Nevada border, lies Job's Peak Ranch, a timeless mountainside community of 1,080 acres split 122 ways. Extraordinary natural beauty. Developed within nature, not upon it. Home sites priced from $175,000. For a special brochure, call toll free, 888-JP-RANCH. http://www.jpranch.com.

**ELY, NEVADA – PICTURE PERFECT BED & BREAKFAST INN** w/restaurant capability, five guest rooms. Near Railroad Museum. Below appraisal. $495,000, 702-435-2860. Principals only. www.nevadaweb.com/steptoe.

For more information about placing a Marketplace or Classified ad on these pages, please call Susan Wunsch at Nevada Magazine, (775) 687-5416.




stration area where visitors can pour cement using a small bucket and traveling crane."

Also being designed are interactive exhibits describing the Great Depression and how Hoover Dam's builders lived. The museum's library and research area, privately funded by Boulder City historian Virginia "Teddy" Fenton, is taking shape.

The Boulder Dam Hotel today provides a quiet island of retreat from the flash and dazzle of Las Vegas or the crush of tourists at Hoover Dam and Lake Mead. Life moves more slowly here. Tiffany's restaurant serves lunch and dinner, and patrons can dine where matinee idol Francis Lederer breakfasted each morning on grapefruit cut *just so*, or where the president of Turkey was fêted, or at a certain table in the corner where composer Ferde Grofé scribbled out the music for "Dawn Over Lake Mead."

Local artists show their work in the Boulder City Art Guild Gallery—where you might be greeted suddenly around a corner by the late photographer Margaret Bourke-White keeping an eye on current trends. The Jack Be Nimble candle shop, the Burk Gal'ry, and the Quail's Nest sell fine gifts and artwork while Rak's Paperbacks, which opened in July, offers used books in rooms overlooking the East Terrace where Crown Prince Olav and Princess Martha threw a party in 1939.

*Tiffany's restaurant serves lunch and dinner, and patrons can dine where matinee idol Francis Lederer breakfasted on grapefruit cut just so.*

After browsing through the shops, a visit to the Boulder City/Hoover Dam Museum winds up a leisurely afternoon with its exhibits of 1930s life in Boulder City and a movie on the construction of Hoover Dam. Sitting in the dark watching these flickering images of dam workers, it's possible you might be joined by the wavering shades of Boris Karloff or the feisty old Duchess of Westminster, who both paused at the hotel on their travels—and decided to stay on.

*Dennis McBride is a Boulder City writer and historian.*

# Elaine Jason



## This Sparks artist saw the light in neon sculptures.

In the mid-1980s Elaine Jason began incorporating neon into the sculptures she made with painted wood, masonite, and various objects. She designed her first neon sculpture for a display window at a Tahoe City gallery. Jason soon realized that people liked the neon element. "People were sucked into it—just like moths are to a light bulb," she says.

Jason, a full-time artist, received a fine-arts degree from Chouinard Art Institute in Los Angeles and moved to Reno in 1982 to live near her family. Two years later she moved to Sparks and converted her garage into a studio. There she creates sculptures with a band saw, belt sander, power drill, and other tools. She often haunts lumber yards and hardware stores for art supplies like wood, drain pipes, and rain-gutter parts. She invests more than 100 hours in her larger pieces. Ultimately, her goal is to juxtapose man-made objects against forms found in nature. "They seem like two opposite things, but they really come together well," Jason says.

Her secluded home provides a view of the mountains and downtown Reno. "The lights downtown are very inspirational—like the bowling center with the neon," she says. Nevada's blue skies inspired her to create work with brighter colors. "When I lived in L.A., my work had much darker, muted colors."

Jason gives private tours of her studio (call 775-355-8490). Her work is being shown in March and April at the Hermitage Gallery in Reno.—*Candice Towell*



**Deco Jazz Step:** "A lot of people see music in this piece—it has to do with the rhythm and design. Outside influences come out in the work—they have to, and I do listen to a lot of jazz music when I work."



**Variation on a Night Light:** "This piece was created for the Governor's Arts Awards in 1995. It consists of layers of interesting things, such as masonite, wood, cut mirrors, and acrylic colors. My work is like mathematical solutions. It is problem-solving things like balance, lines, planes, and shadows."

# Cactus, Candy, and Clowns

## The sweet mysteries of Henderson are revealed in four free factory tours.

**By Valerie Porter**










**At Ethel M, chocoholics will find sweets (left) and cacti (top). Clown statues guide visitors at Ron Lee's factory (right). Carinna, the human cranberry, is a berry enthusiastic greeter at Ocean Spray.**

Visitors to the industrious burg of Henderson, 10 miles east of the Las Vegas Strip, can tour four factories that rival the workings of Willie Wonka.

At Henderson's Factory Four—the Ethel M Chocolate Factory, Ron Lee's World of Clowns, Favorite Brands Marshmallow Factory, and Ocean Spray's Cranberry World West—visitors are allowed to eat, drink, shop, and clown around while taking free, self-guided tours. Conveniently, the four factories are located within a three-mile radius.

A good place to begin is Ethel M. You'll find more than candy here at 2 Cactus Garden Drive. Next to the factory stands a two-and-a-half-acre cactus garden. Paved trails wind past more than 350 species of Southwestern, Mexican, and South American cacti, including lesser-known varieties such as the purple pancake and the pinecone cactus, which resembles a snake. The cacti bloom in full glory during April and May.

The cactus trail leads into the main building, where the focus shifts to chocolate. The Mars family began making candy in 1911 in their Chicago kitchen. Over the years Frank and Ethel Mars and son Forrest developed the Snickers bar and M&Ms. In the 1970s, Forrest and Ethel moved to Nevada, where state laws made it easier to export their liqueur candies. In 1981, Forrest Mars named the boxed chocolate business Ethel M after his mother.

Each day about 1,200 visitors tour Ethel M. They peer through large windows at gas-fired copper kettles bubbling with butter brittle and double boilers melting ingredients for caramels or buttercreams. Workers remove candy from the molds and conveyor belts, so tour takers can munch white-chocolate almonds fresh from the assembly line. The gift shop has more free samples—Irish cream truffles, raspberry buttercreams, and dark chocolate coconut. Other cases offer Las Vegas-themed chocolate coins and playing-card shaped fudge.

Moving from fudge to figurines, the next stop is Ron Lee's World of Clowns, a 30,000-square-foot pink building with a circus-tent roof. Colorful murals and signs decorate the interior, and you can take a ride on a dragon, horse, zebra, or reindeer on the carousel. A coin-operated miniature train chugs overhead. The pink-and-blue Carousel Cafe offers popcorn, hot dogs, and drinks.

Despite the light-hearted atmosphere, serious work takes place on the clown sculptures designed by Ron Lee, who's been creating the clown figurines since 1976. Television monitors explain each step as the metal sculptures move from molds to painting to assembly.

Lee and his factory moved from Southern California to Henderson four years ago. "It's a great location," says a gift shop employee. "We have access to so many people—tour groups, for example, who are visiting Las Vegas." Henderson is now the exclusive location for the sale of Lee's clowns to collectors. Some clown figures are fishing, golfing, skiing, or playing blackjack. There are cartoon characters like Mickey and Minnie Mouse. Alas, there are no free samples. The figurines, ranging in height from a few inches to nearly a foot, cost $30 to $400.

The tour gains more fluff at Favorite Brands Marshmallows. Founded in the 1880s by the Kidd family of Chicago, the operation expanded several years ago to include this West Coast plant. Televisions and clever signs illustrate the intricacies of producing the fluffy white treats. If an employee is available, he or she will accompany visitors on the tour.

Although the factory is short on visual appeal, the sweet smell of vanilla and corn syrup are enticing, and at tour's end each visitor receives a sample bag of mini- or regular-sized marshmallows. Marshmallow-filled candy is for sale: rocky road clusters, peanut butter and marshmallow creme patties, and s'mores (as in the campfire concoction of graham crackers, marshmallows, and chocolate).

Just around the corner is Ocean Spray's Cranberry World West. The cranberries



Photos: Carolyn Fox (middle left and top)

are grown in Wisconsin and shipped in concentrate form to the Henderson plant, which has been juice-processing headquarters for the West Coast since 1994.

In the lobby Carinna, a human dressed as a cranberry, greets about 1,000 visitors daily and ushers them to either the Cranberry Theatre for a film on cranberry production or a series of interactive rooms filled with push-button displays. Animated life-sized "farmers" come to life and explain how the fruit is harvested in Wisconsin. Push a button, and a cranberry figurine explains its color and texture. Around each corner are voices, animated figures, videos, or signs that light up. Machines whirl juice bottles around a corner, adding caps here, labels there, at a rate of 600 bottles per minute.

In the large gift shop, the sweet smell of fruit juice and baked goods mingles with cranberry-scented soaps and candles. Visitors will find liberal samples of cranberry key lime, cranberry mango, and other juices. Employees serve cranberry banana bread and cranberry salsa—a refreshing way to wind up a tour of Henderson's Factory Four.

*Valerie Porter is a freelance writer who lives in Studio City, California.*

## Sweet Tours

To reach the Henderson Factory Four from the Las Vegas Strip, take East Tropicana Avenue about five miles and turn right on Mountain Vista Street. Turn left on Sunset Way (off Sunset Road), where you'll see the sign for Ethel M. Continue east on Sunset Road to reach Gibson Road, where the other three factories are located.

**Ethel M Chocolate Factory:** Open daily 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. 2 Cactus Garden Dr.; 702-433-2500.

**Ron Lee's World of Clowns:** Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. 330 Carousel Parkway; 702-434-3920.

**Favorite Brands International Marshmallow Factory:** Open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday. 1180 Marshmallow Lane; 702-564-3878.

**Cranberry World West:** Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. 1301 American Pacific Road; 702-566-7160.





# Don't Miss The World Famous LIBERACE MUSEUM

See the glittering costumes, dazzling jewels, spectacular pianos, exotic cars and rare antiques at one of the most popular attractions in Las Vegas!



"A Las Vegas Must Do" Newsweek Magazine

Open Monday thru Saturday 10-5
Sunday 1-5

1775 E Tropicana • Las Vegas, NV 89119
702-798-5595

THE ORIGINAL LAS VEGAS

VISA MasterCard AMERICAN EXPRESS DISCOVER

(702) 565-8761

DRIVE-YOURSELF TOURS® "Since 1994"



BUY TWO – GET LAS VEGAS TAPE FREE!
$29.90 + $4.00 shpg.
(With this coupon only)

- ☐ TOUR #1. LAS VEGAS
- ☐ TOUR #2. RED ROCK CANYON
- ☐ TOUR #3. VALLEY OF FIRE
- ☐ TOUR #4. MT. CHARLESTON
- ☐ TOUR #5. HOOVER DAM/LAKE MEAD
- ☐ TOUR #6. LAS VEGAS TO LAUGHLIN
- ☐ TOUR #7. LAUGHLIN/COLORADO RIVER LOOP
- ☐ AZ TOUR #1. GRAND CANYON WEST
- ☐ AZ TOUR #2. ROUTE 66

Regular price is $14.95 each

● To order these AUDIO CASSETTE TAPE TOURS WITH MAPS for your vehicle, send check and mark the boxes. Include $4.00 shpg. with order. Send your name and address, credit card number and expiration date on separate paper to:

DRIVE-YOURSELF TOURS
8170 S. Eastern Ave. #4-278
Las Vegas, NV 89123

● Hundreds of Points of Interest including celebrity homes, factories, museums, state & federal parks, Indian Reservation lands, marinas, ghosttowns, mining areas & more. Great Souvenirs!

*Also available: Rental Cars, Air, Helicopter, Bus & Raft Tours & Hotel Rooms*

http://www.drive-yourselftours.com
http://www.grandcanyonwest.com

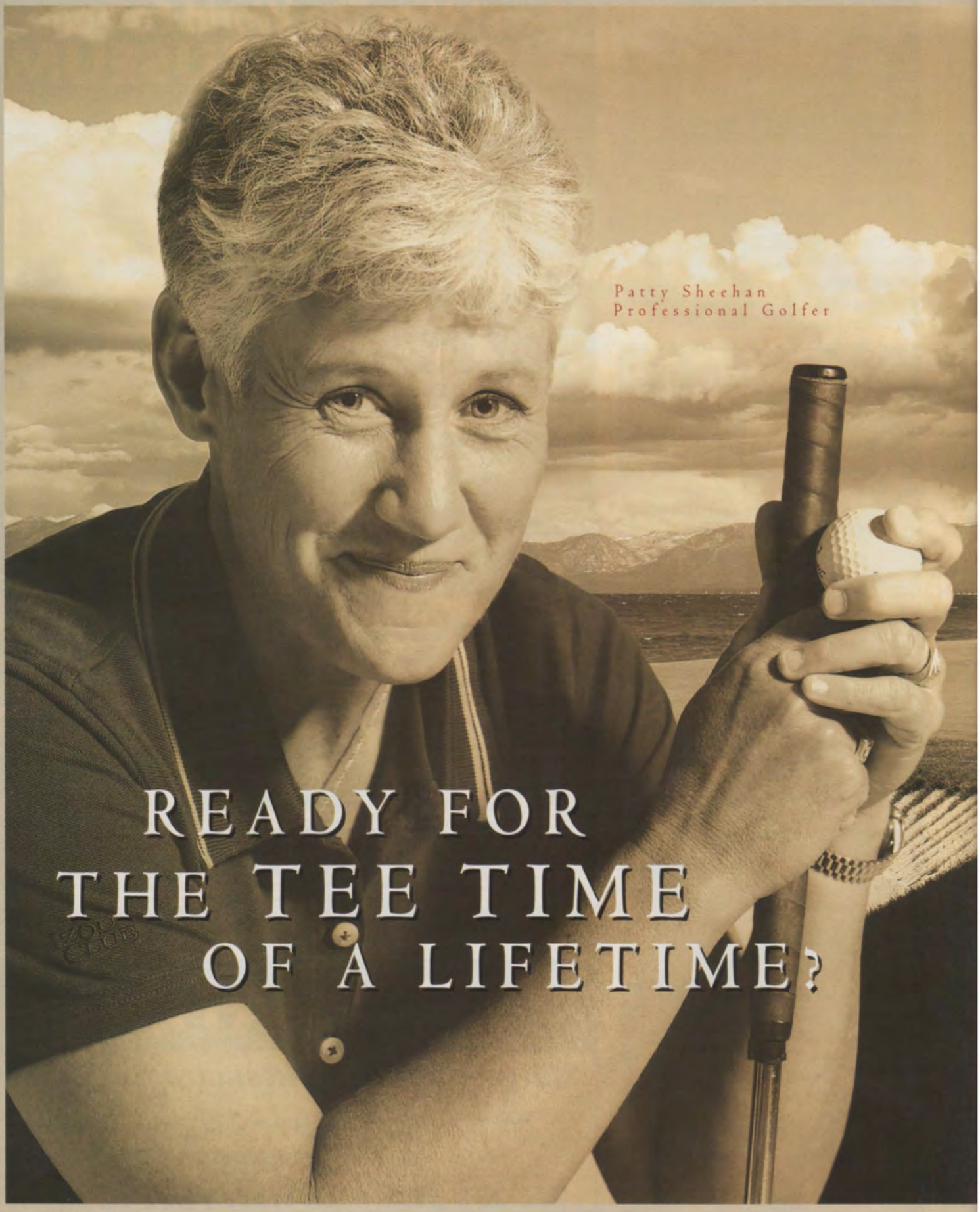
# RAMADA

*Sturgeon's Motel • Restaurant & Casino*

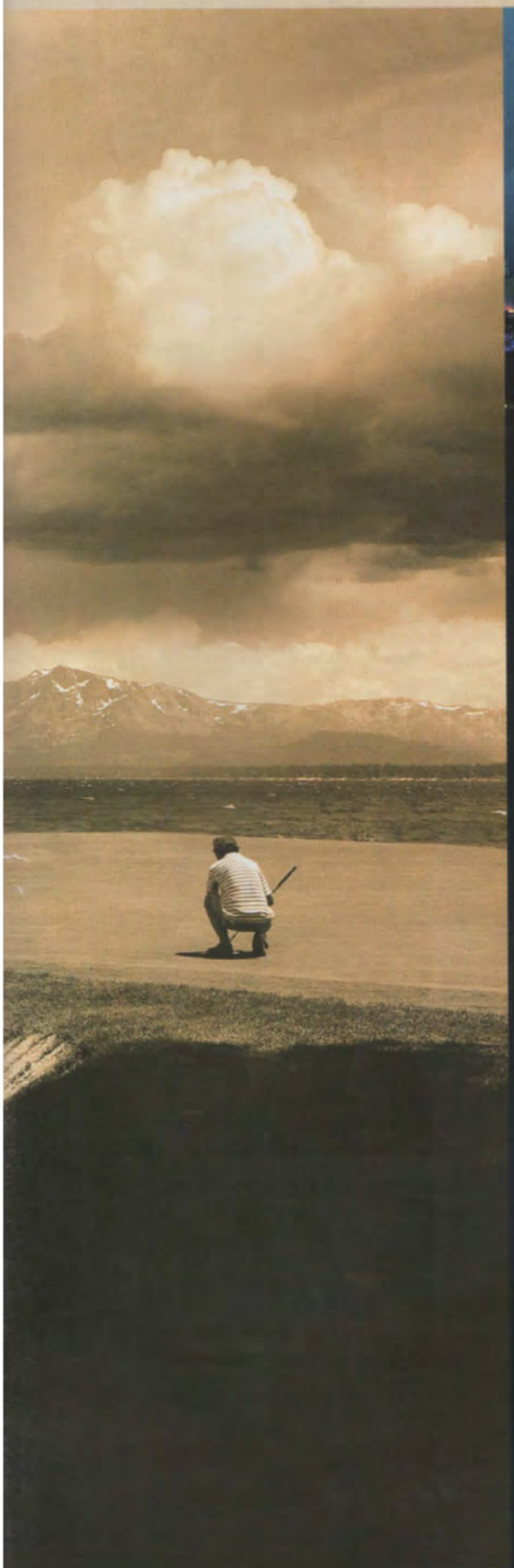
*24 Hour Dining & Gaming • 74 Rooms – AAA ♦♦♦*
*Indoor Swimming Pool*

775-273-2971 • Toll Free: 1-888-234-6835

1420 CORNELL AVE., LOVELOCK, NEVADA




NEVADA
NV2000
Making Millennium Magic





Reno, 35 minutes from Lake Tahoe.

*I play to discover.*

*I play to win.*

*Here, every hole is a*

*celebration of imagination.*

*And excitement tees up*

*like nowhere on earth.*

*This is my Nevada.*

*Won't you come play it?*




Discover
Both Sides of
NEVADA©

*Join in the world's ultimate millennium celebration, 15 months of unforgettable festivities. October 1999-January 2001.*
*Call toll-free: 1-877-2000-NEV or visit us online at www.2000nevada.com.*




# We're Creating a Masterpiece

GRAND EXPANSION OPENING SPRING 1999









## Reno's Best Accommodations

- 1,000 luxury guest rooms and Jacuzzi® Suites. Reno's newest, most spacious and beautifully appointed
- Reno's first and only Concierge Floors
- Full service health club, indoor & outdoor pools, styling salon and massage therapy
- Dazzling views of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and city lights

## Award-Winning Dining /Lounges

- Six exceptional dining choices
- Toucan Charlie's Buffet & Grille, voted "Best of Reno." Three new specialty stations and expanded seating
- New Italian Restaurant with outdoor terrace seating, private dining rooms, and wine cellar
- New exotically themed "Xanadu" Cocktail Lounge
- New Oyster Bar
- New Espresso & Pastry Bar

## World-Class Casino

- Tropical themed casino featuring indoor waterfalls, thatched huts and palm trees
- Northern Nevada's newest, most popular, liberal slot and video poker selections
- New full-service, high limit slot area
- All your favorite table games
- Single-deck blackjack with liberal Las Vegas rules

## Entertainment

- Free cabaret entertainment
- State-of-the-art Atlantis nightclub
- Environmental control system providing a virtually smoke-free atmosphere

## Location and Transportation

- Located in scenic southwest Reno, minutes from downtown, the airport, National Bowling Stadium, shopping and several championship golf courses
- Less than an hour from beautiful Lake Tahoe and historic Virginia City
- Courtesy airport and downtown shuttle

Atlantis

CASINO RESORT • RENO

(800) 723-6500 • (775) 825-4700 • www.AtlantisCasino.com

AUGUST 26-29

Reno Tahoe Open

*Founding Sponsor*

NEVADA Travel Update

*Spring Tourism Industry News 1999*

▼ INSIDE

**DESTINATIONS**
Walker Lake makes Hawthorne a haven for water-sports enthusiasts. Page 2

**SALES TIPS**
Spectacular views await diners in Las Vegas Territory restaurants. Page 3

**SELLING ADVENTURE**
Visitors can find all the right moves at hot dance clubs. Page 6

# Carson Valley Inn Offers Country Charm

## *News Briefs*

### Reno Meetings Award

The Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority was selected as a 1997 Gold Service Award winner by the readers of *Meetings and Conventions Magazine*. This is the 10th consecutive year the RSCVA has received the award, which is based on overall support to meetings and conventions, including registration, housing assistance, promotional efforts, and supplier information.

### Vegas Video Award

The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority received a first-place award in the 1998 Guide Awards contest sponsored by the American Bus Association's *Destinations* magazine. The LVCVA was recognized for its efforts and creativity in attracting group-tour business when its promotional video was chosen from more than 200 entries.

### Plan on Nevada

The Silver State's *1999 Planning Guide* published by the Nevada Commission on Tourism is available to assist travel agents and tour operators. If your office has not received a copy of the 170-page publication, which was distributed last fall by the NCOT and to *Travel Weekly* subscribers, call 800-NEVADA-8.



**The Carson Valley Inn in Minden capitalizes on its location near several golf courses and Lake Tahoe ski resorts to offer recreation-and-room packages.**

As one strolls through the hotel entrance, the Carson Valley Inn in Minden, 45 miles south of Reno, feels more like a cozy bed-and-breakfast inn than it does a hotel-casino. The decor of the all-wooden, 154-room hotel is reminiscent of a European country inn. Antiques such as the chandelier in the elevator lobby and enlarged posters from European theatrical performances decorate the stairwell, which leads to the Carson Valley Inn's busy casino, restaurants, and lounges.

The ambiance carries over into the hotel rooms, which are decorated with mahogany Drexel Heritage furniture and conversation-starting photographs by Winnemucca photographer Linda Dufurrena.

The Carson Valley Inn's lodgings consist of the main hotel and a 76-room motor lodge located one block north. The lodge's registration area is a renovated historic home built in 1926. The post where the family marked the dates and heights of their growing children still stands in the basement.

Guests approve of the Carson Valley Inn's traditional touches. The property tied for Best Rural Nevada Resort in the 1998 *Nevada Magazine* Best of Nevada reader's poll.

Because of its prime location near nine golf courses open year-round, the hotel caters to the avid golfer by offering room packages and hosting tournaments. Outdoor enthusiasts of all sorts will find ample opportunities to go snow skiing, boating, fishing, hot-air ballooning, hiking, and soaring. Lake Tahoe's south shore is only 10 miles west. The Carson Valley Inn works with Lake Tahoe ski resorts on ski packages and offers marriage and vow-renewal programs at its wedding chapel.

*(Continued on page 8)*

Photo: Gary Elam

# Hawthorne Is a Central Nevada Hub

From its earliest days, Hawthorne has stood at the crossroads of Central Nevada. Located 132 miles southeast of Reno, the community was established in 1881 as a division point for the Carson and Colorado Railroad and quickly became the regional center for commerce.

In the 1930s, Hawthorne became home of a U.S. Navy ammunitions storage facility, which caused the town's population to balloon during World War II. While the military has downsized in the intervening years, it remains a presence in the community.

In fact, the military provided Hawthorne with one of its most popular assets—the nine-hole Walker Lake Golf Course (775-945-1111), which is open to the public and located on the grounds of the military base. With tall trees lining several holes, the course ranks as one of the most beautiful small links in the state.

Visitors have a choice of accommodations at 11 motels in Hawthorne, including the El Capitan Resort and Casino, which has a restaurant and 103 rooms (800-922-2311), the Best Western Desert Lodge, with 39 rooms (800-528-1234), and the Sand N' Sage Lodge (775-945-3352), which has 37 rooms.

**Attractions:** Walker Lake, located eight miles north of Hawthorne, is a paradise for water sports enthusiasts. The lake, which is 14 miles long and nearly five miles wide, offers trophy trout fishing, boating, and swimming. Picnic tables are located along U.S. 95 at Tamarack Point and Sportsman's Beach.



**Water-skiing and trophy trout fishing are among the activities at Walker Lake.**

The **Mineral County Museum** (775-945-5142), at 10th and D streets in Hawthorne, is one of the state's finest rural museums with dozens of informative historical displays that help tell the area's rich history.

Historical artifacts of a less formal type can be found hanging on the walls of **Joe's Tavern**, a saloon that has been ranked as one of the state's best watering holes. Visitors can spot old firearms, mining tools, antique signs, and other vintage items on the tavern walls—and each has a story that the bartender is happy to share.

**Special Events:** In honor of the community's military heritage, the biggest annual event in Hawthorne is **Armed Forces Day**, which is held in May. The event includes a parade, dance, stock car races, and other activities. Meanwhile, Walker Lake is home of several fishing derbies throughout the year, including the **Walker Lake Fishing Derby** in February and the **Fishermen's Holiday Fish Derby** in November.

**Sightseeing Opportunities:** Hawthorne is located less than 90 minutes away from a number of scenic and historic attractions:

- Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park: 74 miles northeast of Hawthorne, this unique park combines Berlin, a preserved turn-of-the-century mining camp, and a paleontological dig site featuring the fossils of ocean-swimming ichthyosaurs.
- Mono Lake: 60 miles west of Hawthorne is Mono Lake, a hauntingly beautiful high desert lake that is lined with tufa formations.
- Yosemite: 75 miles west of Hawthorne stands the eastern entrance to magnificent Yosemite National Park (via Tioga Pass).
- Bodie: 80 miles west of Hawthorne, Bodie, a California state park, is one of the West's best preserved ghost towns.

***With tall trees lining several holes, the Walker Lake Golf Course ranks as one of the most beautiful small links in the state.***

**Details:** For more information about Hawthorne, contact the Mineral County Chamber of Commerce; phone 775-945-5896, fax 775-945-1257.—*Richard Moreno*

NEVADA Travel Update

Published by **NEVADA MAGAZINE** in cooperation with:
the **Nevada Commission on Tourism** (800-NEVADA-8, www.travelnevada.com),
the **Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority** (702-892-0711, www.lasvegas24hours.com),
and the **Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority** (800-VIP-RENO, www.playreno.com).

**Ann Henderson** • Travel Update Editor

**Las Vegas Editorial Office**
555 E. Washington, Suite 5600
Las Vegas, NV 89101

**702-486-2433 • Fax 702-486-2789**
**e-mail: ann@nevadamagazine.com**
**Web: www.nevadamagazine.com**

# With a View Toward Dining

From the neon vistas of Las Vegas to the Colorado River in Laughlin, your clients will find a number of Southern Nevada hotel restaurants with great views and fine dining. (Reno and Lake Tahoe restaurants were featured in the last edition of Nevada Travel Update.) Following is a sampling of Las Vegas and Laughlin hotel eateries.



The Range Steakhouse at Harrah's Las Vegas offers views of the Strip.

## Las Vegas

**Binion's Steakhouse**, on the 24th floor of Binion's Horseshoe in downtown Las Vegas, offers a panorama of the Las Vegas Valley. Steak and seafood are served in a rustic setting. Entrees begin at $20. Reservations, which are accepted five days in advance, are highly recommended. Winter hours are 5 to 11 p.m., summer hours 6 to 11 p.m. Call 702-382-1600.

From the **Empress Court** at Caesars Palace on the Strip, diners have a view of the Garden of the Gods fountains and the hotel's pool complex. Hong Kong-style Chinese food is served in a central rotunda with a night-sky ceiling or on outdoor balconies. Menu is a la carte, and prices range from $7.50 to $58. Reservations are required and accepted 90 days in advance. Open daily 6 to 10:30 p.m. Call 702-731-7731.

Caesars' pool complex and gardens can also be viewed from the hotel's **Terrazza Italian Restaurant**. The eatery serves Italian gourmet food, but your clients can still find a thin-crust pizza, the house specialty. Hours are 5:30 to 11 p.m. except Sunday, when Terrazza opens at 6 p.m. A Sunday champagne brunch is served 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Prices range from $16.50 to $36. Reservations are accepted 90 days in advance. Call 702-731-7731.

Diners at the **Terrace Pointe Restaurant** at the Desert Inn on the Las Vegas Strip get a view of the hotel gardens and lagoon-style swimming pool. The menu offers American and continental cuisine. The decor is Mediterranean. Prices range from $7.50 to $23.50. Reservations are not accepted. The restaurant is open 24 hours and serves breakfast and lunch buffets. Call 702-733-4580.

The **Range Steakhouse** at Harrah's Las Vegas offers a second-story view of the Strip, particularly of Caesars Palace and the Mirage. Steak and seafood are served in a rustic decor accented with copper, brass, and wood. Prices range from $18.95 to $29.95. Reservations are required. The restaurant is open 5:30 to 10:30 except weekends, when it closes at 11:30 p.m. Call 702-369-5000.

**The Center Stage Restaurant** at Jackie Gaughan's Plaza overlooks the Fremont Street Experience in Las Vegas. Steak and seafood are served in a romantic atmosphere. Entrees range from $5.95 to $26.95. Reservations are not required but will be accepted six days in advance. Hours are 5 to 10:30 p.m. Call 702-386-2110.

From the 50th floor of the Rio Suite Hotel, diners in the **Voodoo Cafe** have a view of the entire Las Vegas Strip and surrounding valley. The restaurant's purple and black walls and ceilings are sprinkled with drawings representing the Voodoo spirits of luck, power, and wealth. Lobster Thermadore is the house specialty on the Creole-themed menu. Prices range from $19.94 to $42.95. Reservations are recommended. Open daily 5 to 11 p.m. Call 702-247-7800.

Diners in the **Top of the World** restaurant at the Stratosphere have a panoramic view of the Las Vegas Valley. The continental menu is a la carte with entrees from $21 to $58. Reservations are recommended and can be made two months in advance. Open 5 to 11 p.m. except Friday and Saturday, when it's open till 12 a.m. Call 702-380-7777.

The **Buccaneer Bay Club** at Treasure Island in Las Vegas offers a view of the Strip and the pirate battle that takes place in front of the resort. The steak and seafood a la carte menu has entrees from $17 to $30. Reservations are recommended and accepted one week in advance. Hours are 5 to 10:30 p.m. Children under five are not permitted. Call 702-894-7223.

## Laughlin

The Colorado River and surrounding mountains are the scenic attractions viewed from the **Orleans Room** in the Colorado Belle in Laughlin. The menu offers steak, seafood, and Italian fare in a casual setting. Entree prices begin at $8.95. Reservations are accepted one day in advance and are recommended. The restaurant opens at 5 p.m. Call 702-298-4000.

The **Alta Villa** at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin resembles an Italian vineyard and overlooks the Colorado River and nearby mountains. The house specialty on the continental menu is a pepper-crusted filet mignon. Prices range from $14.95 to $19.95. Reservations are required and accepted one week in advance. Hours are 5 to 10 p.m. Friday through Tuesday. Call 702-298-5111.

**Madeleine's Gourmet Room** at the River Palms Resort in Laughlin offers diners a view of the Colorado River. Steak and seafood are served in an atmosphere like that of a mountain lodge. Prices begin at $6.95. Reservations are required and accepted two weeks in advance. Seasonal hours are 5 to 9:30 p.m., 5 to 10:30 p.m. on Friday; closed Tuesday and Wednesday. Call 877-RVR-PALM.

At the Riverside Resort in Laughlin, the **Prime Rib Room** overlooks the mountains and the Colorado River. Beef and chicken dishes are the specialties; the room has a Southwestern decor. Prices begin at $6.95. Reservations are not required. Open 4 to 10 p.m. Call 800-227-3849.




# What's New

## The Latest Information on Travel Around the Silver State

### Statewide

## Millennium New Year

Nevada hotels such as the Silver Legacy in Reno and the Flamingo Hilton in Las Vegas are accepting reservations for the Millennium New Year's celebration. Because of the unusual holiday, some restrictions may apply. For example, a minimum stay of three or four nights is required at the Flamingo, and visitors can expect an increase in room rates.

## Golfers' Paradise

Seven Northern Nevada and two Southern Nevada golf courses received Tourism Development Awards during the December meeting in Las Vegas of the Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism. Among the courses named were the new Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch in Genoa and the Sunridge Golf Course in the Carson Valley, the scenic area south of Carson City. The Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch is an 18-hole course covering 7,358 yards. Sunridge offers a 7,000-yard layout situated among 24 acres of lakes and waterfalls. Carson City added the Silver Oak Golf Club, an 18-hole championship course that winds through the Sierra foothills. Players on the Wolf Run Golf Club in Reno will find views of the Sierra, downtown Reno, and the surrounding foothills. Expansions at the Red Hawk Golf Club include a special events promenade and a winter ice-skating rink. The White Pine Golf Course in Ely has added nine holes to offer a full 18-hole course. The course has large greens, wide fairways, three ponds, and a creek running throughout. The high-desert course in Jackpot has added a clubhouse with a snack bar, pro shop, and banquet facilities for up to 175 people. In the Las Vegas Territory, new to Nevada's golf scene are the 162-acre Rhodes Ranch Golf and Country Club, an 18-hole course located in the northwest area of the city, and the new par 72, 7,060-yard desert course at Primm, 47 miles south of Las Vegas on Interstate 80.

## Nevada Takes Bronze

In the Travel Industry Association of America's annual Winter Travel Forecast, Nevada placed third among the most-preferred vacation destinations during December through February. The top two winter choices were Florida and California. Last year, Nevada placed fourth behind Hawaii.



**The Best Western Eureka opened in the historic mining town of Eureka, located between Austin and Ely on U.S. 50. The hotel has 30 rooms and three suites with hot tubs, a gym, and in-room modem lines.**

## Nevada's Up There

Las Vegas and Reno were among the destinations travelers most want to visit, according to a six-month study by the Hotel Reservations Network. In order of preference, the hotel consolidator listed Orlando, Las Vegas, New York, Chicago, San Francisco, Boston, New Orleans, San Diego, and Washington, D.C., followed by Los Angeles, Miami, London, Paris, Reno, Anaheim, Atlanta, and Atlantic City.

## Top 100

The Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival at Sand Harbor State Park near Incline Village and the Treasures of Russia exhibit at the Rio Suite Hotel in Las Vegas were among the top 100 events selected by the American Bus Association. Showgoers at the Shakespeare Festival, which this year is July 20-September 5, can picnic on the beach while watching plays that are staged using Lake Tahoe as the backdrop. In Las Vegas the priceless Russian antiques on loan from the Peterhof Palaces will be exhibited at the Rio through April 15.

### Las Vegas Territory

## Open For Business

The new AmeriSuites in Las Vegas is Prime Hospitality's first Southern Nevada property and the company's largest. Of the 202 suites, 83 have been designated Taking Care of Business Suites, which are designed for corporate travelers.

## On the Water

Visitors to Lake Mead National Recreation Area can stay at the new 43-room Best Western North Shore in Overton, 61 miles north of Las Vegas off Interstate 15. The property is prime headquarters for exploring the lake, Valley of Fire State Park, and the Lost City Museum.

### Reno-Tahoe Territory

## Plaza Expands

The Plaza Motel in Carson City has completed an expansion that rebuilt the 1950s

property and renovated its 72 rooms that include business-class amenities, 12 suites, and meeting space.

## Tahoe Rocks

Harveys at Stateline is the latest Nevada location for a Hard Rock Cafe. The restaurant's decor, which reflects Lake Tahoe's alpine setting, has heavy timber and exposed rock construction. Rock 'n' roll fans will find the memorabilia, logo merchandise, and American-style food they have come to expect from the trendy chain.

## Grand Opening

Among the holiday festivities at Boomtown was the opening of its 9,000-square-foot meeting and convention space. The facility offers five breakout rooms at the hotel, which is located in Verdi, nine miles west of Reno on Interstate 80. The $25-million project also included a six-story, 200-room hotel.

## New Restaurant

The Mandarin Garden Chinese Restaurant in Virginia City has opened in a historic building. Diners can choose from 175 oriental dishes. The Comstock mining town draws visitors to its many museums, steam-train rides, and events such as the annual camel races in September.

# *A Nevada Moment:*



**German actress and heiress Vera Krupp is shown cuddling one of the residents at her home, now Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas. Visitors can tour a hidden bedroom and bathroom Krupp built after she purchased the ranch in 1955. The park is also known for another historical anecdote: The famous Krupp diamond was stolen during a robbery at the ranch in 1959. The gem was recovered shortly after the theft, and when Krupp died in 1967, the diamond was purchased at auction by Richard Burton for Elizabeth Taylor.**

### Rural Nevada

## Death Valley Bound

The Stagecoach Hotel and Casino in Beatty, which is considered the Gateway to Death Valley, has added 16 hotel rooms and a new registration area and remodeled its 32 existing rooms and the property's exterior.

## Lively Ghost Town

A cozy bed and breakfast, the Belmont Monitor Inn, opened in the old silver mining town of Belmont, 45 miles northeast of Tonopah. The historic building, originally constructed in 1865, has five rooms and two full shared baths. The B&B has a steakhouse and a saloon with five slot machines.

## Top Gun

The Comfort Inn in Fallon has added 34 rooms, bringing the property's total to 82 rooms. Located 60 miles southeast of Reno, Fallon is the home of the Navy's Top Gun school and offers an annual air show. The nearby booming dunes at Sand Mountain are a haven for dune-buggy and other off-road-vehicle users. Fallon events include the annual cantaloupe festival, Native American powwows, and rodeos.

## Elko Coaches

Coach USA/K-T Services opened Elko's first motorcoach company with 32 vehicles. Elko is located in Northeastern Nevada, 289 east of Reno on Interstate 80 and 230 miles west of Salt Lake City. Elko is known for the scenic beauty of the nearby Ruby Mountains.

## Nevada Redecorates

The Hotel Nevada and Gambling Hall in Ely has renovated 40 of its 65 rooms as part of a $1-million ongoing improvement plan. Ely, a former copper-mining town, is known for its historic railroad museum and summer train rides. Ely is also a recreational hub for numerous parks such as Great Basin National Park, which is 70 miles north of the town.

## Being A-Mazed

Last fall Lattin Farms in Fallon was home to a unique Maize Maze, one of two in the West designed by puzzle master Adrian Fisher of England. An elaborate puzzle made in the shape of Nevada was cut into a three-acre field of corn. Inside the maze were carved two of the Silver State's fictional sea monsters—Tahoe Tessie and Cecil the Serpent of Hawthorne's Walker Lake. The maze will be open for tours in the late summer and fall.

## More Rooms

Demand for hotel rooms is high during Elko's prime events such as the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in January and the Basque Festival in July. The new Holiday Inn Express answers that demand with 58 rooms and 19 suites.

## Wendover's Rainbow

A $5.5-million expansion at the Rainbow Hotel in Wendover added casino space, a gift shop, bar, and espresso counter to the 94-room property located in Northeastern Nevada at the Utah border.

## Yerington Property

The Copper Inn in Yerington opened with 13 rooms in the ranching community 79 miles southeast of Reno. Yerington offers recreation and exploring at Lahontan Reservoir and Fort Churchill State Historic Park.

Photo: Spring Mountain Ranch State Park

# Nevada's Nightclub Scene Is Hopping

Nevada has a reputation for having innovative and flashy entertainment, and when it comes to nightclubbing, the state's hotel-casinos continue to live up to the reputation. From the north to the south, boogiers can dance amid Egyptian gods, get retro, cut a rug to live music, or two-step into a Western revival. Following is a sampling of some of Nevada's late-night hot spots.



**Bartenders at the Ra nightclub in the Luxor show off fancy moves. The trendy Las Vegas hot spot offers elaborate Egyptian decor, live music, and cage-dancing contests.**

## Las Vegas

**Club Rio:** This '90s-style dance-music video nightclub at the **Rio Suite Hotel** features live acts such as Boogie Nights and Dr. Funkenstein. On Wednesday, Disco Night, ladies get in free. Thursday is '80s night. The club attracts a mixed but large crowd—dancers should expect to wait in line to get in. The cost is $10 for men, $5 for women, and free for Nevada women. Club Rio is open 10 p.m. to 5 a.m., and the club has a business-casual dress code. Call 800-PLAYRIO.

**Gilley's:** This Western-themed club inside the **New Frontier** has a mechanical bull, saloon, dance hall, and barbecue—all patterned after the famous Texas club owned by country singer Mickey Gilley. The Lone Star State-styled restaurant offers such items as steaks and chili fries. Gilley's All-Star Band plays nightly. The cost is $10, and women get in free after 10 p.m. Call 800-421-7806 for details.

**The Nightclub:** Dancers can cut a rug for free Monday through Wednesday at this **Las Vegas Hilton** club, which offers DMX dance and Top 40 music with videos. On Thursday through Sunday there is a $10 cover charge, and the group Louie Louie performs. Call 702-732-5111.



**Dancers boogie amid an undersea motif and an eight-foot octopus at the Atlantis Nightclub in Reno.**

**Ra Nightclub:** Art Deco meets ancient Egypt at Ra, where a winged statue hovers over the dance floor in this techno beat club inside **Luxor** on the Strip. Live acts include anything from Candle Box to Run DMC. On Thursday nights ladies can compete in a cage-dancing contest for $100 prizes. Hours are 10 p.m. until it unwinds Wednesday through Saturday. Cover is $10 for men, $5 for women, and free for Nevada women. Ages range from 25 to 35 at Ra, which has an upscale dress code. Call 702-262-4400.

**Studio 54:** Black-and-white celebrity photos adorn the walls in this retro gallery and nightclub inside the **MGM Grand**. The two-story club, a knockoff of the famous New York club, offers four bars and three dance floors. A DJ spins techno and disco music, and boogiers will usually find a line to enter. On Tuesday through Thursday, men pay $10, and the hours are 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. On Friday and Saturday men pay $20, and the hours are 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. Women get in free. T-shirts, tank tops, baggy jeans, hats, and tennis shoes are not allowed. Call 702-891-1111.

**Voodoo Lounge:** This glass-encased lounge is on the 52nd floor of the **Rio Suite Hotel**, offering an expansive view. Voodoo signs and emblems decorate the walls of the club, which is geared more toward mingling than dancing. The Voodoo Lounge has a business causal dress code and is open daily from 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. Ghalib Ghallab frequently performs jazz. Call 702-252-7777.

*(Continued on next page)*

# Bright Future Predicted for Las Vegas

Demand for Las Vegas hotel rooms in the international market far outweighs the supply, and the city's best days are still ahead, former Governor Bob Miller and Mirage Resorts Chairman Steve Wynn told delegates at the winter meeting of the 15th Annual Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism. Miller, addressing more than 1,065 delegates at Bellagio, said he is confident Las Vegas will fill the nearly 20,000 hotel rooms now being built.

"The 10 largest hotels in the world are here in Las Vegas, and this is only the beginning," said Miller. Four new megaresorts are being built on the Las Vegas Strip that will attract millions of tourists, the governor said. "Some critics say Las Vegas is overbuilding," Miller told the delegates. "Those critics are wrong. I can tell you first-hand the demand for Las Vegas hotel rooms far outweighs the supply."



**By the end of the year 2000, Las Vegas will have an additional 20,000 hotel rooms, bringing the city's total to 128,000.**

Wynn, whose Mirage Resorts owns five Southern Nevada properties—Bellagio, Mirage, Treasure Island, and the Golden Nuggets in Las Vegas and in Laughlin, delivered what he termed a "cold-blooded analysis" of the city's tourism industry that included his vision of the city's future. "Nevada is about to be tested," Wynn said, referring to the possible implementation of Proposition 5, the voter-passed measure legalizing Native American-owned casinos in Nevada's neighbor, California.

However, tourists come to Las Vegas mainly for "excitement that other cities don't offer," Wynn said. "The draw here was the city's show of the town," the 56-year-old hotel mogul said, recalling the colorful 1950s and early 1960s. "It has always been the noncasino aspect."

Tourists are attracted to Las Vegas by shopping at the world's major retailers, cuisine prepared by leading chefs, and exciting new shows "designed to take the audience someplace they've never been," Wynn said. Imagine Las Vegas with a dozen theaters featuring Broadway-caliber hit shows with original scripts, Wynn said. "If there's any-place in the world you'll want to go, it's here."

He urged members of the Las Vegas hotel industry not to copy each other but to "loosen up, get a little creative" and build things the others don't have. "I never thought this would be the shopping town of the world, but damned if it isn't," Wynn said.

The 16th Annual Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism is scheduled for December 12-14, 1999, at the Silver Legacy in Reno.

# Nightclub Scene

*(Continued from previous page)*

### Laughlin

**Losers Lounge:** The theme here is famous losers, so guests can gawk at photos of Tammy Fay Baker, George Bush, the *Titanic*, and Mike Tyson at this dance club and lounge inside the **Riverside Resort** in Laughlin. Tuesday night is Ladies Night—women get their first drink free. Dancers can loosen up on the club's two dance floors to live bands such as Swift Kick. Losers Lounge is open daily from 7 p.m. to 6 a.m., and there is no cover charge except on holiday weekends. Call 702-298-2616 for information.

### Reno-Tahoe

**Atlantis Nightclub:** Dancers groove amid an undersea motif where an eight-foot octopus looms over the dance floor at the **Atlantis Resort** club. Ladies get in free from 10 p.m. to midnight during Friday's Ladies Eighties special. Thursdays are designated for disco, and Wednesday and Saturday nights feature West Coast house music. Expect to wait in line on weekends. Cover charge is $5 on Thursday through Saturday and free on Wednesday. Call 775-824-4411 or 800-723-6500.

**Nero's 2000:** Stateline's largest dance club inside **Caesars Tahoe** has a modern Romanesque theme and offers nightly specials such as Heavenly night on Wednesday, when Heavenly Ski Resort lift-ticket holders and employees get in free. On Thursday night, ladies get in free to judge the Mr. Hot Buns contest, which offers $200 in prize money. Sunday night is Zoot Suit Night with performances by swing bands. Cutoffs, open-toed sandals, and tank tops are not allowed. Club hours are 9 p.m. to 4 a.m. daily. Call 775-588-3515.

**Trader Dick's:** The Polynesian-style lounge and dance club inside **John Ascuaga's Nugget** in Sparks features a DJ spinning audience-requested music on Friday and Saturday, and pianists and guest musicians play Sunday through Thursday. The Scorpion, a popular concoction, is an exotic mixture of fruity rums served in a smoking bowl. The lounge is part of the Trader Dick's restaurant, which is open 5 to 10 p.m. daily. Music in the lounge is scheduled 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. daily. Call 800-648-1177.

*—Candice Towell*

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

# Bellagio: Creating an Image of Luxury

Travel industry professionals who have not had a chance to pay a visit to Bellagio, Las Vegas' newest megaresort, will find the property is designed for a specific market.

"We appeal to the upscale traveler," says Chris Flatt, vice president of sales and marketing. "We've created an experience for the types of folks who are well-traveled, appreciate a higher level of service, and are willing to pay a little extra for those things." To accomplish the service, Flatt cites the ratio of 9,500 employees to 3,000 guest rooms.



**Standard rooms at the Bellagio in Las Vegas offer guests upscale amenities such as twice-daily housekeeping.**

One of the most noticeable differences at the Bellagio is the prominently displayed signs notifying customers that children under 18 are not allowed in the resort unless they are hotel guests. "We have nothing against families and children. They are welcome to stay here," says Flatt, who explains the policy is intended to reduce traffic flow that might detract from the atmosphere the hotel strives to create.

The overall experience Flatt refers to begins with a hotel that is architecturally stunning, separated from the Las Vegas Strip by a 10-acre lake and surrounded by lavish gardens. In keeping with Mirage Resorts' theme of outdoor entertainment, which includes the volcano at the Mirage and the pirate battle at Treasure Island, at the Bellagio there is a dancing waters show on the lake that features color and light during evening performances.

**Standard Rooms:** Guest rooms have twice-daily housekeeping, robes, safes, and lighted wardrobes that will accommodate full-length gowns. The bathrooms have Italian marble floors and surfaces, a Roman tub, separate shower, and a telephone. Room rates range from $159 to $499; suites are $375 to $1,200. Flatt says the hotel does offer special rates during off-peak periods such as December and pre- and post-holidays. Travel agents receive a 10 percent commission and can stay at the Bellagio for the travel agent rate.

**Shopping:** Upscale stores include Armani, Chanel, Gucci, La Perla, and Tiffany and Company.

**Restaurants:** Jasmine has Chinese food, Shintaro offers Japanese, Le Cirque serves French cuisine, Aqua has seafood, Picasso has Mediterranean dishes, Circo offers Tuscan, and Prime is the resort's steakhouse. Casual dining is found at Noodles, Olives, Sam's American Grill, the Buffet, Cafe Bellagio, and the outside Pool Cafe. There are four small cafes and snack bars for quick service.

**Entertainment:** The showroom features Cirque du Soleil's production "O," which is staged in and above water. Three of the hotel's six bars offer live entertainment, and the Petrossian Bar serves caviar and smoked salmon.

**Fast Facts:** Bellagio features 125,000 square feet of convention space, which can accommodate meetings of 25 to 5,500 theater-style. Admission is $10 to the Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art, which displays original works by such artists as Picasso and Matisse.

For information or reservations call 888-987-6667. Group sales is 888-474-7111.



**Several of the Bellagio's restaurants are imports, such as Le Cirque (above) from the New York Palace Hotel.**

## Carson Valley Inn

*(Continued from page 1)*

**Restaurants:** The Carson Valley Inn's gourmet room is Michael's. Adjacent to the main hotel is Fiona's, which offers casual dining and an indoor koi-filled pond and was the choice of *Nevada Magazine* readers for the Best Sky's the Limit Restaurant in rural Nevada. There is also a coffee shop and a traditional Irish pub.

**Amenities:** The casino cabaret has nightly entertainment. Rooms are stocked with hair dryers and irons. Free safe-deposit boxes, supervised child care, and use of the property's spas are also available. Guests receive a discount at a nearby health club and can swim at one of four pools at a local complex for $1.

**Fast Facts:** Rates for a standard room in the hotel range from $49 to $89, standard suites $99 to $129, and spa suites $119 to $159. Motor lodge rates are $39 to $69 for a standard room and $69 to $89 for a suite. Travel agent commission is 10 percent. Two- to three-night golf packages range from $129 to $359. The hotel has an adjacent 59-site RV park with full hookups, laundry, and shower facilities.

For reservations call the Carson Valley Inn, 800-321-6983 or 775-782-9711, or visit CVI's Web site, www.cvinn.com.—*Kim Pryor*