NEVADA

MAGAZINE

October 1999

INSIDE:

NEVADA NV2000 Making Millennium Magic

MILLENNIUM Countdown Calendar

Tahoe's Fall Splendor

Exploring the views and trails of Tahoe's eastern shore

Mark Twain's Forgotten Tour

Recalling the legendary author's long lost return to Nevada

Slot Clubs

How to get more pull at Nevada's hotel-casinos

A Tahoe hiker takes in the views above Marlette Lake

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NEVADA

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"I see no grass, no flowers, no trees, no vines.... [Nevada] is not Paradise, and yet, to me, this was always a pleasant place to live in."—Mark Twain, 1868



On the Cover:
Christyna Matzke looks upon Marlette Lake above Lake Tahoe's east shore.

Photo by John Clausen

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By Barbara Land and Myrick Land



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Editor's Note

Mystery Man

When he began investigating Mark Twain's last visit to Nevada, **Guy Louis Rocha** knew he'd found the kind of topic that stirs him most—a historical mystery. "I was intrigued that so little was known about Twain's second lecture tour in 1868," says Guy, who is the state archivist, a historian, and coauthor of two books. He also is a dedicated debunker of historical myths. Guy writes the "Historical Myth-a-Month" series for *Sierra Sage* and the Nevada State Library and Archives' Web site, setting the record straight on legends such as the bodies buried in Hoover Dam (there aren't any). Many of his *Nevada Magazine* articles have involved mysteries. For example, in "The Mysterious Demise of Key Pittman" (Sept/Oct '96), Guy shed light on a classic Silver State myth: When U.S. Senator Key Pittman died on election eve in 1940, was he really preserved on ice in a Tonopah hotel room?



Guy Louis Rocha at the Capitol.

In Mark Twain's case, the obstacle wasn't so much misguided information as the lack of it. Guy found details of Twain's 1868 visit in newspapers and the journals of Comstock newspaperman Alf Doten. Then he learned that Twain sent dispatches that year to the *Chicago Tribune*. When copies of Twain's letters arrived in Guy's office in Carson City, he read each with interest—and one with growing amazement, for it described the hanging of John Millian, murderer of legendary Virginia City prostitute Julia Bulette.

"It's a powerful piece of writing. For something this noteworthy, and the impact it must have had on Twain, it's a mystery to me why biographers haven't given it more attention," Guy says. Until now: See Guy's story, "Mark Twain's Forgotten Tour," and Twain's remarkable letter of 131 years ago.

Looking ahead to Nevada's 15-month millennium celebration, this issue's Nevada Events and Shows offers a bigger-than-ever Millennium Countdown Calendar. Events Editor **Ann Henderson** presents perhaps the widest range of Silver State events ever assembled in one listing. The new format, designed by Art Director **Denise Evans**, will be featured throughout the celebration, which lasts until Martin Luther King Jr. Day 2001.—*David Moore*



Photo: Rich Johnston/NDOT

Letters

Legendary lounge acts, a *Playgirl* centerfold, and a vintage gas station.

Speedy Reply

The article "Legendary Lounge Acts" by Kim Pryor in the March/April issue certainly brought back wonderful memories. I backed Don Rickles in the Casbar theater of the Sahara Hotel in 1960 and played opposite Ray Anthony and The Characters. What a great era to be in Nevada. Thanks again for bringing it all back to me.

Speedy Garfin
Carson City



Ed Hillygus offers old-fashioned service at his classic Yerington station.

Fuel for the Soul

Thanks for the story "Full Service Only" by Carolyn Fox last issue. Whenever I'm in Yerington, I always try to take the time to top off my tank at Ed Hillygus' little station. His friendly service and free window washing are worth the stop, even if I'm not on empty. I also enjoyed "Close Encounters With Open Minds" about the alien mystique of Rachel by Richard Menzies and "Camp of Good Cheer" about the ghost town of Cherry Creek by Jerry Bowen.

Karen Grant
Los Angeles, CA

Growing Las Vegas

I have been a subscriber to *Nevada Magazine* for a few years now, and I enjoy it quite a bit. It's quite informative, and I'm one of those people, along with my wife, who for more than 30 years have visited Las Vegas and have yet to get enough of it. We've watched the casinos grow, and we used to enjoy the Golden Nugget, Fremont, Mint, and Horseshoe. We watched casinos go up and others come down. I was on the top of the Landmark when it was being built. The growth today is incredible, and we're still visiting there once or twice yearly.

Joseph Calles
San Gabriel, CA

Genoa Hole in One

It was my pleasure to receive a copy of the May/June issue of *Nevada Magazine*, which features Genoa Lakes on the cover. I was even more delighted to read the story

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Photo: Carolyn Fox



"Nevada Golf '99" by Sharon Carter, Candice Towell, and David Moore and learn that Genoa Lakes was rated No. 2 in the state by Nevada golf pros ("The Pros' Picks"). We are very proud of our golf course, and I appreciate the coverage.

Jay L. Lather, General Manager
Golf Club at Genoa Lakes

Too Much Advertising

The reason I did not renew *Nevada Magazine* was because there's too much advertising for casinos and nothing on real Nevada towns and scenic places to visit.

Alma M. Franklin
Carson City

Too Much *Playgirl*

In my opinion, the magazine has been getting worse and worse, but favorably profiling a *Playgirl* centerfold ("Man of the Month," July/August) is too much.

R.M. Waldron
Sonoma, CA

Crossing the Date Line

I received my issue of *Nevada Magazine* a few days ago and just noticed its date: August 1999. Most magazines mail a few weeks early, but isn't it odd to have August in June? Why don't you be a trendsetter and buck this silly fad? I fear that in a few years we will have the August 2002 issue in August 2001.

Cathy Reeves
Lompoc, CA

Cathy, the reason the magazine reaches you in late June but has a date of August 1999 is to prevent newsstand distributors from pulling the magazine off the shelves too early. Nevada Magazine *is bimonthly (published every two months), so we want it to be available on the newsstands for the full two-month period. However, we can assure you we won't be putting out the August 2002 issue a year early.—Ed.*

A Historical Question

I just finished reading a copy of *The Historical Nevada Magazine* book and wanted to pass along my compliments. I enjoy your Nevada history features in each issue of the magazine, so it was a pleasure to find so many fine historical articles collected in one place. I particularly enjoyed Susan James' story on Julia Bulette, which stripped away many of the myths about Bulette. I also liked David W. Toll's story about Butch Cassidy and the bank robbery in Winnemucca, another event that has attained mythical proportions. My only question is, when are you going to produce a second volume?

Lou Downing
Klamath Falls, OR

Lou, thanks for the kind words about The Historical Nevada Magazine. *The 148-page book, which collects 17 of the best historical articles that have appeared in the magazine, is available in the Nevada Magazine Gift Shop (see pages 70-73). A second volume is planned.—Ed.*



How to Submit Letters

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Photo: Chris Talbot



Roadside Attractions

Racing on the Strip, planting trees, and biking on the ski slopes.

Bike Slopes

LAKE TAHOE—While Sierra Nevada slopes close to skiers in summer and fall, outdoor enthusiasts can grab their mountain bikes and head to their favorite runs. Several Tahoe-area ski resorts have transformed slopes into mountain bike parks where you can catch a ski lift to the top of the runs and bonsai down hundreds of vertical feet.

Kirkwood (209-258-6000 or www.skikirkwood.com) has 16 trails; some are single track and some dirt roads. Advanced riders will enjoy the Whiskey Run. Intermediate bikers can hit the Scout's Route, and beginners and families can meander along the Snowkirk trail. Lifts are open 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekends and holidays through October, weather permitting. Lift tickets cost $12 for adults and $7 for children. Trail-only passes are $3.

Squaw Valley (530-583-6985 or www.squaw.com) offers a downhill thrill on its Olympic ski runs with trails on more than 3,000 acres (seven miles are paved trail). Trails lead into meadows surrounded by granite peaks and are best suited for intermediate to advanced riders. Adrenaline junkies can attack the Mountain Run, which drops 2,000 feet in 3.5 miles. Lifts are open daily from 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Rentals and instruction are available through the Squaw Valley Sport Shop (530-583-3356). Cable-car tickets cost $14.

Northstar-at-Tahoe (530-562-2268 or 800-GO-NORTH or www.skinorthstar.com) has more than 100 miles of trails that wind through pine forests and along scenic ridges. The resort offers daily, two-hour mountain bike tours, which include riding tips, at 11 a.m. for $10. Lift tickets cost $22 for adults and $16 for kids. One-hour private lessons for all levels are available for $45 per person. Northstar also features Dirt Camp (800-711-DIRT), a weekend of mountain biking instruction for riders of all skill levels. Weekend camp packages begin at $299 per person and include two days of Dirt Camp instruction, four meals, Saturday night's lodging, and use of Northstar's Swim and Racquet Club. Dates for this season's Dirt Camp are September 11-12 and 28-29.



Tahoe ski resorts such as Northstar (above) offer mountain bikers a lift.

Bike rentals are available at each resort and range from $22 for front-suspension to $46 for full-suspension adult mountain bikes per day. Rentals include helmets and often gloves and water bottles. Kids' bikes also are available to rent.—*Shannon Montana*

Leafing Town

BOULDER CITY—This picturesque, historic burg is looking greener these days thanks to a community-wide effort to plant **15,000 trees and shrubs**—one for each resident—near business and residential areas.

"That is a bunch of trees for a town this size," says Damon Ohlerking, urban designer and forester for the City of Boulder City.

Tree-loving visitors can cruise through Boulder City's Old Town district as well as along Adams Street, where a community planting of 1,450 trees is scheduled to take place on October 23.

Ohlerking says the town is one of the nation's first cities to begin dealing with greenhouse gases and other pollution problems by planting trees. The project began three years ago when citizens began to notice a decline in the appearance of the city. The construction of a new power plant also prompted a tree spree to help maintain good air quality. "People said, 'Let's get this town back in order' and started cleaning up their yards," Ohlerking says.

Several varieties of trees are taking root, including golden raintree, Chinese pistache, ash, cork oak, and elm as well as numerous shrubs such as blue palo verde and desert willow. Ohlerking says the trees have been selected based on



A tree-planting project has given Boulder City a leafy new look.

Photo: Bart Banks/Northstar-at-Tahoe (top)



Speedsters can race on a virtual version of the Strip at Sahara Speedworld.

their ability to improve air quality and thrive in the warm, dry Southern Nevada climate. Some of the trees are even considered to be "smog busters," as opposed to other trees like palms, which actually produce smog and require a lot of water. Ohlerking adds that the town's 15,000 trees will use as much water in a year as it would take to maintain a nine-hole golf course.

Call Ohlerking, 702-293-9338, for more information about viewing or planting Boulder City's trees.—*Carolyn Graham*

Speeding on the Strip

LAS VEGAS—The Las Vegas Strip is a National Scenic Highway, but what's the fun of exploring it in bumper to bumper traffic? Imagine traveling the Strip at 220 mph, with landmarks such as Caesars Palace reduced to a blur. If this sounds like a dream, then you haven't paid a visit to **Sahara Speedworld** inside the Sahara Hotel.

Speedworld is like no other motion simulator. As you climb into your very own three-quarter-scale Indy car, its canopy closes over you, and your heart beats faster. You're caged inside this megahorsepower beast, just like Kyle Petty or Ernie "Swervin" Irvan.

In front of you is one of the world's most famous boulevards as you've never seen it before—empty. The engine throbs. Your seat shakes. The suspense mounts until the checkered flag is waved, and suddenly you are racing against six other drivers who, like you, want to be the best.

When one of the other drivers bumps into you, you feel it. When you go into a skid, you swear you're going to roll over. When you sustain too much damage, it's off to the pit—but hurry! Every second counts, so get those repairs done and put the pedal to the metal.

You pass Caesars and the Fremont Street Experience and actually drive through the Imperial Palace. Suddenly, there's an announcement: "Thirty seconds remain in the race." Floor it and pass that final car. You're on your way to the victory lane. Exhilarated, you receive a printout listing your stats for a souvenir.

If all this sounds like too much excitement, you have the option of attending one of the Sahara's three less-jarring 3D Motion Theaters. Those Sahara rides give you the chance to ride with NASCAR racers like Ivan "Ironman" Stewart.

The Sahara Hotel offers Speedworld hours of 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Sunday through Thursday and 10 a.m. to midnight Friday and Saturday. Admission is $8 for the Indy racers and $3 for the 3D Motion Theaters. Riders must be at least 48 inches tall to race and 42 inches to enter the 3D theater. Group rates are available. Call 702-737-2111 for more information on cruising the virtual Strip.—*Justin Cord Hayes*

Patagonia on the Cheap

RENO—Those who enjoy the outdoor life (or just the clothes) will appreciate the **Patagonia Outlet** off West Fourth Street in Reno. Although Patagonia has retail stores around the world, the Reno store is one of only four outlets—which carry discounted factory seconds—in the United States (the others are in Salt Lake City; Dillon, Montana; and Freeport, Maine).

Housed in a room at the company's distribution center, the outlet is an outdoor enthusiast's dream. Bins brim with expedition-weight underwear, bathing suits, sport bras, and shorts. There are cool-weather tops and tights that block icy winds as well as compressible Puffball pants and vests, hiking boots, and sandals. The men's Stand Up pants are described as "a hybrid of cowboy chaps and pajamas." More pants and jackets hang from rods, ready for fishermen, kayakers, skiers, mountain climbers, and other people who like to stay warm and look cool.

The best sellers, according to Patagonia employee Dan Scurlock, are jackets made from a fleece-like material called Synchilla. "Synchilla is made from recycled soda pop bottles," Scurlock says. Patagonia emphasizes fibers that keep the wearer dry in cold, wet weather and comfortable when it's hot and sticky. If an item proves to be popular, it stays around for years with only minor modifications.

Although much of the outlet merchandise consists of seconds, flaws are often minor—an imperfectly sewn seam or a small smudge that will wash out. Prices are about 30 percent of retail. The outlet holds annual unadvertised sales on Memorial and Labor Day weekends as well as at two other times, with dates varying from year to year. Discounts vary, too. Last Presidents' Day weekend, every item in stock was marked 40 percent off outlet prices.

Patagonia contributes a percentage of its sales to environmental groups and instituted "tree-free" hangtags. "It's a great place to work," says Heather Smith. "It really supports us in fighting for our environmental concerns." After one year with Patagonia, employees can participate in an environmental project for two months while receiving their regular pay. Smith is currently involved in a project inventorying Nevada's wilderness.

The Patagonia Outlet Reno, at 8550 White Fir Street (off West Fourth Street about three miles west of downtown), is open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. Call 775-746-6878 for information. At the outlet you can pick up a free catalog, which includes ecological essays by anthropologists, activists, and nature lovers.

—*Connie Emerson*

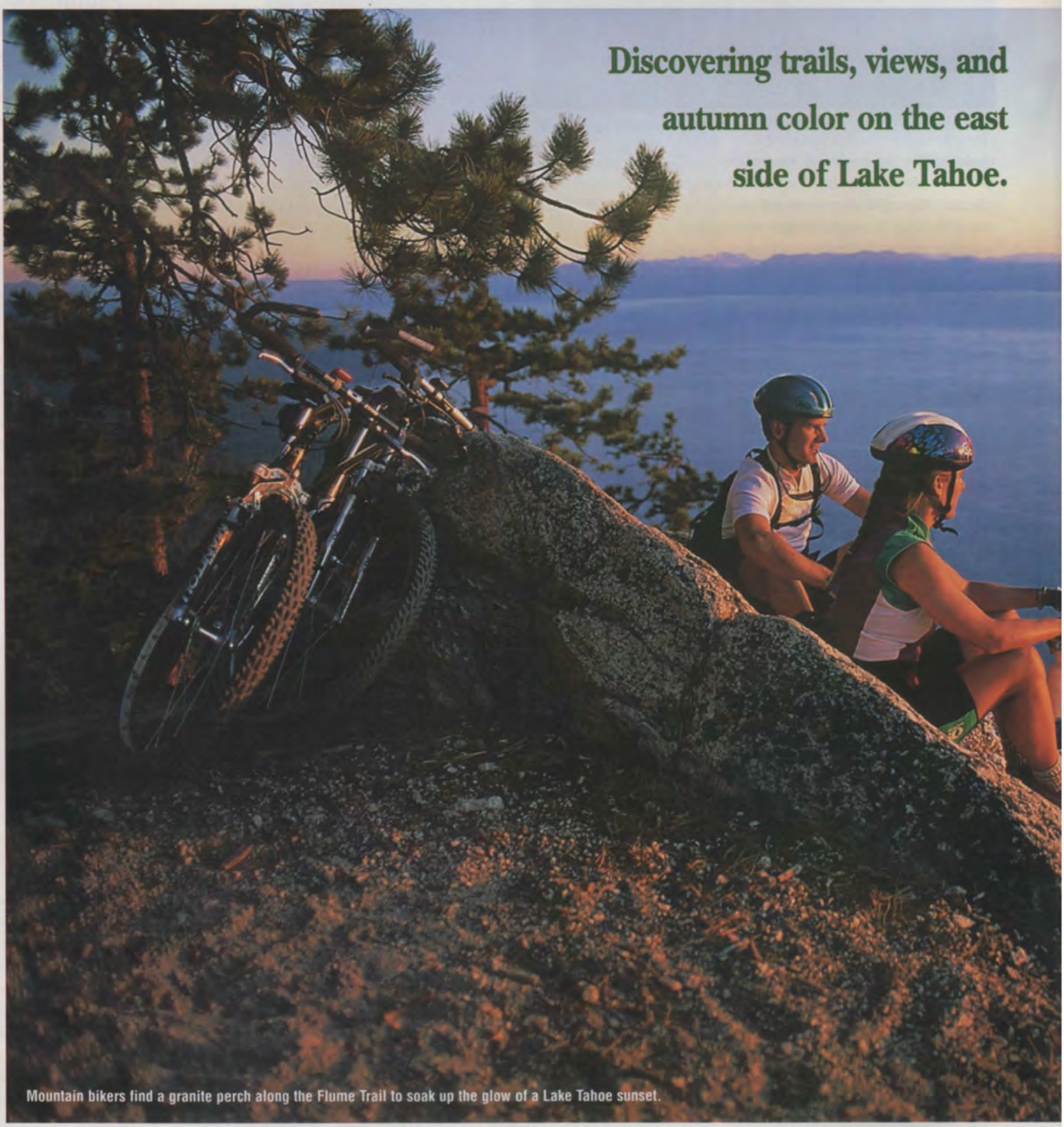


Outdoorsy shoppers scout for bargains at the Patagonia Outlet in Reno.

Photo: Candice Towell (bottom)

Fall on the Eastern

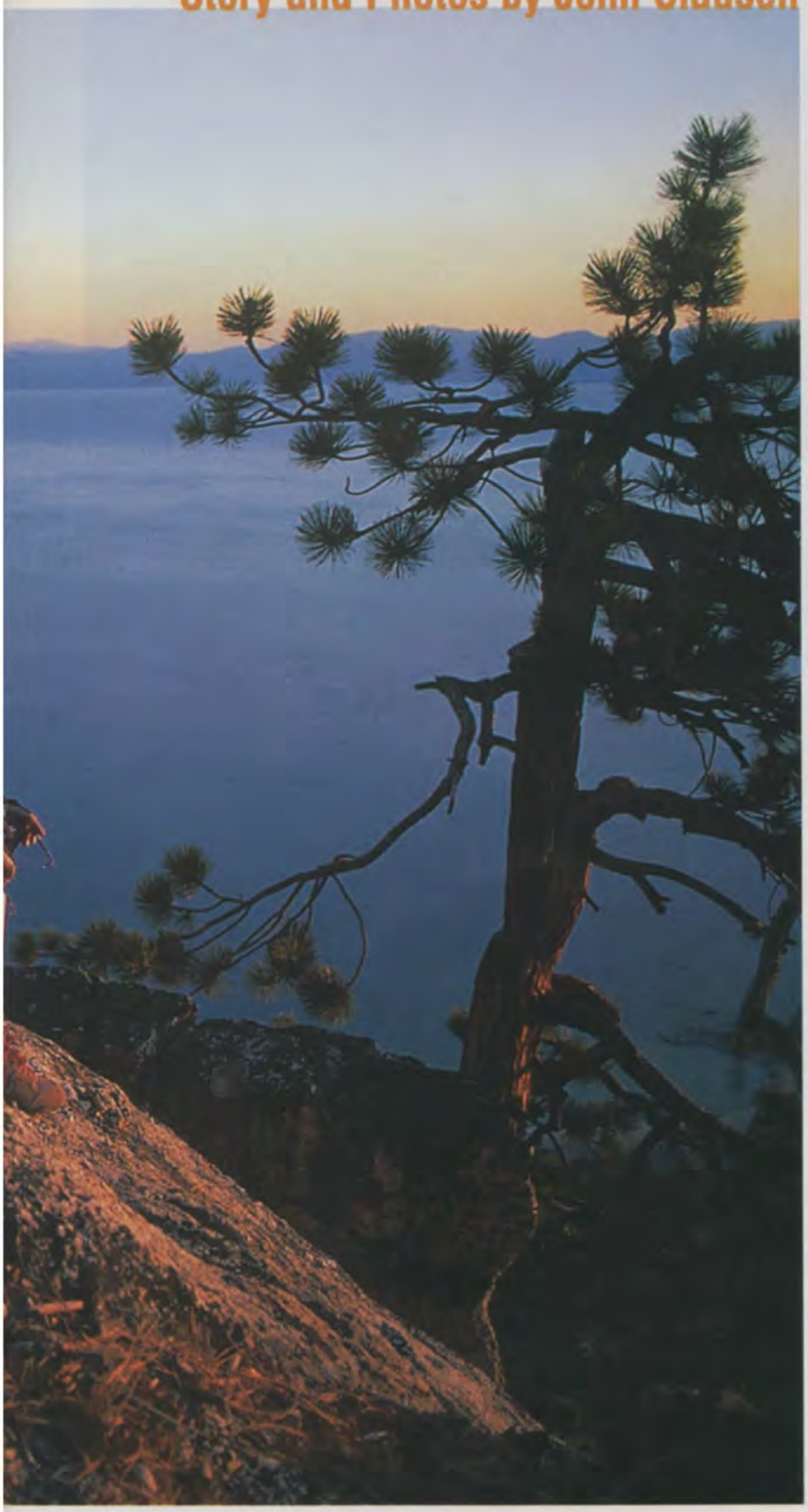
Discovering trails, views, and autumn color on the east side of Lake Tahoe.



Mountain bikers find a granite perch along the Flume Trail to soak up the glow of a Lake Tahoe sunset.

Shore

Story and Photos by John Clausen



Lake Tahoe in the fall—it's a special time of cool mornings and warm afternoons, when solitude and the changing colors of aspens reign. One of the best places to find secluded, scenic lakes and historic trails to explore is Tahoe's east shore.

The area's centerpiece is tranquil Marlette Lake, set in the forest above Tahoe and a destination for outdoor enthusiasts. Marlette, small but deep, has provided water to the Comstock since the 1870s through 20 miles of flumes and pipes. The area is considered "backcountry" in Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park, which includes Sand Harbor and Spooner Lake. Whether you hike, bike, or simply admire nature, the east shore stands out in a beautiful region that is undeveloped and, in the fall, has few visitors.

The path to Marlette mixes gentle to moderate uphill stretches under canopies of evergreens and aspen.

Marlette Lake requires a bit of effort to reach. For hikers it's a minimum eight miles round-trip, beginning at an elevation of 6,750 feet and rising above 8,000 feet. You can find the Marlette trailhead at Spooner Lake on Nevada Highway 28, near the junction of U.S. 50. Be sure to have $5 per car for parking or $2 per bike if you leave your vehicle outside the park, and carry a Camelbak or water bottles as well as energy food to keep you fueled. It's also a good idea to carry a light jacket.

The start of the broad trail is enticingly tame. Then the path mixes gentle to moderate uphill stretches, mostly under canopies of evergreens and aspen. As you near the final approach to the lake, the trail turns skyward for half a mile. Here you have to dig deep and test your lung capacity. As if to compensate for this anaerobic



The portion of the Tahoe Rim Trail atop the eastern crest of the Tahoe Basin reveals sweeping views of both Marlette Lake (center) and Lake Tahoe (top right).

testing, the landscape brings forth reinforcements of yellow aspen. Once you reach the crest, it's a short walk downhill to Marlette Lake.

Foot Work

As in other mountainous country, hiking at Marlette offers the pleasure of intimate contact with your surroundings. Approaching the lake, you come through a dense grove of aspen while the leaves softly rustle in the breeze as only quakies can. Sun sparkles through the leaves, and the trail and ground cover turn to streaks of pastels. A few more steps take you to the lake's point, where you can turn and view the whole hillside in gorgeous transformation. For many, this is the perfect spot for a picnic.

For those hikers who always wonder what's on the other side, a walk around Marlette Lake offers views seen by few. Because the lake's north side has little trail and requires mostly cross-country travel, it offers more solitude to the adventurous. Here you can immerse yourself in the area's sounds, views, and scents of mountain air, water, and forest. One note of caution: Rock outcroppings above the lake's outlet make it difficult to completely circle the lake. The cross-country travel also adds significantly to the hiking requirement of this approximately one-and-three-quarter by three-quarter-mile lake. It's best to simply retrace your steps and perspectives.

Should a small voice still whisper in



Map: NDOT/Nevada Magazine

your ear, urging you to seek further rewards, then head up to the rim. You can reach the Tahoe Rim Trail by following the aspen-covered pathway along Marlette's east shore, a section of old road that veers upward to the northeast. A rugged climb out of the lake's basin leads you to a single cross trail, marked as part of the Tahoe Rim Trail. Head north, climbing until you reach a sweeping bend, where you will be greeted with a panoramic view of both Marlette and Lake Tahoe. This visual utopia will add four miles round-trip to your hike, but if you and your companions are up to it, the views make the effort worthwhile.

Pedal Power

These days, you are more likely to be passed by a mountain biker heading to Marlette Lake than a hiker. Mountain bikers may reach Marlette in about an hour and a quarter. At first, when you're fresh on the trail, the aspen leaves seem large and distinct, and their colors change from green to rich yellows. Your legs and lungs plead for pause until you crest that previously noted skyward hill, and as you descend, the leaves become abstract streaks.

The Marlette area has gained notoriety among mountain bikers because of the Flume Trail. This single-track trail was born in the late 1870s as a 20-inch-wide trough with a covered flume box. The flume became part of a larger water-transfer system—an engineering feat for its time—that runs from Marlette to Hobart Reservoir, down to Lakeview, and up the other side of Washoe Valley to the once-booming mining towns of Gold Hill and Virginia City. The flume is gone, but its remaining trail offers scenic splendor—and moments of adrenaline, earning high recognition



After a rigorous uphill trek to Marlette Lake, mountain bikers can circle the lake or head to the Flume.

When you're fresh on the trail, the aspen leaves seem large and distinct, and their colors change from green to rich yellows.

Following the Fall

Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park is three miles south of Incline Village on State Route 28. The park has more than 14,000 acres encompassing such areas as the Marlette backcountry, Sand Harbor, Spooner Lake, and Cave Rock. The park offers hiking and biking on the Tahoe Rim Trail and the Flume Trail respectively as well as fishing (catch and release) and cross-country skiing at Spooner Lake. There is no fishing at Marlette Lake—it serves as a fish hatchery. Sand Harbor has a boat launch, restrooms, and group and individual picnicking areas and is home to the summertime Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival at Sand Harbor. Cave Rock has a boat launch, picnic sites, and a small beach. Entry fees for Spooner Lake, Cave Rock, and Sand Harbor are $5 for motorists and $2 for bicyclists. Call 775-831-0494.

Fans of fall will find many other places in the state to revel in Nevada's change of seasons, which brings spectacular color, temperate weather, and relatively low visitor counts.

In Southern Nevada, you can chase the yellowing aspen leaves on the trails of **Mount Charleston**, 45 miles northwest of Las Vegas, in the Spring Mountains National Recreation Area. This lush alpine area is an oasis in the middle of the Southern Nevada desert, and visitors will find several excellent hiking trails, including the difficult 17-mile loop that winds near 11,918-foot Charleston Peak. The fall color on both the Lee Canyon and Kyle Canyon roads is striking, even if you don't set foot outside your car. Call the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest in Las Vegas, 702-873-8800.



The trails at Great Basin National Park lead to spectacular fall color.

Great Basin National Park, 70 miles southeast of Ely, offers excellent fall colors, trails, and lakes to explore in the fall. Wheeler Peak, the second-highest point in Nevada, stands at 13,063 feet, so temperatures can get chilly here, even in summer. In addition to numerous hiking trails, the park has lofty campgrounds, ancient bristlecone pines, tours of Lehman Caves, and a visitor center and snack bar. Call Great Basin National Park at 775-234-7331.

The rugged **Ruby Mountains** rise dramatically behind Lamoille, the picturesque little farming community 20 miles southeast of Elko that when decked out in full fall foliage becomes Nevada's New England. A popular hiking path is the Dollar Lakes/Lake Lamoille Trail, which winds through wildflower fields and piñon trees on its way to several little lakes. In this area you'll also find the 40-mile Ruby Crest Trail. Call the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest office in Wells, 775-752-3357

Hikers are drawn to the **Mount Rose Wilderness Area** and its tough six-mile trail to the top of 10,776-foot Mount Rose, 20 miles south of Reno. You won't find as much fall color here, but you will see stunning views of Lake Tahoe, Reno, and the Desolation Wilderness. This is a popular locals' hike, although the number of visitors drops significantly in September and October. Call the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Carson Ranger District, 775-882-2766.—*Carolyn Graham*

Photo: Richard Moreno



Hikers who explore Marlette Lake in the fall will find solitude amid the blazing yellow aspens. The rugged terrain leads to panoramas that are seen by few.

in the outdoor world for spectacular riding. Although this area is on most riders' must-do list when at Tahoe, fortunately, come fall and the new school year, the trail becomes nearly private.

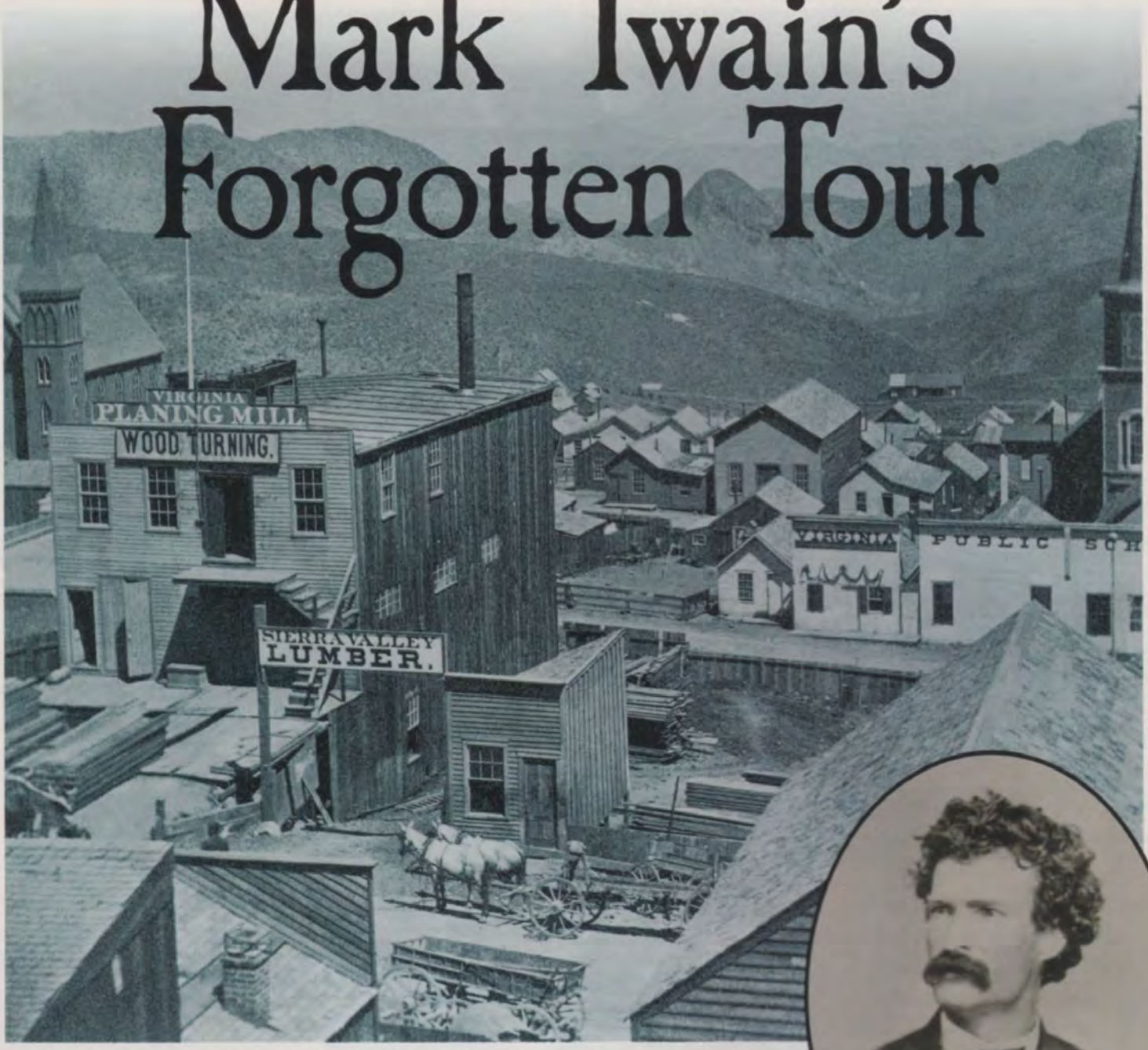
The four-and-a-half-mile section of the Flume Trail takes off from Marlette's outlet on the west-northwest shore. Because of the earlier section of climb, and the narrowness of the Flume Trail itself (still not much wider than its original 20-inch path), novice riders are not encouraged to attempt this ride. But for experienced riders, the views from the trail, etched out of the steep mountainside, are worth it. For safety's sake, it's best to pause on the side of the trail to appreciate the views of Sand Harbor, Lake Tahoe, and Tahoe's north and west shores. Riders sometimes nearly find themselves headed down to Sand Harbor, 2,000 feet below, because they're riding where they're looking. Once off the Flume Trail, the Tunnel Creek Road lends three miles of fun-loving downhill to Highway 28, where you can either pick up your shuttle vehicle or pedal the eight miles of highway back to Spooner Summit.

Water Awaits

After hiking or biking in the Marlette area, you may wish to take advantage of one more pleasure on Tahoe's east shore. That is, take a swim. Tahoe's best beach can be found at Sand Harbor, which is part of the state park. You can hike to Hidden Beach or another less visibly marked area on Highway 28 between Spooner and Incline Village. Soak your feet, legs, and head, for that matter, in Tahoe's crystal water. Give your body one last rest on the soothing sand or granite boulders. Then watch one of the fire-red sunsets that make Tahoe a special place in fall.

John Clausen, a photographer, avid mountain biker, and outdoor enthusiast, lives in Squaw Valley, California. His bicycling stories have appeared in Winning Magazine, *and he has written ski, heliski, and summer travel stories for Adventure Media publications.*

Mark Twain's Forgotten Tour



Virginia City was bustling when Twain returned in 1868. He had his photo taken during the tour (right).

The lecture tour of 1868, long overshadowed by his earlier Nevada sojourns, foretold Twain's fame as a man of letters.

By Guy Louis Rocha

When Mark Twain visited Nevada during his West Coast lecture tour of 1868, he brought with him a national reputation as a writer and humorist, and his arrival drew applause in the Virginia City newspapers. The *Territorial Enterprise*, where Twain had made his mark as a reporter a few years earlier, announced, "This celebrated humorist, after having visited the Holy Land and all the principal cities of the world, will again once more press his foot upon his native sagebrush this morning."

Yet Twain's 1868 visit is virtually forgotten today, long overshadowed by his first two Nevada sojourns. This Forgotten Tour, which even Twain scholars have overlooked, nevertheless has the ingredients of a good Twain tale. To lecture on his world travels, Twain booked large halls in Virginia City and Carson City. He found convivial company with reporters, politicians, and other old friends. He witnessed a remarkable event, the hanging of John Millian, who had been convicted of the murder of Virginia City prostitute Julia Bulette. And when Twain finally took leave of Nevada—unlike his two previous departures—he did not have to high-tail it

Photos: Library of Congress (top), Bancroft Library (bottom right)

'I am doing well,' Twain wrote. 'Have crossed one divide without getting, robbed anyway.'

to California with a cloud over his head.

The future author of *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (1884) first arrived in Carson City in August 1861 with his brother Orion, the newly appointed territorial secretary. Less than three years later, the young fortune seeker Sam Clemens had become the colorful and controversial journalist Mark Twain, having adopted his *nom de plume* while working as a reporter for the *Enterprise*. In May 1864, facing a duel with an angry Virginia City newspaper editor and the region's first great mining depression, the Comstock's bad-boy journalist left hurriedly for San Francisco, where the *Golden Era* magazine welcomed him as "the Sage-Brush Humorist from Silver-Land."

Two years later, Twain returned to his old Nevada haunts on a lucrative lecture tour, during which he spoke about his recent excursion to the Sandwich (Hawaiian) Islands. Twain was promoted as the "Wild Humorist of the Pacific Slope," reflecting his somewhat wider fame. The 1866 lecture tour is well known today because Twain wrote about the tour as well as his Hawaiian adventures in *Roughing It* (1872). Twain also chronicled how he was "robbed" at gunpoint by masked friends on the Divide between Virginia City and Gold Hill. Furious, he cut his stay short and left for California, again in a hurry. "Since then," he declared in *Roughing It*, "I play no practical jokes on people and generally lose my temper when one is played on me."

On the other hand, Twain's second lecture tour, in 1868, is forgotten partly because he makes no reference at all to it in *Roughing It*. Curiously, only a few Twain and Bulette biographers note that Twain saw Millian's execution, and virtually all fail to mention Twain's eyewitness account in the *Chicago Republican*. Fortunately, details of the 1868 tour are revealed in Nevada newspaper accounts, the journals of Comstock newspaperman Alfred Doten, and two letters that Twain wrote for the *Chicago Republican*.

As on his previous visit, Twain in 1868 toured Nevada and California to lecture on his recent travels—in this case, to Europe and the Holy Land. Twain was now 32, famed as the author of *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County and Other Sketches* (1867), and rapidly emerging as a writer of national stature.





Twain saw John Millian hanged for the murder of Julia Bulette (above).

San Francisco's *Alta California*, which had carried Twain's letters from Europe and the Holy Land, and the *Chicago Republican* arranged to carry his dispatches. "We are gratified to announce that we have contracted with the celebrated American humorist, Mark Twain, to furnish regular letters for the Republican," the Chicago newspaper announced on February 7, 1868. "We need not inform our readers, who are all, doubtless, familiar with Mark's former exploits in the literary line, that he stands already at the head of American humorous writers."

Although it had been a year and a half since the bogus robbery on the Divide, Twain had not forgotten the practical joke at his expense. When he arrived by mail coach at Coburn Station (Truckee), California, on April 23—after taking a steamboat from San Francisco to Sacramento, a train to Cisco, and then a six-horse sleigh to Donner Lake because heavy snow covered the newly laid Central Pacific tracks—Twain telegraphed his friend Joseph Goodman, owner of the *Territorial Enterprise* and co-conspirator in the heist:

"I am doing well. Have crossed one divide [Donner Summit] without getting robbed anyway. Mark Twain."

Goodman responded in the April 25 edition of the *Enterprise*: "Mark Twain arrived here at 5 o'clock yesterday morning in good health and without meeting a single footpad [highwayman] along the way. He will lecture at the Opera House on next Monday and Tuesday nights—sure." Albert Bigelow Paine, Twain's first biographer, wrote, "Even the robbers had reformed and entire safety was guaranteed him on the Divide between Virginia City and Gold Hill."

In fact, there was more somber business at hand. Twain arrived in Virginia City on April 24 just hours before the public hanging of Millian, who in a sensational trial had been found guilty of Bulette's murder the previous year. As Bulette reportedly moved to Virginia City in 1863, Twain may have known her when he was working for the *Enterprise*.

Alf Doten, who partied with Bulette on more than one occasion, saw Twain at the courthouse late in the morning as a crowd gathered to follow the lengthy procession to the gallows north of town. Doten, Dan De Quille, other Comstock reporters, and possibly Twain rode in the carriage with the two physicians whose job it was to pronounce Millian dead. More than 4,000 persons gathered at the gallows, which had been erected in a ravine near the Jewish cemetery. Protesting his innocence to the end, Millian, a black hood covering his head, dropped to his death after the sheriff sprung the trap door.

Photos: Nevada Historical Society

Mark Twain's Letter From Virginia City

Before he left Nevada for the last time, Mark Twain sent two dispatches about his Western travels to the Chicago Tribune. *Twain's second letter, dated May 2, 1868, included his eyewitness report of the hanging of John Millian (or Melanie), who the previous year had been convicted of murdering Virginia City prostitute Julia Bulette. Together, Bulette's murder and Millian's trial and execution rank among 19th-century Nevada's landmark events, and over the years the pair have reached mythological status, Bulette as the prostitute with a golden heart and Millian as the archvillain.*

Remarkably, Twain scholars have paid scant attention to his May 2 letter from Virginia City, which also covered mining news and travel notes and appeared in the Chicago Tribune *on May 31, 1868. So, perhaps for the first time in 131 years, Twain's memorable account of Millian's hanging is presented publicly.*

—Guy Louis Rocha

Letter From Mark Twain

Curious Changes.

Special Correspondence of the Chicago Republican

Virginia, Nevada, May 2.

I find some changes since I was here last. The little wildcat mines are abandoned and forgotten, and the happy millionaires in fancy (I used to be one of them) have wandered penniless to other climes, or have returned to honest labor for degrading wages. But the majority of the great silver mines on the Comstock lode are flourishing....

Novel Entertainment.

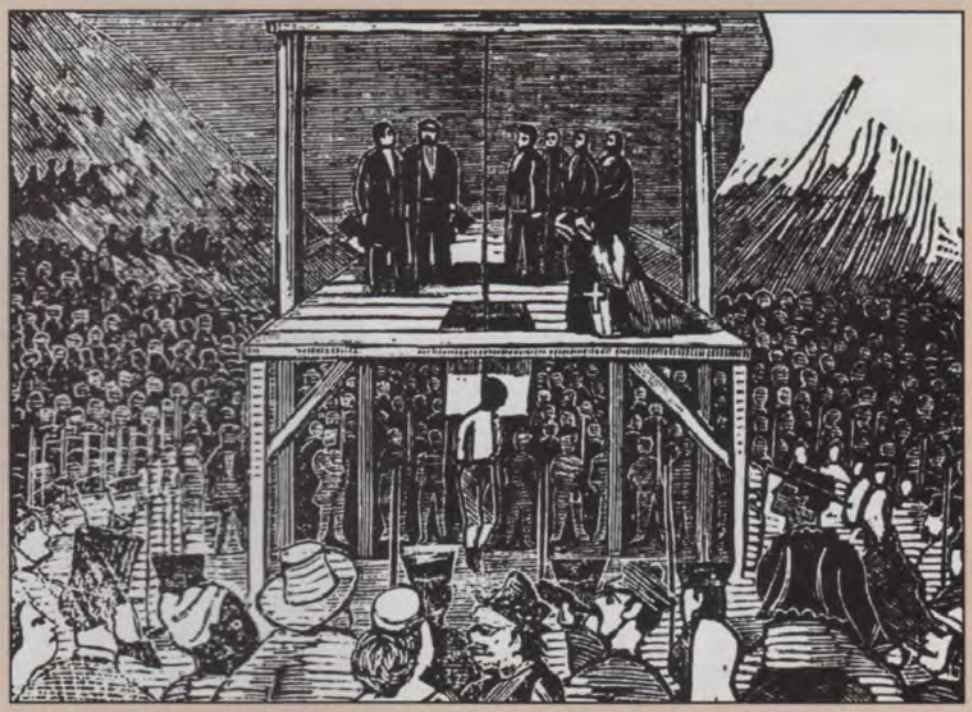
But I am tired talking about mines. I saw a man hanged the other day, John Melanie, of France. He was the first man ever hanged in this city (or country either), where the first twenty-six graves in the cemetery were those of men who died by shots and stabs.

I never had witnessed an execution before, and did not believe I could be present at this one without turning away my head at the last moment. But I did not know what fascina[tion] there was about the thing, then. I only went because I thought I ought to have a lesson, and because I believed that if ever it would be possible to see a man hanged, and derive satisfaction from the spectacle, this was the time. For John Melanie was no common murderer—else he would have gone free. He was a heartless assassin. A year ago, he secreted himself under the house of a woman of the town who lived alone, and in the dead watches of the night, he entered her room, knocked her senseless with a billet of wood as she slept, and then strangled her with his fingers. He carried off all her money, her watches, and every article of her wearing apparel, and the next day, with quiet effrontery, put some crape on his arm and walked in her funeral procession.

Afterward he secreted himself under the bed of another woman of the town, and in the middle of the night was crawling out with a slung-shot in one hand and a butcher knife in the other, when the woman discovered him, alarmed the neighborhood with her screams, and he retreated from the house. Melanie sold dresses and jewelry here and there until some of the articles were identified as belonging to the murdered courtezan. He was arrested and then his later intended victim recognized him.

After he was tried and condemned to death, he tried to curse and swear at all who approached him, and he once grossly insulted some young Sisters of Charity who came to minister kindly to his wants. The morning of the execution, he joked with the barber, and told him not to cut his throat—he wanted the distinction of being hanged.

This is the man I wanted to see hung. I joined the appointed physicians, so that I might be admitted within the charmed circle and be close to Melanie. Now I never more shall be surprised at anything. That assassin got out of the close carriage, and the first thing his eye fell upon was that awful gallows towering above a great sea of human heads, out yonder on the hill side—and his cheek never blanched, and never a muscle quivered! He strode firmly away, and skipped gaily up the steps of the gallows like a happy girl. He looked around upon the people, calmly; he examined the gallows with a critical eye, and with the pleased curiosity of a man who sees for the first time a wonder he has often heard of. He swallowed frequently, but there was no evidence of trepidation about him—and not the slightest stir of braggadocia whatever. He prayed with the priest, and then drew out an abusive manuscript and read from it in a clear, strong voice, without a quaver in it. It was a broad, thin sheet of paper, and he held it apart in front of him as he stood. If ever his hand trembled in even the slightest degree, it never quivered that paper. I watched him at that sickening moment when the sheriff was fitting the noose about his neck, and pushing the knot this way and that to get



Twain attended Millian's execution on the day he arrived in Virginia City. Twain reported that before the hanging, here depicted by the *California Police Gazette*, the condemned man was "perfectly serene."

Illustration: Bancroft Library

it nicely adjusted to the hollow under his ear—and if they had been measuring Melanie for a shirt, he could not have been more perfectly serene. I never saw anything like that before. My own suspense was almost unbearable—my blood was leaping through my veins, and my thoughts were crowding and trampling upon each other. Twenty moments to live—fifteen to live—ten to live—five—four—three—heaven and earth, how the time galloped!—and yet that man stood there unmoved though he knew that the sheriff was reaching deliberately for the drop while the black cap descended over his quiet face!—then down through the hole in the scaffold the strap-bound figure shot like a dart!—a dreadful shiver started at the shoulders, violently convulsed the whole body all the way down, and died away with a tense drawing of the toes downward, like a doubled fist—and all was over!

I saw it all. I took exact note of every detail, even to Melanie's considerately helping to fix the leather strap that bound his legs together and his quiet removal of his slippers—and I never wish to see it again. I can see that stiff straight corpse hanging there yet, with its black pillow-cased head turned rigidly to one side, and the purple streaks creeping through the hands and driving the fleshy hue of life before them. Ugh!

Up Among the Clouds.

I rather dread the trip over the Sierra Nevada to-morrow. Now that you can come nearly all the way from Sacramento to this city by rail, one would suppose that the journey is pleasant enough, but it is not. It is more irksome than it was before—more tiresome on account of your being obliged to shift from cars to stages and back again every now and then in the mountains. We used to rattle across all the way by stage, and never mind it at all, save that we had to ride thirty hours without stopping....

Amen.

I came very near starting overland to Chicago to-day, with the Nevada delegates to the [Republican national] convention. But I will wait till June. I beg to commend the California and Nevada delegates to your kind courtesies, however—especially the Nevada one, whose heart is so large that it distends his body and deceives strangers into the notion that he is corpulent—and the noisy California one with the cordial manner and the enormous moustache. They be friends of mine.

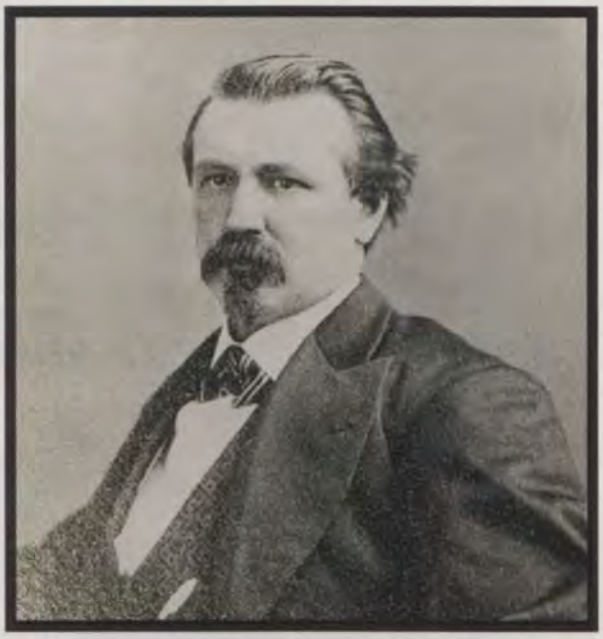
Mark Twain.

Why Twain failed to include the grisly event in *Roughing It* we may never know. But Twain's May 2 letter, subtitled "Novel Entertainment," to the *Chicago Republican* made it clear that he had never seen an execution before. He wrote of Millian, "This is the man I wanted to see hung.... He was a heartless assassin." In the end, Twain found the hanging not only captivating but revolting, and his final word was "Ugh!" We know from Twain's *Notebooks & Journals* that he later considered the death penalty an "anachronism" and the "opposite of a deterrent." Perhaps the graphic execution contributed to his stance on capital punishment. (Because of hangings like the Millian spectacle, Nevada outlawed public executions in 1875).

The crowds attending Twain's lectures on April 27 and 28, 1868, at Piper's Opera House were much smaller than the horde that witnessed John Millian's hanging. Two Odd Fellows balls siphoned off many would-be-attendees on Monday night. Before his Tuesday night lecture Twain drank champagne with Alf Doten, Phil Lynch, and Joe Goodman at the *Gold Hill News* office. In his diary Doten described Twain's unusual opening at Piper's: "at 8-1/2 oclock a piano was heard in behind the curtain—as it went up, Mark was discovered playing rudely on it, & singing 'There was an old 'hoss & his name was Jerusalem' etc—He came forward, & apologized for so introducing things on the ground that if any of them had been waiting behind the curtain as long as he had, they would appreciate some relief of the kind." Doten, who attended both lectures, noted the one-hour talks were "humorous," "pleasing & instructive," and "Much applauded."

Before his lecture Twain drank champagne at the office of the *Gold Hill News*.

On the other hand, Doten observed on the first night, "Not very full house," and on the second, "about the same audience as last." Twain, ever obsessed with his financial condition, did not forget the perceived slight. In 1871, recalling his experience at Piper's Opera House—the building drafty and cold—Twain advised James Redpath of the Boston Lyceum Bureau to schedule temperance lecturer John Bartholomew Gough for only "1 night (or possibly 2,) in Virginia City, Nevada (provided you can get a church—for they won't go to that nasty theatre.)" He also referred to the disappointing receipts in a letter to Joe Goodman. As paraphrased in the *Territorial Enterprise* of March 26, 1869, Twain wrote, "I shall lecture in San Francisco in April or May. Come down boys. I can't go to Virginia, having killed myself twice already in the lecture business." Goodman quipped, "We should think he might stand a little more of the same kind of 'killing, and even more the terrible footpads of the Divide, though those now infesting that vicinity are of the genuine order—not make-believes, like those who 'went through' him on the occasion of his first appearance in this city as a lecturer." But Twain's plans fell through, and he never returned to Nevada or California after 1868.



Alf Doten attended his friend's lectures at Piper's Opera House.

Following his two appearances at Piper's Opera House, Twain planned to lecture in Carson City. Before he left Virginia City, assayer Conrad Wiegand presented Twain with a silver ingot worth about $40 and bearing the inscription "Mark Twain—Matthew, V:41—Pilgrim." The *Territorial Enterprise* noted, "All our readers will recollect at once that the verse referred to

(Continued on page 87)

Photo: Nevada Historical Society

Members of the



Illustrations by John Bardwell

Club

The reel story behind slot clubs in Nevada casinos—and how you can get pull.

By Connie Emerson

High rollers, move over. While big spenders used to be the only kings and queens in Nevada's gambling palaces, casinos are now courting new royalty. They're the members of slot clubs who cash in on perks once reserved for table-game VIPs.

Slot club members are easy to spot. Just look for players clutching personalized plastic cards—about the size of a credit card—which they faithfully insert into card readers at every video poker and slot machine they play. Some of the readers, built into the fronts of the newer machines and attached to the sides of older models, verify a card's acceptance by responding, "Hello, Barney. Congratulations. You have 63 points." Then the reader tracks the amount of money that goes through the machine.

As coins are played, a countdown mechanism is activated, and points are awarded. Points can be exchanged for meals, rooms, amenities, logo items, and, at most casinos, cash.

Membership in these play-for-prizes clubs is growing faster than you can run $10 through a quarter machine. "It's an idea that absolutely was perfect," Anthony Curtis, longtime casino watcher and publisher of the *Las Vegas Advisor*, says. "There was a void. No one was doing anything for the middle-end gamblers, whose business was important to the casinos. Slot clubs filled the need."

Although most people associate slot clubs with Nevada, the concept premiered at Atlantic City's Sands Casino in 1982. About two years later, the 24 Karat Club at Steve Wynn's Golden Nugget in Las Vegas became the first slot club in Nevada. The 24 Karat Club is still considered one of the best for slot club aficionados who play tokens worth a dollar or more—the only denominations that earn points in the Golden Nugget's tracking program. (The majority of Nevada's slot clubs also reward people who play quarter machines, and several cover nickel machine play. A number of casinos include table and keno players in their programs.)

While the slot clubs at smaller casinos such as the Hotel Nevada in Ely (3,600 members) aren't large, membership in the major casinos' slot clubs can be huge—usually in the hundreds of thousands. Peyton Parker, slot director at Binion's Horseshoe in downtown Las Vegas, says, "We have 190,000 members. Most casinos, when the database gets that size, start weeding out names. We remove names of members whose records show no activity for 18 months."

Even with all those players, casinos use innumerable schemes to attract new members. As an enticement to join the slot club at Crystal Bay's Tahoe Biltmore last summer, new members received 10 tickets to win $5,000 in half dollars at weekly Sunday-night drawings. The 60,000 half dollars displayed in the casino acted as a visual lure for the deal, which Amy Price of the sales department referred to as "quite a promotion."

At the Ramada Express Slot Club in Laughlin, new members receive a comp for two nights (Sunday through Friday) on their next visit when they rack up 450 points in 48 hours. At the Fiesta in North Las Vegas, you don't have to wait in line to sign up. By visiting the casino's Web site (www.fiesta-casinohotel.com) you can enroll online.

In exchange for points, almost all clubs offer meals and discounted or free rooms as well as logo items such as mugs, T-shirts, athletic bags, warm-up jackets, and caps. A few hotels, including Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas, exchange slot club points for scrip that can be used at selected stores and restaurants within the resort and applied to members' hotel bills. Points at the CasaBlanca's Play it Again Club in Mesquite can be redeemed at the resort's restaurants, spa, gift shop, and golf course.

Most of the larger hotel-casinos offer club members discounts at the properties' shopping arcades, some without requiring that members surrender any points. Rewards at Caesars Palace's Emperors Club in Las Vegas include discounts in the adjacent Forum Shops. Members of John's Club at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks can use points for gift shop and salon discounts.

The vast majority of slot club cards can be used only in the issuing casino, even though that casino may be one of several under the same ownership. However, there are exceptions.

"Harrah's was the first hotel-casino group to create what we call a 'brand strategy, with rewards transferable between properties," says John Packer of Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Harrah's Players Club points are awarded for both machine and table play as well as keno at Harrah's at Lake Tahoe, Reno, Laughlin, and Las Vegas. "This brand strategy encourages cross-property visitation," Packer says. Recently,



Club members at Golden Nugget Laughlin can win turkeys each November.

the Palace, Boulder, Sunset, and Texas Stations unveiled the Boarding Pass, which allows members to accumulate and spend their points at any of the four Las Vegas properties as well as for gift certificates at the Galleria Mall.

In addition to receiving awards and cash, slot club members can take part in special promotions. One of the favorites in the current crop of Las Vegas casino promotions is Club Monte Carlo's daily slot tournament, which costs 50 points (the equivalent of a $5 cash-back certificate at the Monte Carlo) to enter.

Normand Leureault, a gambler from Rhode Island, played the daily tourney during a recent vacation. He says, "After my wife and I arrived in Las Vegas on Friday, we checked out all the casinos and had the best luck at Monte Carlo, so we joined their club." Leureault won the top prize of $500 in Monte Carlo's daily slot tournament two hours before the couple's flight home the following Wednesday. Also at Monte Carlo, slot club members can win merchandise from the Party Cart, which travels through the casino.

Other promotions include drawings for cars, trucks, houses, Hawaiian vacations, and chances to earn money by grabbing it in a "Whirlwind of Cash" glass booth. At Boomtown in Verdi, players who use their cards when playing slots, video poker, table games, and keno can earn additional entries for a four-day, three-night West Coast vacation in the casino's nightly 7 p.m. drawings as well as the hourly cash drawings from 2 to 6 p.m. The Eldorado in Reno holds six Bucks & Benz giveaway weekends each year. From March 1998 to June 1999, nine Mercedes, seven boats, six VW Beetles, and 80 cruises were awarded to lucky ticket holders.

Each November, members of the Golden Nugget Laughlin's 24 Karat Club members can win turkeys if they accumulate a certain number of points. "And when players earn 1,200 or 1,500 points, they get special gifts," says assistant club manager Joni Harman. "One year they were turkey platters, another turkey salt and pepper shakers."

Some of the promotions are ongoing. Others—like the turkeys—last only a short time. Kathleen Boyd of Cactus Petes in Jackpot says, "Our promotions change from day to day. One day we may give a roll of like coins [quarters for quarters] to video poker players who get nine fours. Next day, slot jackpot winners may get T-shirts in addition to their cash payouts."



There are triple point days, such as Mother's Day at the Barbary Coast in Las Vegas.

Especially popular are the double point promotions offered by some slot clubs on certain days or months. There are triple point days, such as Mother's Day at the Barbary Coast in Las Vegas. On Mother's Day, the Riverside Resort's King of Clubs in Laughlin presents cash bonuses to players who get four queens on video poker machines. The Riverside rewards four kings on Father's Day and four fours on the Fourth of July. A number of slot clubs send newsletters telling members about upcoming promotions.

Along with the tangible slot club awards, some not-so-obvious advantages come with membership. Those in the know say it's often possible to get complimentary meals without spending any of your points. In her book, *The Frugal Gambler* (Huntington Press, Las Vegas, 1998), Jean Scott devotes an entire chapter to comps and how to get them. Because she belongs to a number of slot clubs, the retired teacher from Indianapolis stayed 49 nights for free at hotels including the Stardust, New Frontier, and Riviera during a 50-night Las Vegas visit.



Scott suggests that after playing for a time, the player should tell a change person that he or she would like to speak to one of the slot hosts, whose job it is to see that slot and video poker players have a good time. When the slot host arrives, ask politely, "What does it take to get a buffet [or breakfast or dinner]?" Scott says hosts usually will check your slot club records and then write out a comp or tell you how many more points you need.

Some slot club brochures, including that of the Rio in Las Vegas, spell out just how much slot or video poker action is required for comp meals and rooms without the forfeiture of points. At the Rio, where each dollar in action earns one point, players who accumulate daily averages of 7,000 to 14,999 points during their stays get a complimentary suite. Those who rack up more points get food and beverage allowances.

At other casinos, players who reach a certain number of lifetime points receive comped rooms. Then, too, players with a high level of slot or video poker play are invited to special events such as this year's millennium parties. "Slot club members are very important to us," says Harrah's John Packer. "Our database for all the Harrah's gaming properties contains about 10 million names, which is very important in getting to know who the good customers are and to reward them for their loyalty."

Clubs often send discount coupons and free hotel night certificates to members on their birthdays and anniversaries. Free tickets to shows featuring big-name entertainers are among other mail-outs. Older properties, such as the Riviera and New Frontier in Las Vegas, are the most likely to send complimentary room offers to regular customers and greatly discounted room rate deals to the not-so-regulars.

If you decide to join, you'll find that slot clubs are like shoes: One size simply does not fit everyone. The casino that's best for you may not necessarily be the best for the guy across the casino aisle. Millie Goebel, who lives in Minnesota dur-

(Continued on page 91)

NEVADA NV2000 Making Millennium Magic

Millennium Countdown

CALENDAR

October 1999 January 2001

of Nevada Events & Shows



Popular Hawthorne mascot Cecil the Serpent surfaces in the Nevada Day parade in Carson City.

Photos: Janet Jones (center), Gary Elam (background)

A Section of NEVADA MAGAZINE

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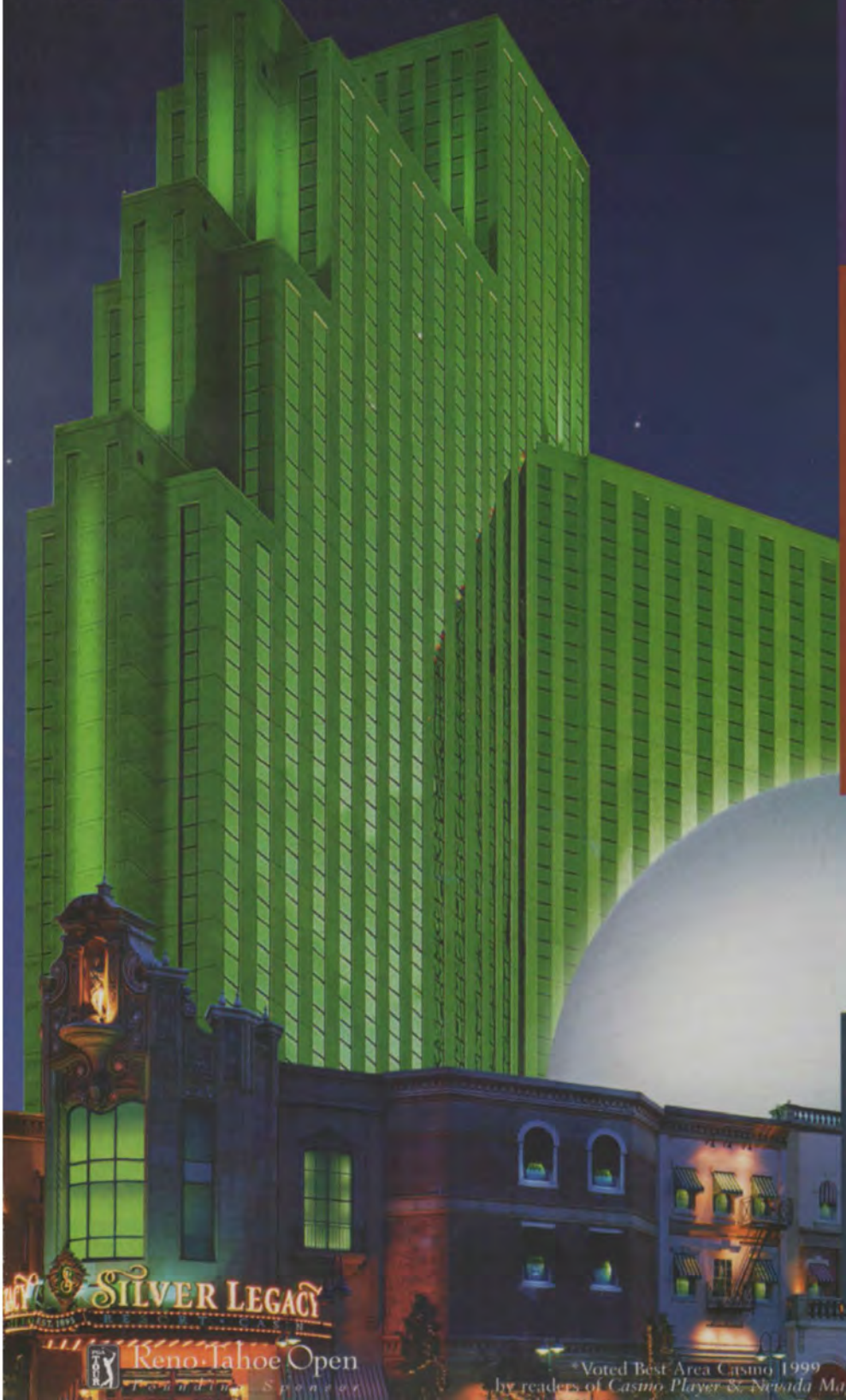


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A Hallowed Holiday



High school marching bands like the Green Wave of Fallon play a big part in the Nevada Day parade.

Nevada Day kicks off the state's millennium celebration with pageantry and pachyderms in Carson City.

By David Moore

The jets from the Fallon air base caught many people by surprise when they first flew over the Nevada Day parade 10 years ago. As spectators craned their necks to see the Navy fighters approach downtown Carson City, horse riders and wagon masters looked nervously at their animals. Horses throughout the procession cocked their ears.

The jets roared. The horses reared.

"Quite a few of the horses reared up and scattered, and some riders didn't stay in the saddle. It was quite a scene," former Nevada Day chairman Ed Blanchard recalls. "Now the fly-over takes place at the start of the parade, and we warn all riders beforehand that it might be a good idea to stand down while the jets fly over."

This mixture of unexpected excitement and old-fashioned horse sense seems appropriate on Nevada Day, the state's birthday, October 31. Carson City's Nevada Day celebration usually runs like clockwork. The parade starts promptly at 10 o'clock in the morning, rain or shine. Up to 40,000 spectators gather on the curb or sit in chairs in the back of pickup trucks along the parade route. Two hundred and fifty entries march or ride down Carson Street. The parade presents a tableau of life in the Silver State—the governor, U.S. senators, high school marching bands, antique car clubs, Conestoga wagons, dog clubs, cat clubs, cowboys, cowgirls, clowns, gymnasts, Lions, Elks, Shriners, firefighters, and muzzleloaders.



These motorcyclists seem bewitched by both October 31st holidays.

"I call it one of the best small-town parades in America," says Mike Shaughnessy, a former Nevada Day chairman who grew up in Carson City. Or as an impressed Californian stated last year, standing in front of the Texaco station as a drill team marched by, "I think it's amazing that people here celebrate Halloween so strongly."

By historical accident Nevada is the one place in the country where Halloween happens to be a state holiday. That's because on October 31, 1864, President Abraham Lincoln signed Nevada

Photos: Janet Jones (top), Lisa J. Tolda/Reno Gazette-Journal (bottom)

into statehood. It is not known whether Honest Abe was handing out apples to trick-or-treaters or seized by a sugar rush when he made Nevada a state. It is known that Lincoln wanted the new, pro-Union state's support to help pass the 13th Amendment, which would abolish slavery,

'This isn't Halloween. It's Nevada Day, the state's birthday.'

and ensure his reelection in 1864. Thus Nevada Day—the state's most hallowed holiday—falls on Halloween.

This is a boon, of course, for young ghosts and goblins in the Reno-Carson area. Since Carson usually holds its trick-or-treat orgy a night early because of Nevada Day, kids from Reno, Gardnerville, and other towns head to the capital for an extra night's supply of candy. Meanwhile, the Nevada Day spirit seems to infect Carson's approach to All Hallow's Eve as residents show off elaborately decorated witches and jack o' lanterns on their lawns.

During the next two years, Nevada Day will play a part in the new millennium, and vice versa. This fall, the Nevada Day weekend will mark the official beginning of Nevada's 15-month millennium celebration with such events as the parade, 1864 Grand Ball, and World Championship Single-Jack Rock Drilling Contest (see page 27). By tradition, because October 31 this year is a Sunday, the parade and most other events will move to Saturday.

However, starting in the year 2000, Nevada Day festivities won't necessarily fall on October 31. Instead, due to a recent change in state law, they will be part of a Friday-through-Sunday getaway on the last weekend in October. The change will allow parade entries to travel to the capital more easily from Las Vegas, Panaca, Ely, and Elko. Also, it will put more focus on Nevada Day as the state's birthday and less on that other holiday, according to Ed Blanchard.



Future Nevada Day chairman Mike Shaughnessy (left) walked with his father, Jack, in the 1938 parade.

"We got a letter one year from Anheuser Busch asking if they could bring the Budweiser Clydesdales to be in our Halloween parade," Blanchard, who lobbied for the new three-day holiday, recalls. "Whoa! We called them and said, 'This isn't Halloween. It's Nevada Day, the state's birthday. Well, they did bring the Clydesdales, and they were a big hit in the parade."

Nevada's admission day hasn't always been celebrated in the capital. In fact, for many years Nevada Day was not a holiday at all. Its first major observance apparently took place in 1889, when the Pacific Coast Pioneer Society of Virginia City held a banquet to honor Nevada's 25th birthday. Two years later Governor Roswell Colcord signed a bill making October 31 a judicial holiday, but over the years little celebrating took place. The holiday was revived when Reno residents celebrated the state's semicentennial in 1914. The Nevada Day movement was led by the Society of Nevada, a group of pioneers that sponsored the Reno festivities for two decades.

In 1933 the legislature passed a bill naming October 31 Nevada Day and a discretionary state holiday, but the Reno celebration was losing steam. State Archivist Guy Louis Rocha, an expert on Nevada

Parade Watching



Nevada Day brings kids and clowns to the parade route.

Nevada Day parade-goers should consider the following strategies:

★ **Where to Watch:** Parade entries move from side streets into Carson Street at the north end of town, so it's best to watch south of U.S. 50 (William Street) to see the full parade. Also, some parade regulars avoid the four blocks near the Capitol where center islands force the procession to split in two.

★ **Musical Spot:** The band judges will observe entries from the stand at the old Federal Building (home of *Nevada Magazine*). Because the school marching bands pause there to do their best numbers for the judges, it's a good place for music fans.

★ **Be Prepared:** Take sunscreen for sun, a hat for heat, a coat for cold, an umbrella for rain, and a folding chair if you find a wide enough spot on the curb. For good seats, arrive an hour or two before the parade's 10 a.m. starting time. There will be concessions on corners, or you can bring your own water and other supplies.—*David Moore*

Photos: Mike Shaughnessy Collection (top), Lisa J. Tolda/Reno Gazette-Journal (bottom)

Day history, writes, "By the mid-1930s the Society of Nevadans' membership had dwindled to a small core group. Most of the early pioneers and members had since died. Conditions reached a point in 1937 that it appeared the traditional celebration was going to fade from the scene due to a lack of support."

To the rescue came a group of Carson City citizens led by Judge Clark Guild, later a founder of the Nevada State Museum, and Reno advertising man Thomas C. Wilson. Mel Cooper of Carson believes his father, Clum, helped plant the idea in 1937 or '38. "My dad lived in Reno then. One day he was talking to Clark Guild and told him, 'Reno business people won't support Nevada Day. Why don't you move it to Carson City?'"

The late Tom Wilson recalled in a 1980 *Nevada Magazine* interview that Rotary Club members in Carson City asked him to look into bringing the parade to the capital in 1938. Some residents noted that the state's 75th birthday would take place the next year. At the time, Reno was by far the state's most populous city, with more than 20,000 residents. Carson had a population of about 3,000 and was known as the smallest state capital in the country.



Native American floats recognize Washoe, Paiute, and Shoshone organizations throughout the region.

"I checked with the local people, and there wasn't a soul who thought it could work," Wilson said. "The reaction was 100 percent negative." Meanwhile, he sent letters to organizations around the state. "Forty-five out of 50 thought it was a hell of a good idea. There was such a unanimous and enthusiastic response from outside Carson. So everyone said, 'OK, let's do it.'" The Carson City organizers held a meeting on the courthouse steps and named Judge Guild chairman of the event. The 1938 parade proved a great success, and a tradition was born. The next year the legislature designated Nevada Day an official state holiday in time for the state's diamond jubilee.

Mike Shaughnessy has a photo that shows him walking in the first parade, in 1938, with his father, Jack. Three-year-old Mike was dressed in buckskins as Kit Carson. "Dad decided to be part of the parade, and each year I would be dressed as a different character," says Shaughnessy. "One year I was Robert E. Lee, riding a white pony. Another I was Mark Twain, dressed in a white suit and wearing a red beard. I was a prospector with a burro. One time I was a miner pushing an ore car that had rubber tires."

Eventually Shaughnessy moved up in the parade. In the 1960s and '70s, while serving as head of the Nevada Day Committee, he and his family often rode in an antique car near the front of the long procession. Shaughnessy recalls one year when the car didn't show up, leaving him and two granddaughters stranded. "Before the parade started, Governor Richard Bryan saw our predicament and invited me and my granddaughters to join him. So we rode with the governor that year."

To keep the festivities well ordered, Shaughnessy and his successors—Ed Stokke, Ed Blanchard, and current chairman Reg Creasey—have insisted on high standards of operation. For instance, the parade always begins on time. "Some parades, they start whenever," Shaughnessy says. "But we made it a policy that it starts at 10 a.m. without fail. We've left behind the police escort, bands, even the governor one time. But after people knew we started at 10 sharp, we didn't have any problems."

One year, after 300 bands, floats, and car clubs limped through the parade, the committee decided to limit the number of entries to 250. Crowd favorites include Cecil the Serpent, the green motorized sea monster from Hawthorne, and Bertha and Angel (previously Tina), the showroom elephants from John Ascuaga's Nugget. Each year entries are rotated in the 10 divisions that form on side streets and flow onto Carson Street as the parade marches south toward the reviewing stands at the old Federal Building (home of *Nevada Magazine*) and near the Carson Mall. Of course, for committee members, complaints come with the territory.

"One year a band director complained to me about the horse droppings in the

Nevada Day 1999

Nevada's 135th birthday will be celebrated on Nevada Day weekend, October 29-31, in Carson City. Nevada Day also kicks off the state's 15-month millennium celebration, "Nevada 2000: Making Millennium Magic."

The 1864 Grand Ball, a tribute to the Civil War days when Nevada was admitted to the Union, takes place Friday evening at the Ormsby House. Celebrants dress in period or formal attire. Cost is $35 for both dance and dinner or $10 for the dance only.

The parade and most other events will be held Saturday, October 30, since Nevada Day, October 31, falls on Sunday. The parade starts at 10 a.m. with a flyover by F-80 fighter jets from Fallon Naval Air Station. This year's parade features Pony Express Territory and the theme "Steaming Into the Millennium: Nevada's Historic Railroads." The grand marshal will be golf star Patty Sheehan of Reno.



Scott Havens of Congress, Arizona, sets a world record of 16-5/16 inches in the 1993 Single-Jack Rock Drilling Contest.

The 26th annual World Championship Single-Jack Rock Drilling Contest starts at 11 a.m. The contest has its roots in holiday contests between old-time miners. Following the parade, judges will convene the Beard Contest on the Capitol steps. Awards will be given for the reddest, longest, and scruffiest sets of whiskers.

On Sunday the "Racing into the Millennium" Handcar Races will be held at the Nevada State Railroad Museum. Teams of five are welcome to enter. Call the Nevada Day Office, 775-882-2600, for additional details on events. Call the Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 800-NEVADA-1, for lodging information.—*Virginia Nuzum*

Photos: Janet Jones (left), Larry D. Taylor (right)

street," Shaughnessy says. "He was concerned about his kids wearing white shoes. Well, you can't have a Western parade without horse droppings, but he really complained. So I put him behind Bertha and Tina."

All entries must step lively to keep the procession orderly and the crowd entertained. Over the years, there have been many high and low points in the parade.

• During the Carson celebration's first two decades, women wore period dress in the week before Nevada Day and local men grew beards. The beard contest was a major event. Also, the Virginia and Truckee Railroad ran a special train to bring carloads of parade-goers from Reno.

• In the 1940s and '50s, the parade was always followed by a football game between Carson and Reno high schools. Shaughnessy played for Carson, a much smaller school than Reno. "People would come to see if the underdog would ever win. One year we were ahead 7 to 6 at halftime," he remembers. "We lost 46 to 7."

• Many Reno and Tahoe casinos used to have entries in the parade. In the early years Harolds Club sponsored post-parade fireworks. Harolds also entered its trademark station wagon covered with silver dollars. For many years John Ascuaga's Nugget has provided Bertha and Angel, and Harrah's has entered floats featuring showgirls and casino characters.

• Harolds Club once built a special mining contraption on a float. Employees would shovel rocks in the top, and out the bottom would shoot silver dollars, which the employees then threw to spectators. In the early 1960s, however, a child was hurt by a silver dollar flung from a float. Since then it's been against the rules to throw silver dollars, candy, or other objects during the parade.







Nevada Day parades in the '40s resembled today's except for the crowd control (above). Spectators, who now look for Bertha and Angel (top left), watched high-kicking Sade J. Grant in 1952 (top right).

• Each year from 1938 till the early '70s spectators would watch as Sade J. Grant, a Carson City secretary and part-time reporter, danced her way down the parade route. Blanchard says, "In her last parade she rode in a convertible, and she could still kick over her head."

• *Bonanza's* Lorne Green, Dan Blocker, and Michael Landon led the parade in 1964 for Nevada Day's centennial celebration. *Bonanza* was set at Lake Tahoe and Virginia City.

• One year in the mid-1970s a float for the Moonlight Ranch brothel slipped into the procession. "The girls weren't too covered up, you know," Blanchard recalls. "They only got three blocks. They haven't tried since."

• Before cheering crowds, rock driller Fred Andreasen of Carson City won the single-jack world championship several times in the 1970s and '80s against highly touted challengers from Colorado and Arizona. Like old-time miners who drilled by hand, the contestants hammer steel bits into a block of Sierra white granite as deep as possible in 10 minutes. Drillers from the Mackay School of Mines at the University of Nevada, Reno have sharpened the competition in recent years.

• Organizers were a little nervous one Nevada Day when rancher Hap McGee brought 12 longhorns to the parade, but the steers walked the route like veterans. "They walked between the chuckwagon and outriders," Shaughnessy says. "I tell you, it was awesome. Those longhorns were better behaved than a lot of the horses."

Although the parade is the big attraction, other Nevada Day festivities are popular, too. One is the 1864 Grand Ball, in which revelers dress in 19th-century costumes and dance the night away. The World Championship Single-Jack Rock Drilling Contest attracts old-style rock drillers from around the West, and the bleachers facing the big drilling rock fill with fans as the parade winds down. At this year's Beard Contest on the Capitol steps, the whiskered residents of Virginia City will defend their group title.

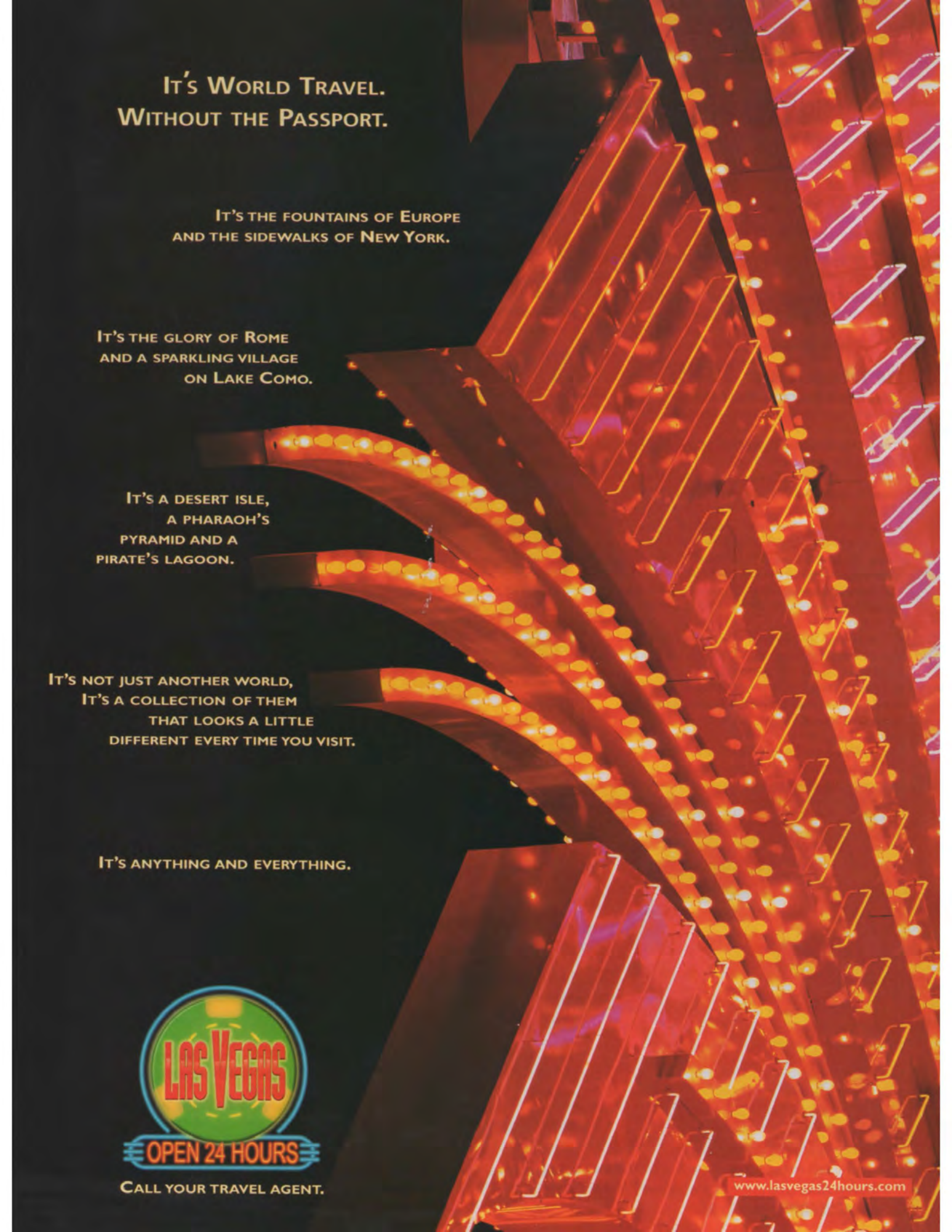
One other thing is certain this coming Nevada Day weekend: The parade will go on as scheduled.

"They didn't have the parade from about 1942 to 1944," Shaughnessy says. "After all, Pearl Harbor happened not long after Nevada Day in 1941." But the event has taken place in Carson City every year since—even when the weather was too bad for Halloween.

"The parade has never been canceled," he says. "We've had beautiful weather. We've had cold, snow, rain, and wind. We've had units drop out, but the parade always goes on."

David Moore is Nevada's *editor. He usually stands near the Texaco station during the Nevada Day parade.*

Photos: Janet Jones (top left), Daun Bohall Collection/Nevada State Museum (top right), Nevada State Museum (bottom)


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AND A SPARKLING VILLAGE
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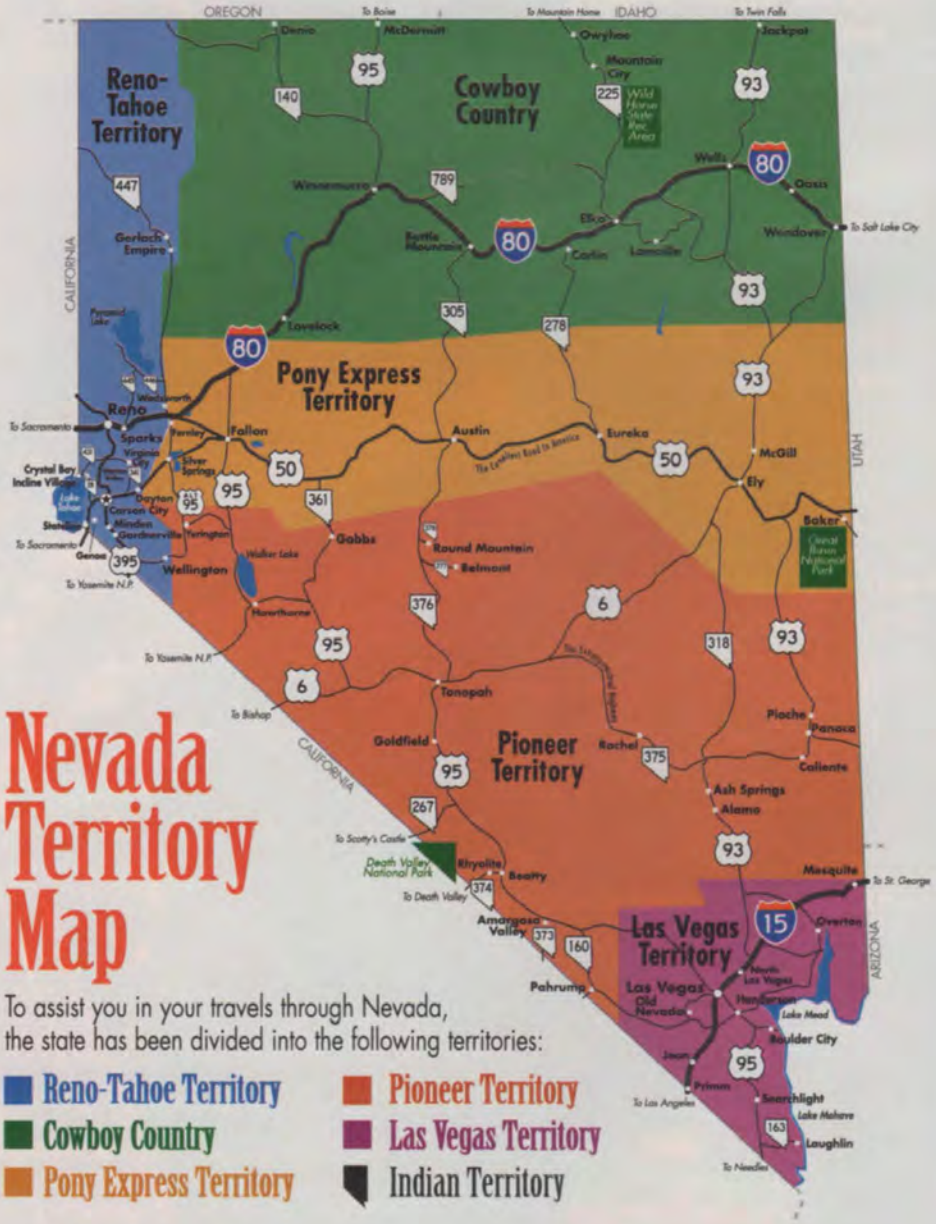
Millennium Countdown

CALENDAR

Nevada, with its glittering resorts, friendly small-town festivals, and scenic and man-made attractions, is planning a once-in-a-lifetime celebration for the millennium. Instead of one party, one night, Nevada welcomes visitors to 15 months of festivities from Nevada Day weekend, October 30-31, 1999, to Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2001. Following is a statewide day-by-day guide to events and entertainers. Dates are subject to change, so it is wise to confirm dates and times. Each event is color-coded to the Nevada Territory Map.

September 1999

- **Thru Sept. 6 Elko County Fair:** Horse racing, home arts, stock horse show, booths. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.
- **Thru Sept. 8 Rodney Dangerfield** headlines at MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-929-1111
- **Aug. 27-28 Cher in Concert:** Stop on the singer's Believe summer tour. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.
- **Aug. 31-Sept. 5 The Righteous Brothers** appear at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111
- **Aug. 31-Sept. 5 Days of Gold Poker Tournament:** Reno Hilton, 775-789-2313.
- **1 Charo and Sammy King** perform at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-356-3300.
- **1 De la Soul** performs at the House of Blues. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.
- **1-4 World Series Slot Tournament:** $300 entry fee. Luxor, Las Vegas, 800-876-0006.
- **1-7 Far West River Gorge Rendezvous and Wood Bow Hoorah:** Mountain man run, shooting, knife throwing, Dutch oven cook-off, story telling, lying, buffalo dinner. Mezona Gun Club/Hafen Ranch, Mesquite, 702-346-6038.
- **2-3 Ultra Lite Fly-In** Ultra Lite and plane rides, demonstrations, food, competitions. Ely Airport, 775-289-4687
- **2-5 Donna Summer** performs at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.
- **2-5 Bolshoi Ballet** performs at the Luxor, Las Vegas, 702-262-4822.
- **2-15 Crystal Gayle and Billy Garan** perform at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427
- **2-19 Model Train Display:** Each Thurs.-Sun., Elks Lodge, Gardnerville, 775-265-5863.
- **3 Three Dog Night** performs at the Stardust, Las Vegas, 702-732-6111
- **3 John Michael Montgomery** headlines at Sunset Station, Henderson, 702-547-7777
- **3 Western Art Gallery:** Grand opening featuring works by Edward Weston, Ansel Adams. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.
- **3-5 Tony Danza** appears at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 800-634-6909.
- **3-5 "Cats":** Broadway's longest running musical. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-686-6600.
- **3-5 LeAnn Rimes** appears at the Las Vegas Hilton, 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361
- **3-6 White Pine Ultralight Fly-In:** Displays, competitions, food. Old Hangar, Ely, 775-289-4687
- **3-6 Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off:** Samples, music, arts, crafts. John Ascuaga's Nugget and Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-356-3300.
- **3-6 Winnemucca Fair and Stampede:** Contests, street dances, displays, food, art shows, parade, poetry readings, rodeo. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 800-962-2638.
- **3-6 Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival:** The famed food produced in Fallon is celebrated with concerts, farmers market, cantaloupe-eating contest, junior rodeo, camel rides, mud volleyball, kiddie carnival, petting zoo, hay maze. Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-2544.



Map: Nevada Commission on Tourism

NEVADA'S 15-Month Celebration



Ted Nugent rocks Sunset Station in Henderson September 5.

• **3-6 Pioche Labor Day Celebration:** Street dance, 10K run, breakfast, dinner, parades, fashion show, mining events for kids and adults, cake walk, free swimming, kids games, fireworks. Pioche, 775-962-5544.

• **3-6 Carson Valley Bocce Bash:** Fun game Fri. night, tournament Sat.-Sun. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983.

• **3-26 "Sailing to Byzantium":** Play by Sandra Deer. Huffaker School, Reno, 775-324-4198.

• **4 Papa Clutch and the Shifters** rock the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, 775-832-1234.

• **4 Ash Grove Hike:** Easy one-hour hike through a native ash grove and its diverse habitats. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **4 Anita Mui Concert:** Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-UNLV.

• **4 Las Vegas Brew Ha Ha:** Concerts, more than 100 micro and international beers. Sunset Station, Henderson, 800-634-6133.

• **4 Harvest Moon Dance and Barbecue:** Outdoor dance. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

• **4 U of N Football:** Wolf Pack v. Fresno State: U of N, Reno, 775-348-PACK.

• **4 BTO** performs at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849.

• **4 Najee and Wayman Tisdale** headline at Texas Station, North Las Vegas, 702-631-1001

• **4-5 Raildays 2000:** Silent auction, food booths, and train excusions. Steam train rides to the area's mining district at 1 and 3:30pm on Sept. 4 and 10:30am and 1pm on Sept. 5; diesel train excursion to McGill at 5:30 p.m. on Sept. 4.

• **4-5 Labor Day Corn Feed:** Corn roasted in pit, live music and bingo in the Town Hall. Jarbidge, 775-488-2325.

• **4-5 Kevin James** appears at the Riviera, Las Vegas, 702-734-5110.

• **4-5 Andrew Dice Clay** headlines at Bally's, Las Vegas, 800-237-SHOW.

• **4-5 Splendor of the Sierra Fine Arts and Crafts Fair:** Food, music. Northstar Village, Truckee, Lake Tahoe, 530-562-1010 for information.

• **4-5 Austin Rock and Bottle Show:** Event includes rocks, gems, antiques, collectibles, arts, crafts, and flea market booths. Fire department and Main Street, Austin, 775-964-2200.

• **4-6 Reno-Fernley Off-Road Challenge:** Sportsman and pro classes compete in a VORRA-sponsored event. Motorsports Complex, Fernley, 916-925-1702.

• **4-6 South Lake Tahoe Labor Day Celebration:** Event includes the Great Lake Tahoe Sternwheeler Race, fireworks, fishing derby. South Lake Tahoe, 800-AT-TAHOE.

• **5 Sandstone Canyon Hike:** Three-hour moderate to strenuous hike. Bring water and snacks. Small children not advised. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **5 Ted Nugent and Night Ranger** perform at Sunset Station, Henderson, 702-547-7777

• **5 Alpen Wine Fest:** Tasting hors d'oeuvres, silent auction to benefit Jimmie Heuga Center. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 510-205-4285.

• **5 Lake Tahoe Summer Music Festival:** Last concert of the season. Topol Pavilion, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-3101

• **5 Three Dog Night** performs at the Silverton, Las Vegas, 263-7777

• **6 Ash Grove Hike:** Easy one-hour hike through a native ash grove and its diverse habitats. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **8 Wild Wednesday Slot Tournament:** Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-648-3353.

• **8-12 Roger Whittaker** performs at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **9 Brooks and Dunn and Trace Adkins** perform at Buffalo Bills, Primm, 800-FUN-STOP.

• **9-12 Tony Bennett** headlines at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.

• **9-22 Wayne Newton** appears at MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-929-1111

• **10-11 Las Vegas Primm 300:** Fourth annual SCORE International off-road race. Primm, 818-225-8402.

• **10-11 Richard Jeni** headlines at the Monte Carlo, Las Vegas, 702-730-7355.

• **10-11 Big League All Star Weekend Video Poker Tournament:** Entry fee $225 with room, $195 without; top prize $10,000. Golden Nugget, Laughlin, 800-237-1739.

• **10-11 Styx** performs at the Las Vegas Hilton, 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361

• **10-11 Bullnanza:** Top 55 professional bull riders compete. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 800-595-RIDE.

• **10-11 Super '70s at the Fremont Street Experience:** Free concert. Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **10-11 Boulder City Chautauqua:** Featuring Mark Twain, Will Rogers, Dorothy Parker, James Thurber. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-4365.

• **10-12 Carson Valley Inn Mixed Scramble Golf Tournament:** 15th annual event. Carson Valley Golf Course, Gardnerville, 800-321-6983.

• **10-12 Slot Tournament:** $699 entry fee, $25,000 grand prize. Excalibur, Las Vegas, 800-633-7777

• **10-12 Northstar Open Tennis Tournament:** Northstar, Truckee, Lake Tahoe, 530-562-0321

• **10-12 Great Reno Balloon Race:** Top 150 hot-air balloonists compete for cash and prizes, with special events like the Dawn Patrol. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 775-826-1181

• **10-12 Virginia City Camel Races:** Camel, ostrich, and water buffalo races. Also includes specialty acts, parades, food. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **10-26 "Rough Crossing":** Tom Stoppard's comedy about confusion, romance, and music on an ocean liner. Summerlin Library Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-647-7469.

• **11 Antiques and Collectibles Sale:** Event includes an Appraisal Fair. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural



Polynesian music, food, and dancing liven the Sammy Davis Jr. Amphitheater at Lorenzi Park in Las Vegas September 18-19 during the Pacific Islands Festival.

Photo: Jerome Hamilton (bottom)

Center, Gardnerville, 775-265-6097 for details.

• **11 Bonanza Convention:** Pre-registered fans of the television show gather to mark the 40th anniversary of the series' premiere. Events include a dinner, breakfast cruise, barbecue, visit to Virginia City. Tahoe Biltmore Lodge, Crystal Bay, and Ponderosa Ranch, Incline Village, 505-292-7485.

• **11 Be a Tourist in Your Own Town:** Cultural presentations on art, music, poetry, dance, food. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

• **11 Rick Springfield** headlines at Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-648-3353.

• **11 Little River Band** plays at the CasaBlanca, Mesquite, 800-459-PLAY.

• **11 Race to the Angel:** Marathon—walking, running, or bicycling—14 miles (uphill) ending at a 12,000-foot elevation level. Wells, 775-752-3328.

• **11 Bingo Blowout:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300.

• **11 Pure Prairie League with Dave Mason** appears at Sunset Station, Henderson, 702-547-7777

• **11 Meadow Valley Riders Gymkanna:** Open to all ages. Caliente, 775-726-3203.



Visitors find demonstrations and lectures on the lives of Las Vegas pioneers during living-history programs at Spring Mountain Ranch State Park.

• **11 Living History Program: Mountain Man Rendezvous:** Primitive camp, tomahawk, knife, and lance throwing, archery, black powder rifles. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **11 Natural History Hike:** Geology, climate, vegetation, birds, animals, people. Kirkwood Ski Area, south of Lake Tahoe, 530-577-1506.

• **11 Ray Anthony and His Orchestra** play at the Stardust, Las Vegas, 702-732-6111

• **11 Frozen Fury III:** National Hockey League preseason game featuring the Los Angeles Kings v. Phoenix Coyotes. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.

• **11 Pipers in the Pines:** Piper bands, Celtic music, Irish dancers, exhibits, food, vendors. Zephyr Cove Resort, Lake Tahoe, 530-544-6742.

• **11 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour of the archaeological site and a self-guided tour of nearby petroglyph park. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

• **11 Lake Tahoe District Chili Cook-Off and Salsa Contest:** Music, shoot 'n' holler, crafts, contests. Ponderosa Ranch, Incline Village, 775-831-4440.

• **11 Dwight Yoakam** headlines at the House of Blues. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7400.

• **11-12 Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration:** Food and live entertainment. Downtown Minden, 775-324-6435 for further event information.

• **11-12 Antiques and Collectibles Show:** Convention Center, Henderson, 702-382-7043.

• **11-12 Western Regional Grand National Championship Gunfight and Stunt Groups:** Competition. Ponderosa Ranch, Incline Village, 775-831-0691

• **11-12 Nevada State Museum/Carson City Mint Coin Show:** More than 35 dealers feature coins, collectibles, historical papers, books, stamps, jewelry, medals. Free appraisals. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810, ext. 221

• **11-12 Living History Programs:** Mountain Man Rendezvous, Sept. 11, and Olive Lake, Sept. 12. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **11-12 Studio Art Tour:** Guide to studios of 27 artists. South Lake Tahoe area, 530-542-7141

• **12 Eddie Money and Ronnie Spector** perform at Sunset Station, Henderson, 702-547-7777

• **12 Fiestas Las Patrias:** Food, arts, crafts. Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 702-798-8345.

• **12-13 Celebrity Golf Tournament and Concert:** Northstar Golf Course, Truckee, Lake Tahoe, 530-562-1010.

• **12-13 Keno Tournament:** Peppermill, Wendover, 775-664-0513.

• **12-14 $1 Slot Marathon Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300.

• **13 Meet the Winemaker:** Dinner and wines from the featured winery. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6611

• **13 Astronomy in the Best Dark Skies:** The Great Basin area is one of America's best remaining dark skies. Members of the San Francisco Amateur Astronomers will present a slide show and viewings. Great Basin National Park, Baker, 775-234-7270 for further event information.

• **13 First Security Bank/Variety Club Golf Classic:** Entry fee $200. Las Vegas Country Club, 702-383-8466.

• **13-15 Belle 500 Slot Tournament:** $450 entry fee in the NASCAR-themed contest includes three nights accommodations, cocktail cruise on the Colorado River, food and beverage vouchers, awards dinner. Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-572-3553.

• **14 WWF Smackdown:** Professional wrestling at Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-UNLV.

• **14-15 $12,500 Grand Slam Slot Tournament:** Showboat, Las Vegas, 800-634-3484.

• **14-19 Musical Biography of Roy Orbison** plays at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **14-26 The Righteous Brothers** headline at the Orleans except Sept. 20. Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **15 All Around Nevada:** Exhibit at the East Fork Gallery, Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-7629.

• **15 Rocio Durcal** headlines at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 800-445-4544.

• **15 Senior Recognition Day:** Free admission to seniors 62 and over, refreshments, entertainment. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

• **16 Druha Trava:** Czechoslovakian band plays bluegrass and contemporary music. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

• **16 Bobby "Blue" Bland** headlines at Arizona Charlie's, Las Vegas, 702-258-5100.

• **16-19 National Championship Air Races and Air Show:** Event's theme, "Heroes of Flight," pays tribute to astronauts Jim Lovell, Frank Borman, Eugene Cernan, Curtis Brown, Hoot Gibson, Bill Anders, and Rhea Seddon, who are scheduled to appear. Reno, 775-972-6663.

• **16-19 Arts and Crafts Fair:** Belz Factory Outlet World Mall, Las Vegas, 702-382-7043.

• **16-29 The Lettermen and Kelly Monticth** appear at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427

• **17 Fall Feast with Desert Chorale:** Broadway, spirituals, contemporary, and gospel music. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5843.

• **17 Geno Delafose and French Rockin' Boogie:** Traditional Creole zydeco band recently named Best Zydeco Group in New Orleans. Convention Center, Fallon, 775-423-1440.

• **17-18 Laughlin Shoot-Out:** Top 45 riders compete in Professional Bull Riders Bud Light Cup 29 tour stop. Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 800-4-LAUGHLIN.

• **17-18 Paul Rodriguez** performs at the Monte Carlo, Las Vegas, 702-730-7355.

• **17-18 Sierra Folklife Festival:** Crafts, performers, and food from various cultures including Thai, Native American, Basque, Chinese, Japanese, and Norwegian. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-329-ARTS.

• **17-18 Open Horse Show and Cow Horse Futurity:** Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-2220.

• **17-19 Silver State Classic:** Open road race from Lund to Hiko over S.R. 318. Pre-race activities in Ely. 775-289-6267

• **17-19 Meadow Valley Days:** Poker run, horseshoes, baseball, games, barbecue. Caliente, 775-726-3129.

• **17-19 Crafters Village:** Show and sale. Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-364-1174.

• **17-19 Salsa y Salsa Festival:** Hispanic crafts. Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 775-885-1055.

• **17-19 Pahrump Harvest Festival and Fair:** Entertainment, contests, vendors, food booths, PRCA rodeo, parade, car races, dances, carnival, fair exhibits. Petrack Park, Pahrump, 775-727-8195.

• **17-19 Pinenut Festival:** Fry bread and chili cook-off, powwow, parade, arts, crafts, fun run, rodeo. Schurz, 775-773-2306.

• **18 Ash Grove Hike:** Easy one-mile walk through a native ash grove and its diverse habitats. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **18 Old-Time Country Dances:** Square dances, circle mixers, New England contradances, waltzes, and polkas taught and called. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-753-4381

• **18 Mexican Independence Day Fiesta:** Carnival booths, piñata, games, entertainment. Rafael Rivera Park, Las Vegas, 702-229-4600.

• **18 Rebel Football:** UNLV v. Iowa. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3761

Photo: Bonnie Rannald

Millennium Countdown Calendar



Oscar De La Hoya (above) meets Felix Trinidad September 18 at Mandalay Bay in Las Vegas for what is being called the "Fight of the Millennium."

- **18 Randy Travis** headlines at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 702-298-5111
- **18 MexFest:** Food, salsa-making contest, games, entertainment. Stupak Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-2488.
- **18 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Violin soloist Phillip Ruder. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
- **18 Mitch Ryder** performs at Palace Station, Las Vegas, 702-367-2411
- **18 Fight of the Millennium:** Oscar De La Hoya v. Felix "Tito" Trinidad. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 702-632-7777
- **18 Kenny Rogers** headlines at the Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777
- **18-19 Pacific Islands Festival:** Polynesian music, entertainment, crafts, food, exhibits, concerts featuring the Brothers Cazimero. Sammy Davis Jr. Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-229-6704.
- **18-19 Pentathlon World Tour:** Fencing, swimming, shooting, riding, and running competition. UNLV, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.
- **18-19 Ranch Hand Rodeo:** Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-2220.
- **18-19 Winnemucca Pro-Am Golf Tournament:** Golf Course, Winnemucca, 775-623-9920.
- **18-19 Dayton Valley Days:** Parade, art and quilt show, senior pro rodeo, Civil War encampment, music, dancing, food, crafts. Old Town, Dayton, 775-246-7309.
- **19 Mountain Run II:** 10K run and four-mile walk. Sugar Bowl Ski Area, Lake Tahoe, 530-550-0885.
- **19 Living History Program: Gold Panning:** Demonstration and hands-on activities. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **19 Richard Elloyan and Brenn Hill:** Cowboy poetry, music. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.
- **19 American Heart Walk:** Run, bike, walk, and skate. Wingfield Springs, Sparks, 775-322-7065.
- **19 Stride 'n Ride for SageWind:** Duathlon of a 5K run and 30K bike ride, open to individuals or two-person teams. Bowers Mansion, Carson City, 775-786-5531
- **19 Autumn Reception:** Featuring gallery consignors. East Fork Gallery, Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-7629.
- **19-20 $28,000 You're in the Money Slot Tournament:** $199 entry fee. Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777
- **19-21 Star Wars Blackjack Tournament:** Peppermill, Wendover, 775-664-0513.
- **19-22 Two Hundred Grand Under the Sea:** Slot tournament with a $5,000 entry fee and $200,000 top prize. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-891-1111
- **20 Video Poker Tournament:** Arizona Charlie's, Las Vegas, 702-258-5100.
- **20-25 Las Vegas Triple-A World Series:** Series determines the champion of the International and Pacific Coast leagues. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 877-FOR-TAWS.
- **21-16 and 28-Oct. 3 The Checkmates** appear at the River Palms, Laughlin, 702-298-2242.
- **21-26 Cornell Gunter's Coasters** perform at the Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-67-RIVER.
- **21-Oct. 3 Danny Marona** headlines at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.
- **22 Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, Shawn Colvin, Bruce Hornsby, and David Lindley** appear at the Reno Hilton, 775-789-2285.
- **22 Watts Prophets:** Formed from the Watts Writers Workshops, the group of artists tell stories using poetry and rhythm. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6847
- **23 Hootie and the Blowfish in Concert:** Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-UNLV.
- **23 Carson and Barnes Circus:** Five-ring circus. Silver City Mall, Carson City, 775-687-4130.
- **23-26 Street Vibrations:** Motorcycle tours, entertainment, ride-in shows, parade, poker run-walk, concerts. Multiple locations, Reno, 775-329-7469.
- **23-26 The Legends of Motown Starring The Temptations and The Marvelettes** headlines at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.
- **23-26 Dennis Miller** performs at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 800-634-6909.
- **23-26 Las Vegas National BBQ:** Competition, entertainment, carnival midway, pig races. Sunset Station, Henderson, 800-634-6133.
- **24 Sam's Town 250 NASCAR Craftsman Truck Series:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.
- **24 Loretta Lynn** sings country at Texas Station, North Las Vegas, 702-631-1001
- **24 David Sanborn** headlines at the House of Blues. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7400.
- **24 Dinner and Roast:** Benefit for Catholic Charities includes a silent auction. Paris Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-385-2662.
- **24 Pipe Organ Concert:** Dorothy Jean Papadakos, organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York City, and Rachel Rosales, featured soprano with the New York City Opera Company, perform. Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, 775-784-6847
- **24-25 '60s Flashback at the Fremont Street Experience:** Free concert. Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **24-25 Dash for Cash:** Barrel races. Caliente, 775-726-3203.
- **24-25 The Doobie Brothers** appear at the Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777
- **24-25 Chautauqua:** The lives of Sojourner Truth, Sarah Winnemucca, Henry David Thoreau, and P.T. Barnum are presented. Pahrump Winery, Pahrump, 775-751-2703.
- **24-26 Shakespeare in the Park:** 13th annual event presents "Hamlet" outdoors. Foxridge Park, Henderson, 702-565-8587
- **24-26 Humboldt Campaign:** Civil War living history camp includes a military ball, cooking demonstrations, fashion show. Pioneer Park, Winnemucca, 775-623-6515.
- **24-26 Wings Over the Valley:** Hunting and outdoor festival includes a clay tournament, demonstra-



Enthusiasts watch preparations during the Great Reno Balloon Races, to be held September 10-12.

Photo: Denise Tracy (bottom)

Millennium Countdown Calendar

tions, guided hunts, duck calling. Convention Center, Fallon, 775-423-4556.

• **24-26 Carson Valley Cribbage Classic:** ACC-sanctioned event. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983.

• **25 Sam's Town 125 NASCAR Winston West:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

• **25 U of N Football:** Wolf Pack v. Oregon State: U of N, Reno, 775-348-PACK.

• **25 Grand Slam for Children:** Andre Agassi benefit concert. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-891-1111

• **25 UNLV Football:** UNLV v. Utah. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3761

• **25 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour of the archaeological site and self-guided tour of nearby petroglyph park. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

• **25 Reno Philharmonic Symphony Ball:** Dinner dance. Reno Hilton, 775-323-6393.

• **25 Starving Artist Sale:** More than 60 local artists; all pieces are $150 or less. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 775-329-ARTS.

• **25 Wurstfest:** Bratwurst, beer, and German music. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-7777

• **25 Jeff Beck** headlines at the House of Blues. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7400.

• **25-26 Living History Program:** Mountain Men and Their Women: Camps with demonstrations such as making ammunition. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **25-26 Family Fall Festival Art and Craft Show:** Convention Center, Henderson, 702-616-3951

• **25-26 Genoa Candy Dance:** 79th annual event featuring 300 crafters, dinner, dance. Mormon Station and Genoa Town Park, Genoa, 775-782-8696.

• **25-26 Candy Dance Antique Show:** Antiques Plus, Genoa, 775-782-4951

• **25-26 Ash Grove Hikes:** Easy one-mile walk through a native ash grove and its diverse habitats. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **25-26 Rattlin' Rails:** Five-man teams race against the clock and each other on railroad handcars. Yucca Street Rail Yard, Boulder City, 702-294-0982.

• **25-26 Ferrari Club of America Hillclimb:** Time trials on S.R. 341 parade, car show. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **25-26 Top Gun Raceway:** NHRA pro and amateur drag racing. Fallon, 775-423-0223.

• **25-27 Great Basin Book Festival:** Readings, conversations, and book signings with authors. Downtown Reno, 775-784-6587

• **25-27 Mini Slot Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300.

• **25-Oct. 3 Snaffle Bit Futurity:** Largest horse show of its kind has riders competing for more than $700,000. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5751

• **26 Pep Boys Indy Racing League:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

• **26 Molly Hatchet with Calamity Jane** headlines at the House of Blues. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7400.

• **26 Stew Doo:** Stew cook-off, crafts, classic car show, tumbleweed art contest. Silver Springs, 775-577-3424.

• **26 Oktoberfest:** Beer, food, dancing. Minden Park, 775-782-1939.

• **26-Oct. 2 OATBRAN:** Fully supported bicycle ride across Nevada and America's Loneliest Road covers 420 miles from Lake Tahoe to Great Basin National Park. 800-565-2704.

• **28 Reno Philharmonic:** Concert featuring the works of Gershwin, Mendelssohn, and Brahms. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.

• **28 Blackjack Tournament:** $25 entry fee. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 877-783-7711

• **29-Oct. 3 Ray Charles** plays the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **30-Oct. 3 Las Vegas Super Run:** Car show, show 'n shine, poker run and walks, entertainment, games, auto auction. Main Street Station, Las Vegas, 702-739-0045.

• **30-Oct. 3 Vegas to Reno:** All classes compete in the longest off-road race in the United States. Las Vegas, 702-457-5775.

• **30-Oct. 13 George Carlin** headlines at Bally's, Las Vegas, 800-237-SHOW.

• **30-Oct. 13 Bill Medley** sings solo at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427

• **30-Oct. 31 Reno Radio Haunted House:** Reno Hilton, 775-789-2000.

October 1999

• **1 Yellowjackets** perform at Texas Station, North Las Vegas, 702-631-1001

• **1 Clay Walker** headlines at Texas Station, North Las Vegas, 702-631-1001

• **1 Jethro Tull** appears at the Reno Hilton, 775-789-2285.

• **1-2 The Temptations and Four Tops** headline at Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 800-648-3353.

• **1-3 Las Vegas Bike Week:** AMA Superbike racing. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.

• **1-3 Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme** headline at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 800-445-4544.

• **1-3 Las Vegas Super Run:** Car show, show 'n' shine, poker runs and walks, entertainment, games, vendors, auto auction. Main Street Station, Las Vegas, 702-739-0045.

• **1-3 Danny Marona** appears at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **1-3 The Checkmates** appear at the River Palms, Laughlin, 702-298-2242.

• **1-3 Ray Charles** headlines at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **1-3 Monster Mash Slot Tournament:** $10,000 grand prize. Gold Strike, Jean, 800-634-1359.

• **1-3 The Platters, Drifters, and Coasters** appear in concert. Sahara, Las Vegas, 702-737-2111

• **1-3 and 7-10 "Jack and the Beanstalk":** Brothers Grimm classic. Rainbow Company, Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6553.

• **1 and 3 Bob Newhart** headlines at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 800-HARRAHS.

• **1-13 George Carlin** appears at Bally's, Las Vegas, 800-237-SHOW.

• **1-13 Bill Medley** headlines at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427

• **1-31 Reno Radio Haunted House:** Reno Hilton, 775-789-2000.

• **2 Wild Rockies:** Motorcycle off-road race cover-



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 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.

ing 130 miles from Wendover to Ely. Ely, 775-289-8877

• **2 Living History Program:** Vera Krupp: Story of the actress and former owner of the Spring Mountain Ranch. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **2 Pappa Clutch and the Shifters** perform at the Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6624.

• **2 Dinosaur Ball:** Dinner, dancing, silent auction to benefit the Las Vegas Natural History Museum, Las Vegas, 702-384-3466.

• **2 Walker Lake Arts Festival:** Exhibit and sale by 40 artists. Percentage of sale will benefit Walker Lake's ecosystem. Hawthorne, Walker Lake, and Schurz, 775-945-5896.

• **2 Scarecrow Festival:** Make your own life-size scarecrow or purchase a ready-made. Food, pumpkins, face and pumpkin-painting. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-7269.



Fans of comedian Kevin James can see him perform at the Riviera in Las Vegas September 4-5.

• **2 Book Presentation: A Pictorial History of Hoover Dam:** Signing by local '31ers. Dam Wear, Boulder City, 702-293-9256.

• **2-3 Art in the Park:** Fine art and crafts show draws more than 300 exhibitors. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-1611

• **2-3 Couples Best Ball Golf Tournament:** Chimney Rock Golf Course, Wells, 775-752-3928.

• **2-3 Oktoberfest:** Beer, food, bands. Downtown, Reno, 775-332-3333.

• **2-3 Kokanee Salmon Festival:** Educational displays, booths, salmon dinners. Lake Tahoe Visitor Center, South Lake Tahoe, 530-573-2674.

• **3 Living History Program: Chet Lauck:** Story of "Lum" of the radio program "Lum and Abner." Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 702-875-4141

• **3-5 Carson Valley Pro-Am Golf Tournament:** Each pro plays with four amateurs. Genoa Lakes and Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch, Gardnerville, 800-321-6983.

• **3-5 Slot/Video Poker Tournament:** $125 entry fee, $40,000 prize. Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849.

• **3-9 AMF Bowling World Cup:** More than 70 nations compete. Sam's Town, Las Vegas, 773-625-0798.

• **4-17 Elayne Boosler** headlines at the Sahara, Las Vegas, 702-737-2111

• **5 Count Basie Orchestra** plays at the Riviera, Las Vegas, 702-734-5110.

• **5-6 Fall Round-up Golf Tournament:** Saddle West, Pahrump, 775-727-1111

• **5-9 Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons** headline at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **5-10 Starship Featuring Mickey Thomas** plays at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **7 Hiroshima** headlines at Arizona Charlie's, Las Vegas, 702-258-5100.

• **7-10 The Everly Brothers** headline at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 800-HARRAHS.

• **7-10 Don Rickles** appears at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 800-634-6909.

• **7-10 Jaycee State Fair:** Carnival, petting zoo, vendors. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-457-8832.

• **8 Organ Concert:** Roger Nyquist performs. Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, 775-784-6847

• **8-9 Oktoberfest Slot Tournament:** Golden Nugget, Laughlin, 702-298-7630.

• **8-9 "A Tale of Frankenstein":** Ballet based upon the monstrous tale. Nevada Festival Ballet, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-785-7915.

• **8-9 Tony Bennett** headlines at the Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777

• **8-9 Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme** appear at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **8-10 Lake Tahoe Marathon:** 5K, 10K, half-marathon, marathon walk and race from Tahoe City to South Lake Tahoe. 530-544-7095.

• **8-10 Elvis Presley Auction:** More than 2,000 items. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 212-794-2280.

• **8-10 Bluegrass and Old-Time Music Festival:** Featured bands include Within Tradition, The Hat Band, Sunnyside Drive, and Lost Highway. Other activities are children's games, workshops, band contest, jam sessions, vendors. Clark County Fairgrounds, Logandale, 702-564-3320.

• **8-10 World's Championship Chili Cook-Off:** 33rd annual event. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-643-5700.

• **8-10 Keno Tournament:** Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **8-10 World Bike Expo:** Motorcycle activities, displays, entertainment. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 800-975-2233.

• **8-10 and 14-17 "Accidental Death of an Anarchist" by Dario Fo:** Plot involves an impostor who tricks the police into reopening the case of a fallen anarchist. Little Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

• **8-31 David Copperfield** appears at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 800-445-4544.

• **9 Living History Program: Pioneer Living:** Dutch oven cooking, horseshoeing, saddle making, spinning, and weaving demonstrations. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **9 Be a Tourist in Your Own Town:** Art, music, poetry dance presentations. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

• **9 Lake Tahoe Harvest Festival:** Bluegrass and scarecrow contest. Dollar Hill, Tahoe City, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-2611

• **9 Grape Stomp Festival:** Jazz, blues, barbecue, competitions. Pahrump Valley Vineyard, 775-727-6900.

• **9 Simple Elegance-Black Tie Gala:** Dinner dance to benefit Barton Hospital. Harveys, Stateline, 530-

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The driver escaped injury when his sprint car tumbled during the World of Outlaws race at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway last year. This year's race will take place November 2-3.

542-2945 for further event information.

• **9 Natural History Hike:** Geology, climate, vegetation, birds, animals, people. Kirkwood Ski Area, Lake Tahoe, 530-577-1506.

• **9 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour of archaeological site and self-guided tour of nearby petroglyph park. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

• **9 Custom Car Show:** Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 714-213-1010 for details on the car show.

• **9 Fox U.S. Open of Supercross:** MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.

• **9 Engelbert Humperdinck** headlines at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 702-298-5111

• **9 Fantasy '99:** Dinner-dance fundraiser for Lied Discovery Children's Museum. Four Seasons, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

• **9 Wovoka, the Ghost Dance Prophet:** Lecture by Dr. Michael Hittman on the Ghost Dance in Nevada. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

• **9-10 Great Italian Festival:** Grape-stomp, spaghetti-eating contest, food booths, entertainment. Eldorado, Reno, 775-786-5700.

• **9-10 Italian Festival:** Entertainment, food. Rio Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-252-7777

• **9-10 Antique and Collectible Show:** Plaza Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-382-7043.

• **10 Ash Grove Hike:** Easy one-mile walk through a native ash grove and its diverse habitats. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **11-17 Anne Murray** performs at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **12-17 Survivor Featuring Jimi Jamison** appears at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **13 Wynonna** appears at the Flamingo Hilton, Laughlin, 702-298-5111

• **13-17 Las Vegas Invitational:** 17th annual PGA tournament play. TPC Summerlin, Las Vegas Country Club, and Desert Inn Golf Club. 702-242-3000.

• **14-16 Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons** appear at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **14-16 Wynonna** headlines at the Las Vegas Hilton, 800-222-5361

• **14-16 Henderson Expo:** Booths, new car show, carnival rides, artists. Sunset Station and Galleria Mall, Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **14-17 Carson Valley Inn Fall Fun Stag Golf Outing:** Play at The Golf Club at Genoa Lakes and Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch. Minden, 800-321-6983.

• **14-17 Dana Carvey** headlines at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 800-634-6909.

• **14-17 Elvin Bishop and Little Charlie and the Nightcats** play Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 800-HARRAHS.

• **14-27 Rich Little** appears at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **15 Oktoberfest and Beer Tasting:** Food and specialty and microbrewery beers. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983.

• **15 Joe Diffie** appears at Boulder Station, Las Vegas, 702-432-7575.

• **15 Tim Behrens: McManus in Love:** One-man show on the dating game. Sturgeon's Ramada Inn, Lovelock, 775-273-1614.

• **15-16 High Desert Jazz Festival:** Edmonia Jarrett Quartet, Bud Shank Trio, George Hanafen and Clint Strong, and John Pierce Trio perform. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976.

• **15-16 Craps Tournament:** Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **15-16 Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling** headlines at the Riviera, Las Vegas, 702-734-5110.

• **15-16 John Michael Montgomery** headlines at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **16 Christmas Toy Run:** Take new, unwrapped toy to Sharkey's. Gardnerville, 775-782-3133.

• **16 Old-Time Country Dances:** Square, mixers, New England contra dances, waltzes, polkas taught and called. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-753-4381

• **16 George Carlin** headlines at the Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-687-7733.

• **16 Pumpkin Patch:** Halloween party, Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

• **16-17 Living History Programs:** Las Vegas pioneer Helen Stewart Oct. 16, and early ranch owner and famous furrier Williard George Oct. 17 Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of



Photo: Jeff S. Dutcher/Innovative Imagery

Las Vegas, 702-875-4141 for event information.

• **16-17 Las Vegas Basque Festival:** Food, mass, dancers, contests. St. Viator's Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-361-6834.

• **16-17 Discover Aviation Air Show:** Free flights for kids eight to 17 years old. Gold Strike, Jean, 800-634-1359.

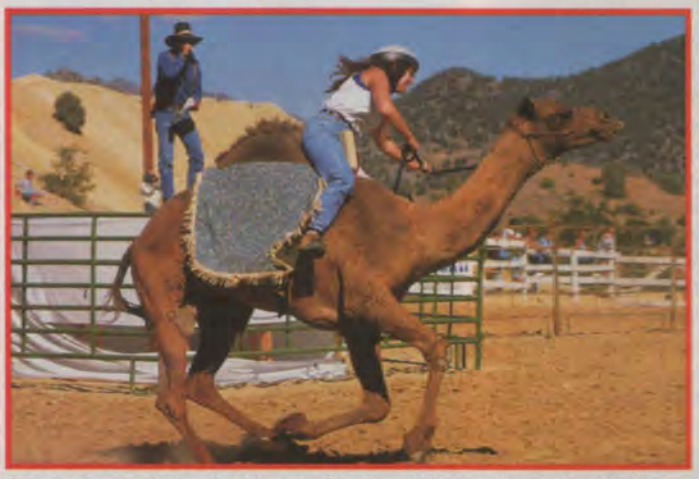
• **16-17 Fort Churchill Civil War Encampment:** Military and civilian camps with demonstrations, drilling. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-882-5378.

• **16-17 Color Tour '99:** AMA-sanctioned national motorcycle tour. Participants only. Holiday Inn, Mesquite, 818-890-2209.

• **17 Gene Speck Artist's Reception:** Ranch scenes and Indian encampments by the oil painter. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

• **17 Henderson Civic Symphony Concert:** Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **17 Carson City Symphony Concert:** Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.



Rider hangs on during the Virginia City Camel Races, September 10-12.

• **17-20 You Only Win Twice:** Slot tournament with a $1,500 entry fee, $25,000 top prize. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-891-1111

• **18 Ms. U.S. Continental Pageant:** Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **18-30 Jeff Dunham** headlines at the Sahara, Las Vegas, 702-737-2111

• **19 Reno Philharmonic:** Concert featuring the works of Dvorak, Dukas, and Enesco. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.

• **19-21 Rebel Reels Slot Tournament:** $550 entry fee, which includes three nights' accommodations, food, beverages, cocktail party, and two entries into daily video poker and slot tournaments. Total prize money $100,000. Edgewater, Laughlin, 702-298-2453.

• **19-24 The Smothers Brothers** appear at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **20-23 Bill Medley** headlines at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **21-23 RE/MAX World Long Drive Championship:** Winners from local and regional contests throughout the United States compete. Palms Golf Course, Mesquite, 702-346-4031

• **21-24 Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles** plays Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 800-HARRAHS.

• **22 Concert I:** Fall dance concert featuring ballet, jazz, and modern. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **22 Pete Fountain Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-784-6847

• **22 Halloween Carnival and Haunted House:** Booths, costume contest. Mirabelli Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6359.

• **22-23 Oktoberfest at the Fremont Street Experience:** Music and food. Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **22-23 Engelbert Humperdinck** appears at the Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-687-7733.

• **22-23 Tri-Game-A-Thon:** $15,000 slots, blackjack, and keno tournament. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983.

• **22-23 The Charlie Daniels Band** plays Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **22-24 Celtic New Year Celebration:** Largest pipe band competition on the West Coast. Event includes dancing, entertainment, food booths, crafts. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-332-3333.

• **22-24 Clark County Gem and Mineral Fair:** More than 30 vendors, gold panning, demonstrations, silent auctions. Coincides with the Great Basin Mineral Symposium: Minerals of the Sierra Nevada. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

• **22-24 New Horizons Art Show and Auction:** New Horizons Academy, Las Vegas, 702-257-1829.

• **22-24 Autumn Food and Wine Festival:** Cooking demonstrations. Resort at Squaw Creek, Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-3494.

• **23 Living History Cemetery Tour:** Self-guided tour of Mottsville Cemetery. Histories of some of its ghostly residents are told; bring a flashlight. Minden-Gardnerville, 775-782-2555.

• **23 Bowers Mansion Civil War Living History:** Demonstrations, dancing, needlecrafts, visit with President Lincoln. Bowers Mansion, Carson City, 775-849-1825.

• **23 Carnevale de Venezia:** Nevada Opera Theatre annual gala featuring a dinner, silent auction, entertainment. Venetian, Las Vegas, 702-699-9775.

• **23 UNLV Football:** UNLV v. BYU. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3761

• **23 Ghost Walk:** Tour of homes with dearly departed hosts. Carson City, 775-687-7410.

• **23 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour of the archaeological site and self-guided tour of nearby petroglyph park. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

• **23 Echo and the Bunnymen** headline at the House of Blues. Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7400.

• **23 Living History Program: Pioneer Women:** Story of the women who settled the West. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **23-31 Heritage of the West Festival:** Five-day, six-night tour beginning in Reno. Seminars and side trips on Donner Party, Virginia City, Elko, Emigrant Trail. Events by Design, Reno, 775-828-1530.

• **24 Sandstone Canyon Hike:** Three-hour moderate to strenuous hike. Bring water and snacks. Small children not advised. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **24 Million Dollar Bingo Coverall Game:** Showboat, Las Vegas, 800-634-3484.

Photo: Carolyn Fox

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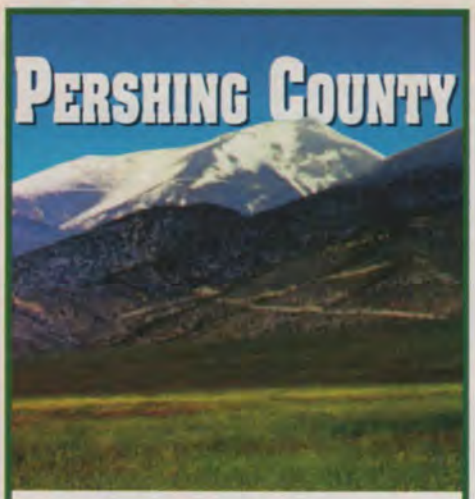
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- **24 St. Jude's Ranch for Children Open House:** Boulder City, 702-294-7100.
- **24-25 $43,000 Rakin' in the Cash Slot Tournament:** $359 entry fee. Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777
- **26 Blackjack Tournament:** Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 877-783-7711
- **26 NBA Pre-Season Game:** Los Angeles Lakers v. Phoenix Suns. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.
- **26-30 Ricky Van Shelton** appears at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.
- **26-Nov. 7 The Righteous Brothers** headline at the Orleans, Las Vegas (dark Nov. 1), 702-365-7111
- **27-28 Haunted Grand Hall at Valhalla:** Tour through Haunted Hall for children under 12, games. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **27-29 Haunted Village:** Carnival games. Stupak Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-2488.
- **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. Carson City, 775-882-2600.
- **27-Nov. 7 "Rent":** Broadway musical plays at the Las Vegas Hilton, 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361
- **28 "Charlotte's Web":** Play based upon the tale of farm animals and the true meaning of friendship. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **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 The Four Tops** perform at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 702-733-4566 or 800-634-6909.
- **28-31 Cool River Nites:** Classic cars and hot rods, show 'n' shines, vendors, prom night. Laughlin, 800-4-LAUGHLIN.
- **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 and 30 "La Boheme":** Puccini's tragic story of lost love. Nevada Opera, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-786-4046.
- **28-Nov. 10 Michael Martin Murphey** performs at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427
- **29-30 Jerry Vale** headlines at Boulder Station, Las Vegas, 702-432-7575.
- **29-31 La Ka Lel Be Powwow:** Arts, crafts, dancing, food. Carson Indian Colony Gym, Carson City, 775-687-7410.
- **29-31 Don Rickles** headlines at Harrah's Lake Tahoe, Stateline, 800-HARRAHS.
- **30 Harvest Festival:** Admission is two bags of wrapped candy per family. Douglas County Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-265-3259.
- **30 Living History Program: Chuck Wagon and Trail Cooking:** Demonstrations in period costume on the art of Dutch-oven cooking. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **30 American Heart Association Golf Tournament:** Calvada Championship Golf Course, Pahrump, 775-727-5216.
- **30 Valhalla Black and Black Ball:** Food, dancing, ghosts, ghouls. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **30 Kick Off the Millennium Burro Races:** Contestants pack and unpack burros, who may or may not cooperate. City Arena, Beatty, 775-553-2424.
- **30 Les Brown and the Band of Renown** appear at the Stardust, Las Vegas, 702-732-6325 or 800-824-6033, ext. 6325.
- **30 Pig Roast-Halloween Party:** Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311
- **30 Top Gun Raceway:** NHRA pro and amateur drag racing. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.
- **30-31 Pyramid Lake Rodeo:** Rodeo, dance, arts, crafts, and peewee and junior rodeo events. Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nixon, 775-574-1000.
- **31 Halloween Bash:** Costume party with prizes.



The National Championship Air Races in Reno offer a colorful spectacle each fall. This year's event, on September 16-19, honors America's astronauts.

Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 702-298-4000.
- **31 Trick or Treat in the Streets of the Museum:** Haunted house for children and an auto-related costume contest. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.
- **31 Safe Streets Halloween Party:** For children 12 and under. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3741
- **31 Halloween Party:** Food, music. Convention Center, Tonopah, 775-482-3859.

November 1999

- **1-3 Pennzoil World of Outlaws:** Sprint cars race on one-half-mile dirt track. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4443.
- **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
- **1-7 "Rent":** Broadway musical plays at the Las Vegas Hilton, 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361
- **1-10 Michael Martin Murphey** headlines at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427
- **2-7 The Righteous Brothers** headline at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111
- **3-6 Williams and Ree** appear at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

Photo: Denise Tracy

• **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.
• **4-7 Howie Mandel** headlines at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.
• **4-7 Dennis Miller** appears at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 702-733-4566 or 800-634-6900.
• **4-7 The Everly Brothers** are booked into the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.
• **4-17 George Carlin** headlines at Bally's, Las Vegas, 702-967-4567 or 800-237-SHOW.
• **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.
• **5-6 Rhymer's Rodeer Cowboy Poetry:** Tales of the trail and Western lore. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983.
• **5-7, 12-14, and 19-21 "Annie Get Your Gun":** Musical performed by the Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.
• **5-7 Native American Arts and International Film Festival:** Parade, golf tournament, art and food booths, film festival. Las Vegas, 702-365-5686.
• **6 Doll and Teddy Bear Show:** Juried show and displays by professionals and amateurs, antique and modern dolls. Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8877
• **6 Oak Ridge Boys** appear at the CasaBlanca, Mesquite, 800-459-PLAY.



Stories of the African culture are told by Bakra Bata using steel drums, dance, and masquerade. The group performs November 29 in Lovelock.

• **6 Living History Program: Old Bill Williams, Mountain Man:** First owner of the Spring Mountain Ranch in the early 1840s. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
• **6 Fall Barn Dance:** Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-1939.
• **6 Festival Americana:** Native American and pioneer crafts, demonstrations, entertainment, and food. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.
• **6 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
• **6-7 Vienna Choir Boys:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801
• **7 Concert 76 Plus 4 Trombones:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

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Millennium Countdown Calendar

• **7 Tour Las Vegas: Ride of the Century:** Bicycle ride features 35-, 50-, and 100-mile rides. Las Vegas, 800-565-2704.

• **7 Living History Program: Jim Wilson:** Story of the one of the first pioneers in the Las Vegas Valley. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **7-9 Blackjack Fever Blackjack Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777

• **7-10 2001 Slot Odyssey:** Slot tournament has a $1,000 entry fee, $30,000 top prize. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-891-1111

• **8 Meet the Winemaker:** Dinner and wines from the featured winery. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-783-6611

• **9 The Cashore Marionettes:** Pennsylvania-based artists pull strings in Nevada. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **9-14 Debbie Reynolds** performs at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **9-14 and 16-21 Exile** appears at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **9-14 The Everly Brothers** headline at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **10 UNLV Community Band Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **10 Pablo Cruise** appears at Arizona Charlie's, Las Vegas, 702-258-5100.

• **10-13 Huey Lewis and The News** headlines at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.

• **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Historic town's salute to the military. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **11-12 Tom Jones** headlines at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427

• **11-14 PageNet Tour Championship:** Top 30 LPGA golfers compete in a season-ending tournament for a $1-million purse. Desert Inn Golf Club, Las Vegas, 888-254-4653.

• **11-14 The Temptations** headline at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 702-733-4566 or 800-634-6909.

• **11-14 Reba McEntire** performs at the Las Vegas Hilton, 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361

• **11-24 Lou Rawls and Michael Pace** appear at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427

• **12 Ricky Martin:** The crazy life comes to the Events Center, Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 702-632-7580 or 702-474-4000.

• **12-13 The Righteous Brothers** headline at the Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777 or 800-687-7733.

• **12-13 Pair-O-Dice Square Dance Club Fall Jamboree:** Square and rounding dancing, workshops, dinner. Elks Lodge, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **12-13 Blues and BBQ's:** Free music and entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **12-14 Golf Tournament:** Pioneer Hotel, Laughlin, 702-298-2442.

• **12-21 "The Last Night of Ballyhoo":** Tony Award-winning romantic comedy dealing with being Jewish in the South. Summerlin Library Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-647-7469.

• **13 Carson Valley Sertoma Fall Barn Dance:** Country music. Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-1939.

• **13 Camelot for Kids:** Dessert and Neiman Marcus children's fashion show to benefit Opportunity Village. Las Vegas, 702-259-3741

• **13 Sandstone Canyon Hike:** Three-mile moderate to strenuous hike. Bring water and snacks. Small children not advised. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **13 Fall Dance Forum:** Lombardi Recreation Building, U of N, Reno, 775-784-4041 ext. 240.

• **13 University of Nevada Football:** Wolf Pack vs. Utah State. U of N, Reno, 775-348-PACK for information.

• **16 Reno Philharmonic Concert:** Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.

• **16 Wendy's Three-Tour Challenge:** Teams from the PGA, Senior PGA, and LPGA tours compete in a made-for-television event. Reflection Bay Golf Club, Las Vegas, 702-565-7400.

• **16-21 Jack Jones** appears at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **18-21 Laughlin Team Roping Finals:** The best USTRC team ropers compete for more than $200,000 in prize money. Special Events Arena, Laughlin, 800-4-LAUGHLIN.

• **18-21 Gladys Knight** performs at the Desert Inn, Las Vegas, 702-733-4566 or 800-634-6909.

• **19 Gary Puckett** headlines at Palace Station, Las Vegas, 702-367-2411

• **19 Organ Concert:** Frederic Swann, organist at the Crystal Cathedral and Los Angeles First Congregational Church. Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, 775-784-6847

• **19-21 Holiday Gift and Craft Extravaganza:** Convention Center, Henderson, 702-616-3951 for event information.

• **19-21 "Fame":** New musical based on the movie and television show. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-686-6600.

• **19-21 Frankie Laine** headlines at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **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 Senior Center Craft Affair:** Food, entertainment, Santa Claus. Senior Center, Gardnerville, 775-265-2312.

• **20 Rebel Football:** UNLV v. San Diego State. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

• **20-21 $28,000 Fall Fun Feast Slot Tournament:** $199 entry fee. Silver Legacy, 702-329-4777

• **20-Dec. 31 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. Municipal Park, Wells, 775-752-3540.

• **21 Thanksgiving Turkey and Ham Shoot:** Flying Saucer Trap Club, Lovelock, 775-273-0745 for event information.

• **21 UNLV Orchestra Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **24 UNLV Jazz Ensemble Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **24 Tree-Lighting Ceremony:** The Country Holiday Festival begins at the Fremont Street Experience. Las

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GUARANTEED TOURS



Brightly decorated boats parade along the shore of Lake Mead during the annual Parade of Lights, December 4 in Boulder City.

Vegas, 702-678-5777 for event information.

- **24-28 Willie Nelson** performs at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111
- **24, 26-28 Natalie Cole** appears at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.
- **26 Shoshone Christmas Craft Bazaar:** Native American arts, crafts, food. Shoshone Indian Colony, Ely, 775-289-3013.
- **26-27 'N Sync** performs at the MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.
- **26-27 Johnny Mathis** headlines at the Las Vegas Hilton, 702-732-5755 or 800-222-5361
- **26-27 Los Angeles-to-Barstow-to-Vegas Motorcycle Tour:** AMA-sanctioned dual sport motorcycle tour rather than a race. For participants only. Call 626-446-7386.
- **26-27 Wayne Newton** appears at John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300 or 800-843-2427
- **27 Fisherman's Holiday Fish Derby:** Cash prizes for anglers with the big catch. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.
- **27 Rebel Football:** UNLV v. Colorado State. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.
- **27-28 O Tannenbaum Christmas Tree Festival:** Holiday bazaar. Mesquite, 702-346-EVNT.
- **28 East Fork Gallery Christmas Reception:** Designer cards and ornaments. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-7269.
- **29 Bakra Bata:** Steel Drums, Dance, and Masquerade: Performance based on African cultures. Pershing County High School Auditorium, Lovelock, 775-273-1614.
- **30 Mariposa Trio Recital:** Black Box Theater, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **30 Blackjack Tournament:** $25 entry fee. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711

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 Earl Wild Concert:** Chopin's 150th anniversary and Gershwin's centennial. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801 for event information.
- **1-12 Ricky and the Redstreaks** make an NFR appearance. Stardust, Las Vegas, 702-732-6325 or 800-824-6033 ext. 6325.
- **1-31 The Magical Forest:** The annual winter wonderland of lights, toy train, candy canes, and gingerbread houses entertains holiday visitors. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3700.
- **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.
- **2-5 Vince Gill** headlines during NFR. Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.
- **2-11 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** More than 500 exhibitors display Western gifts. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.
- **3 Christmas at the Liberace Museum:** Entertainment and a Santa clad in a gold lamé suit. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.
- **3 Evening With the Artists:** Meet and greet local and national artists. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.
- **3 Spaghetti Feed/Christmas Tree Bingo:** CVIC Hall, Gardnerville, 775-782-3416.
- **3 Lighting of Minden Park:** Food, music, and Santa. Minden, 775-782-2444.
- **3-4 Terrible's Town 250:** Off-road race begins with pre-race festivities Dec. 3, race day on Dec. 4. Terrible's Town Casino, Pahrump, 702-457-5775.
- **3-4 Alabama** performs at the Silver Legacy, Reno, 775-329-4777 or 800-687-7733.
- **3-5 Homes for the Holidays:** Decorated homes in the Caughlin Ranch/Juniper Trails area open for an evening tour Dec. 3. Shuttle leaves from Cafe Soleil. Day tours are Dec. 4-5. Reno, 775-787-9411
- **3-5 Lorrie Morgan** appears at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111
- **3-5 Slot Tournament:** $499 entry fee, $12,500 grand prize. Excalibur, Las Vegas, 800-633-7777
- **3-5 Jingle Bucks Slot Tournament:** $10,000 prize. Gold Strike Hotel, Jean, 800-634-1359.
- **3-11 Nightly National Finals Rodeo Dance**

Photo: Gene Hertzog



Parties: Hotel San Remo, 702-739-9000.

• **3-12 "Edward II":** Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **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, 702-678-5777

• **4 Christmas Craft Fair:** Douglas High School, Minden, 775-782-4631

• **4 Don Williams** headlines at the CasaBlanca, Mesquite, 800-459-PLAY.

• **4 Christmas Ghost Train Ride:** Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

• **4 Wade Hayes** appears at Boulder Station, Las Vegas, 702-432-7575.

• **4 Christmas on the Comstock:** Parade of lights and fireworks. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **4 The Flying Santas:** Parachute jump at 3pm. Si Redd's Oasis, Mesquite, 702-346-4031

• **4 UNLV Winter Choral Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **4 Parade of Lights:** Gardnerville and Minden, 775-782-8777

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

• **4 Crafters Christmas Bazaar and Parade:** Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8261

• **4 Festival of the Trees:** Craft fair and traditional Christmas events. Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

• **4 Parade of Lights:** Annual parade of 50 highly decorated boats starts at Lake Mead Marina at 6pm 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



***Bonanza* fans remember Dan Blocker, Lorne Green, and Michael Landon on September 11 at Lake Tahoe.**

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

• **4 Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony:** Rio Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-252-7777

• **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, 775-334-2417

• **5 Christmas in the Nighttime Skies:** Fireworks, music, chili, and hot chocolate. Kimberly Nurseries, Elko, 775-738-8011

• **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.

• **6 Holiday Happenings With Walt Boenig:** Big Band plays holiday music. Nicholas Horn Theatre, Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-5483.

• **6-8 Robert Earl Keen** headlines at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **6-11 CineVegas International Film Festival:** Movie premieres, film competitions, achievement awards. Various hotels, Las Vegas, 702-477-7530.

• **7 South of the Season:** Traditional holiday music performed by the Henderson Civic Symphony. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **9 Ty Herndon** headlines at Boulder Station, Las Vegas, 702-432-7575.

• **9-11 Waylon Jennings** performs at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **9-12 Squaw Valley Anniversary Celebration:** 50th birthday gala at Squaw Valley USA. Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.

• **9-12 Clint Black** appears at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333 or 800-445-4544.

• **10 Luminaria:** Nativity procession, Christmas music, candle decorations in Bicentennial Park. Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

• **10 Toby Keith** headlines at Texas Station, North Las Vegas, 702-631-1001

• **10-11 Kansas** appears at Sunset Station, Henderson, 702-547-7777

• **10-11 Christmas Indian Market:** Sale of Southwestern art, Indian arts, crafts, and baskets. Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Reno, 775-425-3439.

• **10-12 International Car Rally:** Endurance and skill race. Ramada Express, Laughlin, 800-243-6846.

• **10-23 "A Christmas Carol":** Dickens' holiday classic. Summerlin Library Performing Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-647-7649.

• **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.

• **11 Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration:** Roving carolers, make-and-take ornaments, sing-along, craft and goodie sale. Reservations required for dinner. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

• **11-12 Handel's "Messiah":** Reno Chamber

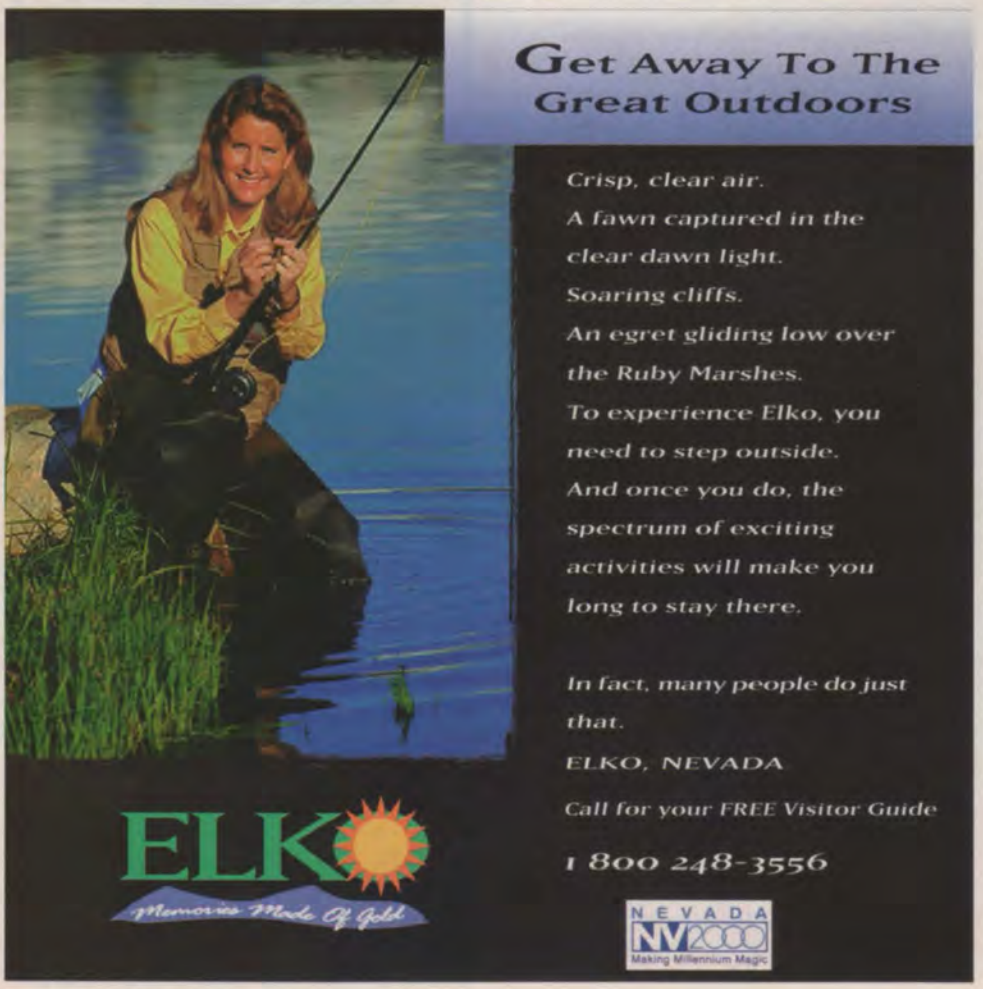


Photo: Ponderosa Ranch

Orchestra performance. Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.

• **11-12 $28,000 Fill Your Socks Slot Tournament:** $199 entry fee. Silver Legacy, Reno, 702-329-4777

• **12 Holiday Treat Concert:** The Carson City Symphony presents seasonal favorites with the Carson Chamber Singers. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

• **12 Holiday Tradition:** Family Christmas party with Santa, cookies, cider, costumed characters, singers, dancers, magician, face painting. Emerald Bay Trading Co., South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-2945.

• **12-15 Huckleberry Win:** Slot tournament has a $1,000 entry fee, $20,000 top prize. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-891-1111

• **16-20 Let It Ride Gaming Tournament:** Guaranteed prize pool of $50,000. Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 800-435-8469.

• **17-19 Don Ho** brings Hawaii to the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **17-20 "Nutcracker":** International cast and the Reno Philharmonic Orchestra. Nevada Festival Ballet, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-785-7915.



Home-run king Mark McGwire of the St. Louis Cardinals was honored during ESPN's most recent ESPY Awards ceremony. The 2000 event will be held February 14 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

• **18 Christmas Booksigning and Sale:** Local authors sign books. Tea and cookies, holiday music. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

• **18 Las Vegas Shootout:** Collegiate basketball doubleheader featuring Arizona v. Nebraska and Oklahoma State v. UNLV. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

• **18 Las Vegas Bowl:** College football's first postseason game featuring the Mountain West and Western Athletic conferences. Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

• **18 Sweet Tooth Extravaganza:** Christmas sale. Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8877

• **19 Turkey Shoot:** Sport shooting at the Flying Saucer Trap Club. Lovelock, 775-273-0745.

• **20-24 Christmas Festivities:** Santa, fun races, storytelling. Christmas Eve worship service. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

• **22 Dionne Warwick, Peabo Bryson, Denise Williams, and James Ingram** perform "Colors of Christmas" at the Riviera, Las Vegas, 702-734-5110.

• **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.

• **26-31 Countdown to the Millennium Celebration:** Nightly fireworks, parades, ice-carving contest, street dance, antique slot machine exhibits, Taste of Downtown food specials, strolling musicians, magicians. Carson City, 800-426-5239.

• **28 Blackjack Tourney:** $25 entry fee. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 ext. 711 or 800-321-6983.

• **28-29 The Eagles** appear at Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7000.

• **29-31 The Smothers Brothers** perform at the Orleans, Las Vegas, 702-365-7111

• **29-Jan. 1 Debbie Reynolds** headlines at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **30 Elton John and Tina Turner in Concert:** Sponsored by Caesars Palace. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-895-3900.

• **30-31 New Year's Eve Celebration:** Music and entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777

• **30-31 Frankie Avalon, The Tokens, and The Shangri-Las** perform oldies but goodies at the Riviera, Las Vegas, 702-734-5110.

• **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 Daryl Hall and John Oates** headline at Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 702-731-7333.

• **31 Barbra Streisand** performs at MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 888-9-BARBRA.

• **31 Cruise Into the Millennium:** Family event includes a two-hour cruise aboard the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler, dinner, entertainment, festivities on land. Lake Mead Cruises at Lake Mead, Boulder City, 702-293-6180.

• **31 Millennium Fireworks:** Mesquite, 702-346-3868.

• **31 Volunteer Firemen's New Year's Ball:** Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-3720.

• **31 Millennium Celebration:** Parties and fireworks. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

• **31 Riviera New Year's Eve Entertainment:** Royale Pavilion: Frankie Avalon, The Tokens, Shangri-las. Top of the Riv: Comedy show. La Cage Theater: The Salsa Machine. Grande Ballroom: Dance party. Le Bistro Lounge: Live music. Las Vegas, 702-794-9433.

• **31 Arizona Charlie's New Year's Eve Party:** Las Vegas, 702-258-5100.

• **31 Carson Nugget's New Year's Eve Party:** Nugget Show Bar: David Proud. Nugget Ballroom: The Motifs. Carson City, 800-426-5239.

• **31 Jackie Gaughan's Plaza New Year's:** "Kenny Kerr Show" and the Sunspots: Reflections of Time. Las Vegas, 702-386-2444.

• **31 Ring in 2000 on the Belle:** Lowering of the New Year's ball, bands 9pm-until. Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 702-298-4000.

• **31 The Orleans New Year's Eve Party:** Smothers Brothers show includes champagne, drinks, and party favors. Las Vegas, 702-365-7075.

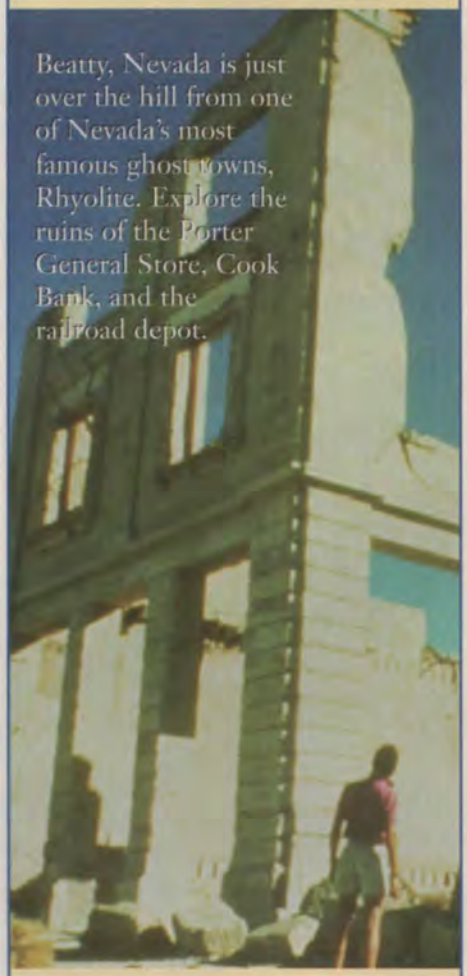
• **31 Rod Stewart in Concert:** Rio Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-252-7777

• **31 Hotel San Remo New Year's Eve Party:** Las Vegas, 702-739-9000.

• **31 Millennium Sleepover:** New Year's Eve party for children. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

• **31 Elks Celebrate End of the Century:** The

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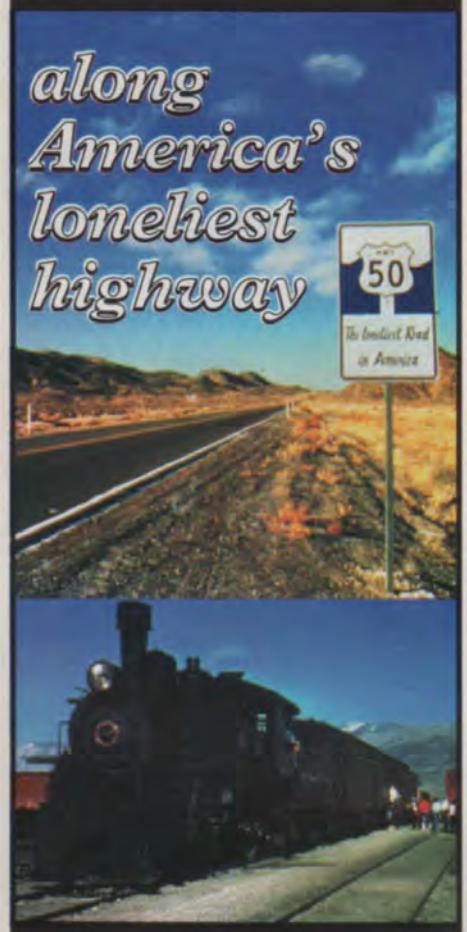
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Photo: Albert Ferreira

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17-piece Tahoe Big Band, conducted by Maestro Brian Farnon, will play upstairs at Sharkey's Nugget. Reservations necessary. Gardnerville, 775-883-8868.

• **31 First Night Las Vegas 2000:** Family party includes the Magical Forest, live music, food, games, fireworks. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3741

• **31-Jan. 1 Bette Midler** headlines at Mandalay Bay, Las Vegas, 877-632-7520.

• **31-Jan. 1 Joe Diffie** headlines at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **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 Millennium Brunch and Cruise:** Sightseeing trip aboard the *Desert Princess* paddlewheeler to celebrate New Year's Day 2000. Lake Mead Cruises at Lake Mead, Boulder City, 702-293-6180.

• **1 Debbie Reynolds** performs at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **1 Joe Diffie** headlines at Cactus Petes, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.

• **1 The Flying Elvi:** Si Redd's Oasis, Mesquite, 702-346-4031

• **1-2 Jarbidge New Year's Eve Party:** Dance, live music, buffet. Celebration runs through Sun., Jan. 2. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **2-9 Carl Hurley** appears at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **3-26 Nevada Shakespeare Festival:** Performance of Shakespeare's "Hamlet. Java Jungle, Reno, 775-324-4198.

• **9-15 PBA Senior Tour Doubles:** Tournament play at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **10 Chutal Kritzer Duo: Sweet Love Doth Now Invite:** Valentine concert. Community Center, Lovelock, 775-273-2197

• **15 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.

• **15-17 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration:** Events will take place in Las Vegas and Reno/Sparks.

• **18 Thomas Jefferson Chautauqua:** Taping of Clay Jenkinson's National Public Radio program, *The Thomas Jefferson Hour.* It will be broadcast from the only operational round courthouse in the U.S. Pershing County Courthouse, Lovelock, 775-273-2197

• **18-20 An Edgewater Odyssey Slot Tournament:** Edgewater, Laughlin, 800-289-8777

• **20-23 Laughlin Desert Challenge:** Off-road race around the Colorado River community. Laughlin, 800-452-8445.

• **21 Organ Concert:** Arthur Johnson and Mark Lord perform. Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, 775-784-6847

• **22 Itzhak Perlman:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **22-29 Cowboy Poetry Gathering: Cowboys and Ranching Culture at the Millennium:** Poetry readings, music, blacksmithing, ranch photography, Dutch-oven cooking, and the role of the cowboy on horseback in the 21st century. Elko, 775-738-7508.

• **25 Reno Philharmonic Concert:** Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.

• **28-Feb. 6 "Our Town":** University Theatre. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801

February 2000

• **5 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 7,500 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.

• **12 Valentine's Ball:** Volunteer Fire Department, Dayton, 775-246-0161

• **12 Lily Cai Chinese Dance Company:** Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-785-7915.

• **14 Valentine's Day Race:** Fun ski race open to all skill levels. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

• **14 Ballet de l'Opera de Bordeaux:** "Romeo and Juliet." Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **14 ESPN's ESPY Awards:** Ceremony honoring the best performers, performances, and highlights in sports. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-891-1111

• **15-20 Mel Tillis** headlines at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **18 Organ Concert:** John Fenstermaker of San Francisco's Grace Cathedral performs. Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, 775-784-6847

• **19 Affair of the Heart Mardi Gras Gala:** Black tie evening with dinner and dancing to support the American Heart Association. Peppermill Hotel, Reno, 775-322-7064.

• **19 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.

• **19-21 Walker Lake Fishing Derby:** Competition for cash prizes. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **22-27 Roy Clark** appears at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **24 and 26 "Don Giovanni":** Nevada Opera presentation of the sin-steeped story of love and revenge. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-786-4046.

• **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.

• **29 "Bandanna":** UNLV orchestra and opera concert. Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

March 2000

• **1-July 1 WIBC National Tournament:** Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **3 Mariposa Trio Recital:** Black Box Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **3 St. Paul Chamber Orchestra with Andre Watts:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **3-12 "Angels in America":** University Theatre. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **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.

• **5 Sierra Winds Recital:** Black Box Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801



PGA star Jim Furyk takes a swing during the Las Vegas Invitational, to be held this October 13-17. Furyk won in 1995 and 1998.

• **5 UNLV Orchestra Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

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

• **11 Mountain Oyster Cook-Off:** Creative cooking and festive booths and clothing. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **11 Cowboy Jubilee and Poetry:** Benefit for Carson-Tahoe Hospital Auxiliary. Carson City, 775-883-1532.

• **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.

• **16 Four Shadows:** A cappella group performs. Pershing County High School Auditorium, Lovelock, 775-273-2082.

• **17 St. Patrick's Day Race:** Fun race open to all skill levels. Northstar-at-Tahoe, Truckee, 530-562-1010.

• **19 Reno Academy Awards Party:** Dinner, art, and the Oscars. Peppermill Hotel, Reno, 775-329-1324.

• **24 UNLV Chorale Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **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.

• **26 UNLV Jazz Ensemble Concert:** Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **28-April 1 Roger Whittaker** headlines at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849 ext. 616.

• **29-April 2 "Inherit the Wind":** Western Nevada Theatre Company production. Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **31 UNLV Opera Performance:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **31 Organ Concert:** Kei Koipo of the Lausanne Conservatorie of Music in Switzerland performs. Trinity Episcopal Church, Reno, 775-784-6847

• **31-April 2 Invitational Native American Arts Festival:** Demonstrations, dance and music performances, lectures and films, outdoor Native American arts and crafts market, food vendors. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

April 2000

• **1 Roger Whittaker** performs at the Riverside, Laughlin, 800-227-3849.

• **1-2 "Inherit the Wind":** Western Nevada Theatre Company production. Carson High School, Black Box Theatre, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **1-2 "Cinderella":** Nevada Festival Ballet, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-785-7915.

• **1-30 Nevada Shakespeare Festival:** Performance of "Come Back, Little Sheba" by William Inge. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-324-4198.

• **1-July 1 WIBC National Tournament:** Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **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 NHRA Winston Drag Racing Series:** New race complex debuts. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, Las Vegas, 702-644-4443.

• **7-9 Desert Quilters:** Show and sale. 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

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Millennium Countdown Calendar

National Fish Hatchery south of Gardnerville on U.S. 395. 775-265-2425.

- **11 Reno Philharmonic Concert:** Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-323-6393.
- **14-16 Las Vegas Gem Club:** Show and sale. 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.
- **15-16 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.
- **18 UNLV Jazz Combos Concert:** Black Box Theater, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **19-23 World Cup 2000:** American hunter-jumper horse show. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.
- **20 UNLV Wind Symphony Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **21-23 Las Vegas Governor's Cup Regatta 2000:** Nevada State Powerboat Championship, Ms. Regatta Queen Contest. Boulder Beach, Lake Mead, 702-393-6163.
- **23 UNLV Orchestra Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801.
- **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.
- **26 UNLV Community Band Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **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.
- **28 UNLV Chorus:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **28-May 6 "Crazy for You":** University Theatre. Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **29-30 Clark County Art Show:** Outdoor fine art only event. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-6284.
- **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.
- **2 UNLV Chamber Chorale Concert:** Black Box Theater, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **4 UNLV Wind Orchestra Pops Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **4 and 6 "H.M.S. Pinafore":** Nevada Opera presents the story of what happens when good girls turn bad. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-786-4046.
- **5 Derby Day:** Buffet lunch, mint juleps, live and silent auction, viewing of the Kentucky Derby to benefit the Reno Chamber Orchestra. Hidden Valley Country Club, Reno, 775-348-9431
- **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 Spring Dance Concert:** Redfield Theatre, U of N, Reno, 775-784-4041 ext. 240.
- **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 Third Annual ArtFest of Henderson:** Arts, crafts, and music. Water Street, Henderson, 702-566-2681
- **12-14 Nevada Open Road Challenge:** Car race against the clock on S.R. 318 from Lund to Hiko. Pre-race activities in Ely. 775-289-8877
- **12-14 and 18-21 "South Pacific":** Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company presents the Broadway musical. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.
- **13-14 Art Faire:** Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-4771
- **13-14 Western States Racing Association Grand Prix:** Motorcycle race around the hills of historic Virginia City. 775-847-0311
- **13-14 Art Faire:** Fine art, crafts, entertainment, booths. 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 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
- **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.
- **20-21 Fly-In and Air Show:** Demonstrations, fly-by's, hot-air balloons, model airplanes, static displays. Fernley, 775-463-2245.
- **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





A watermelon break suits young participants at the Storey County Fair, July 14-16, in Virginia City.

part in protecting the nation and freedom. Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **27-28 Portuguese Festival and Parade:** Food and dancing. Community Center, Lovelock, 775-273-2566

• **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.

• **2-4 Railroad Days:** Historical festival featuring a train display, parade, car show, talent show, and vendors. Beatty Park, Beatty, 775-553-2424.

• **3-4 Celebrate the River:** Entertainment, arts and crafts, food and beverages, and children's activities. Downtown Reno, 775-334-2417

• **3-4 Portuguese Celebration:** Dance, parade, Mass, sopa Lunch, auction. Yerington, 775-463-2763.

• **3-4 Spring Fling Car Show:** Classic cars, show-and-shine, cruise, poker run, crafts, food. Yerington, 775-463-2245.

• **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.

• **3-17 Model Train Expo:** Display and sale. East Ely Railroad Depot Museum, Ely, 775-289-8877

• **4-5 Kids Fishing Derby:** For ages three-12. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

• **9-10 High School Rodeo:** All-round events. Rodeo Grounds, Lovelock, 775-273-2968.

• **9-11 Carson City Rendezvous:** Civil War reenactment and living-history camps. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

• **9-11 Long Steel Rail Festival:** Hobo jungle, vendors, folk-era entertainment, storytelling, dancing in the railroad tradition. East Ely Railroad Depot Museum and the Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-8877 for event information.

• **9-11 and 15-18 "Cinderella":** Western Nevada Musical Theatre/Youth Company 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

• **10-11 Valhalla Renaissance Festival:** Knights, jousting, musicians, jugglers, jesters, dancers, plays, vendors. Camp Richardson Resort, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **11 Washoe Indians:** Lectures and demonstrations about the Washoe people, their customs, and foods. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **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 for more event information.

• **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 Gridley Days and Rock and Bottle Show:** Parade, entertainment, exhibits, crafts, vendor booths, barbecue, pancake breakfast, and mountain bike rally commemorate the town's famous 1864 election bet, for which Reuel Gridley carried a sack of flour. Austin, 775-964-2200.

• **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 Coyote Chase:** 5K and 10K runs, breakfast, entertainment, crafts. Wellington, Smith Valley, 775-465-2147

• **17 Chautauqua: Colonel John Reese:** Story of the founder of Mormon Station. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **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:** New and old fans listen to hits of the 1950s and '60s. Community Center, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **24 Fat Tire Madness:** Cross-country mountain bike race, fun ride. Fundraiser for Make-A-Wish. Virginia City, 775-265-1657

• **24 Nevada's One-Room Schools:** Slide show and talk on one-room schools past and present. 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





Photo: Julie Lee

Millennium Countdown Calendar

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.

• **25 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 2 Fourth of July Powwow and Rodeo:** Native American dancing and traditional rodeo events. Celebration Campgrounds, Owyhee, 775-757-3080.

• **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.

July 2000

• **1-2 37th 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.

• **1-4 White Pine High School All-Class Reunion 2000:** Games, music, displays, picnics, and barbecues involving 60-70 years of graduates. Ely, 775-289-8877

• **1-31 Uptown Downtown ARTown:** Summer arts festival with performances and exhibits citywide. Reno, 775-329-1324.

• **1-Sept. 3 Nevada Shakespeare Festival:** Performances include Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream," Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Pirates of Penzance," and Ed Hopkins' adaptation of "Clue." Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-324-4198.

• **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 Pops in the Park:** The Sierra Philharmonic performs holiday music. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **4 Mason Valley Fourth of July:** Barbecue, crafts, entertainment, fireworks. Mt. View Park, Yerington, 775-463-2245 for further event information.

• **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 for further event information.



Painter Dolly Lee of Incline Village and more than 20 other artists will open their studios September 11-12 for Lake Tahoe's Studio Art Tour.

• **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, 23 miles east of Gabbs, 775-538-7321

• **4 Old-Fashioned Fourth of July:** Parade, family events, and fireworks. City Park, Beatty, 775-553-2424.

• **6-9 Silver State International Rodeo:** High school champions from the U.S. and Canada. Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4674.

• **7 Stargaze:** Night stargazing led by experts from the Fleischmann Planetarium at U of N, Reno. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **7-8 Millennium Music at Sand Harbor:** Well-known jazz and acoustic-guitar performers offer their musical salute to the millennium 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.

• **7-9 Celebrity Golf Championship:** Sports and entertainment stars compete in golf tourney. Edgewood Tahoe, Stateline, 530-544-5050.

• **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 Fireman's Barbecue and Dance:** Smith Valley, 775-463-2245.

• **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.

• **8-15 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.

• **9-10 Nevada 2000 Off-Road Race:** Competitors

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stop at the Convention Center. Ely, 775-289-8877

• **11-Sept. 3 Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival:** The Bard's plays are presented on the beach with Lake Tahoe as a backdrop. Sand Harbor, Incline Village, 800-74-SHOWS.

• **14-16 Storey County Fair and Carnival:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **14-16 Fallon All-Indian Rodeo and Powwow:** Rodeo, Native American dancers, handgames, arts and crafts, dance, parade, and food booths. Annual rodeo and gathering takes place at Regional Park, Fallon, 775-423-2544.

• **15 Topaz Golf Tournament:** Limited to 120 entrants. Carson Valley Golf Course, Gardnerville, 775-782-7917

• **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 Nevada Raptors:** Lecture by Nancy Goldwater on birds found in Northern Nevada. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **21-23 Virginia City Rodeo 2000:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **22 Chautauqua:** Dr. Eliza Cook: First female doctor in the Carson Valley. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **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.

• **22-23 Fireman's Muster 2000:** Virginia City, 775-847-7500.

• **23 Celtic Festival at Valhalla:** Traditional music, dance, crafts, food, and ale from Ireland and Scotland. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

• **26 Ice Cream Social:** Old-fashioned gathering. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

• **26-29 Land Speed Opener:** World-class racing to set land speed records on the Bonneville Salt Flats. Wendover, 801-785-5364.



Fall is time for stilts and spaghetti at the Great Italian Festival at the Eldorado in Reno, October 9-10. The Rio Suite Hotel in Las Vegas has a similar event that same weekend.

• **28-30 Lovelock Frontier Days:** Games, barbecue, vendors, arm wrestling, horseshoes, home arts. Court House Park, Lovelock, 775-273-7213.

• **28-30 Jim Butler Days:** Annual town party will celebrate Tonopah's founding in 1900. Tonopah, 775-482-3558.

• **29 Water Olympics:** Children seven to 14 years learn about the properties of water. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **29 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.

• **29-30 Goldfield Days:** Parade, 10K run, bike race, horseshoes, gold panning, food and vendor booths, miners breakfast, arts, crafts, chili cook-off. Goldfield, 775-485-6365.

• **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. 5 Hot August Nights:** Hot rods, music of the '50s and '60s, dances, and concerts. Reno and Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291

August 2000

• **1-5 Hot August Nights:** Hot rods, music of the '50s and '60s, dances, and concerts. Reno and Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **1-Sept. 3 Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival:** The Bard on the beach at Lake Tahoe. Sand Harbor, Incline Village, 800-74-SHOWS.

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Photo: Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau

ONGOING EVENTS

Art That Heals: Thru Sept. 19, 1999. Mixed media display from the Museum of African Art, New York City. Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History, UNLV, 702-895-3381

Alphonse Mucha: The Spirit of Art Nouveau: Thru Sept. 26, 1999. First traveling exhibition in the U.S. since 1921 of works by the artist. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Seen About Town: The Art of Lew Hymers: Thru Sept. 30, 1999. Original drawings, books, and graphic art by commercial artist Lew Hymers. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

Recitative From a Nuclear Age: Thru Sept. 30, 1999. Exhibit featuring the works of Judy Hiramoto. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-651-4113.

Americanuak: Basques of the High Desert: Thru Sept. 30, 1999. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Farmers Markets: Thru Oct. 15, 1999. Produce, flowers, and crafts for sale Wednesday mornings at Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828. Friday mornings at Kahle Community Park, Stateline, 775-588-0271

Nevada Maze: Thru Oct. 31, 1999. More than a mile of trails through a cornfield. Also produce, flowers. Lattin Farms, Fallon, 775-867-3750.

Twentieth Century American Art and Decorative Glass: Mine to Masterpiece: Thru Nov. 14, 1999. Exhibit on the art of glassmaking. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Corvair: An American Car in Controversy: Thru Jan. 29, 2000. Exhibit on the small car and the uproar it unleashed. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Pasha Rafat Mixed Media Exhibition: Sept. 10-Oct. 22, 1999. Exhibit includes paintings by Mary Warner. Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History, UNLV, 702-895-3381

Western National Antique Shows: Sept. 11-12 and Nov. 6-7 1999; Jan. 29-30, Feb. 12-13, April 22-23, July 7-8, Nov. 25-26, 2000. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-382-7043.

Peter Goin Exhibit: Sept. 27-Oct. 21 1999. Photographic exhibition. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 775-329-ARTS.

Wild About Plants: Oct. 1-Dec. 31 Children are invited to touch, smell, and watch plants. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

The Altered Landscape: A Focus Collection of the Nevada Museum of Art: Oct. 7-Dec. 5, 1999. The works of more than 60 contemporary landscape photographers. Reno, 775-329-3333.

American Indian Jewelry and Art Shows: Oct. 22-24, 1999 and Jan. 21-24 and Oct. 20-23, 2000. Convention Center, Henderson, 520-526-9232.

Path of the 49ers: Photos of the Trail Today: Oct. 22-Dec. 31 1999. Photographer David Lincoln traces the pioneer trail. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

Elko County Art Club Exhibit: Nov. 1-Dec. 10, 1999. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Adolph Sutro and the Western Frontier: Nov. 1-Dec. 30, 1999. Exhibit showcases Adolph Sutro, builder of the Sutro Tunnel below Virginia City and mayor of San Francisco. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

Rink on the River: Nov. 1999-Feb. 2000. Outdoor ice-skating rink offers lessons, rentals, and food. Downtown Reno, 775-334-2417

Coffee Shop Sundays: Nov. 7, 14, 21 and 28, 1999. Music, hot java, and edibles. City recreation centers, Henderson. Call for locations, 702-265-2367

Fiber Arts Exhibits: Nov. 19-Dec. 22, 1999, and Aug. 1-31 and Nov. 17-22, 2000. Gourds, basketry, weaving. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

2,000 Years on the Job and Still Going Strong: Nov. 20, 1999-March 5, 2000. Exhibit of yesterday's tools and their modern equivalents. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Great Basin Basket Makers: Dec. 13, 1999-Jan. 13, 2000. Exhibit by artist Mary Lee Fulkerson of Reno. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Pueblo Grande de Nevada: The Only City in Nevada a Millennium Ago: Jan. 2-Dec. 31 2000. Exhibit highlights life of Pueblo people in Southern Nevada. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.

Piccadilly Antique Shows: Jan. 15-16, Feb. 26-27 Dec. 2-3, 2000. Convention Center, Henderson, 813-345-4431

Voices From the West: Jan. 15-April 15, 2000. Art and artifacts from the American West and Mexico. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

Siqiniq: Under the Same Sun: Jan. 18-April 11 2000. Children's exhibit related to the Inuits of Canada's eastern Arctic. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

Nevada Wide: Panoramic Photography in the Silver State: Jan. 21-May 12, 2000. Pioneer photographers such as Carleton Watkins, Charles Gallagher, E.W. Smith, and Al Smith. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

WIBC National Tournament: March 1-July 1 2000. Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

Women of the Land: Images of Native Americans: March 11-May 7 2000. Photogravures from Edward Curtis' North American Indian series combined with basketry, pottery, weavings, and beadwork. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Roberts House Crafts Sale: First Sat. and Sun. of each month, May-Oct. 2000. Roberts House Park, Carson City, 775-882-1805.

Chagall for Children: May 2-Aug. 11 2000. Exhibit teaches children about art. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

Apron Strings: Ties to the Past: May 15-Aug. 13, 2000. Aprons chronicle the changing views of women and domestic work. Free recipes. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Tonopah and Beyond: May 18, 2000-May 17 2001 Exhibit on the centennial of the founding of Tonopah and the mining towns that followed. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810.

Humboldt River Canoe Trips: June-Aug. 2000. Rangers lead boaters on a nature tour along 10 miles of the Humboldt River below Rye Patch Dam. Participants must bring own canoes or other boats. Event dates may depend on water flow. Rye Patch State Recreation Area, Lovelock, 775-538-7321

Sparks Hometowne Farmer's Market: Thurs. evenings from June 15-Aug. 31, 2000. Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291

Cowboy Up: The History of Rodeo: June 2-Aug. 11 2000. Artifacts and photographs. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

Super Summer 2000: "Fiddler on the Roof": June 14-17 21-24, 28-July 1 2000. Outdoor picnic performance of Broadway plays. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

Valhalla Arts and Music Festival: July and Aug. celebration includes fine art, photography, potter's studio, and Boathouse Theatre productions. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

Super Summer 2000: "Grease": July 12-15, 19-22, and 26-29, 2000. Outdoor picnic performance of Broadway plays. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

Super Summer 2000: "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat": Aug. 9-12, 16-19, and 22-26, 2000. Outdoor picnic performance of Broadway plays. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

Minerals Go to War: Aug. 19-Oct. 29, 2000. Exhibit of World War II posters and wartime materials. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Busy Town: Sept. 30, 2000-Jan. 7 2001 Interactive math and science exhibit for preschoolers based upon the books of Richard Scarry. Lied Discovery Children's Museum, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.

Around the World in 170 Days: Oct. 11 2000-March 5, 2001 Exhibit on 1907 Thomas Flyer, the car that won the 1908 New York to Paris race. Workshop, Oct. 14. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

• **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.

• **5 Valhalla Summer Gala:** Champagne, hors d'oeuvres, dinner, music, dancing. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **5-6 Arts in the Park:** Show and sale, food booths. County Park, Ely, 775-289-8877

• **6 Logging in the Sierra:** Lecture and video presentation about the Tahoe Basin in the 1800s. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **9-13 Northern Nevada Living History Festival:** Civil War camps, mountain man rendezvous, powwow, pro rodeo, carnival. Fernley, 775-575-4459.

• **11 Mule Deer:** Lecture about the social structure, physical features, and roaming area of the animal in Northern Nevada. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **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 Fantasy Car and Truck Show:** Antique automobiles on display, games, parade. Ely, 775-289-8877

• **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.

• **12 Las Vegas Music Festival Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801

• **12-13 Junior High Rodeo:** All-around rodeo events. Rodeo Grounds, Lovelock, 775-273-2968.

• **12-14 Santa Maria Days:** Italian harvest festival with music, parade, games, horseshoes, food, crafts. Volunteer Fire Department, Dayton, 775-246-0161

• **13-15 Pony Express 100:** Open road race from Austin to Battle Mountain also has a car show, dance, and parade. Civic Center, Battle Mountain, 775-635-8245.

• **17-20 Lyon County Fair and Rodeo:** Rodeo, carnival, parade, tractor pull, hay boom, dance, demolition derby. Yerington, 775-463-2245.

• **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 Candle and Soap Making:** Lecture on how pioneers made the household essentials. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **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

• **19-20 White Pine County Fair and Horse Races:** Fair with displays, vendors, games, rides, food booths, parimutuel betting. Fairgrounds, Ely, 775-289-8877

• **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.

• **20 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.

• **21-27 Reno-Tahoe Open:** Golf tournament featuring top PGA players. Montreux Golf and Country Club, Reno, 775-322-3900.

• **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

• **24-27 Mineral County Fair:** Carnival, bike and foot races, food, crafts. Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

• **25-27 Spirit of Wovoka Days Powwow:** Native American dance, food, arts, crafts. Yerington, 775-463-2350.

• **26 Canning by the Early Pioneers:** Lecture about how the pioneers preserved their food. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.

• **26 Star Gaze:** Astronomers from the University of Nevada, Reno will guide viewers through the 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, 4-H livestock shows and sale, arts and crafts, food booths, dancing, and a carnival. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

• **27-29 Valhalla Fine Quilt Exhibit:** Historic and modern quilts, demonstrations, workshops. Valhalla Estate, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

September 2000

• **1-4 Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival:** Fallon, 775-423-2544.

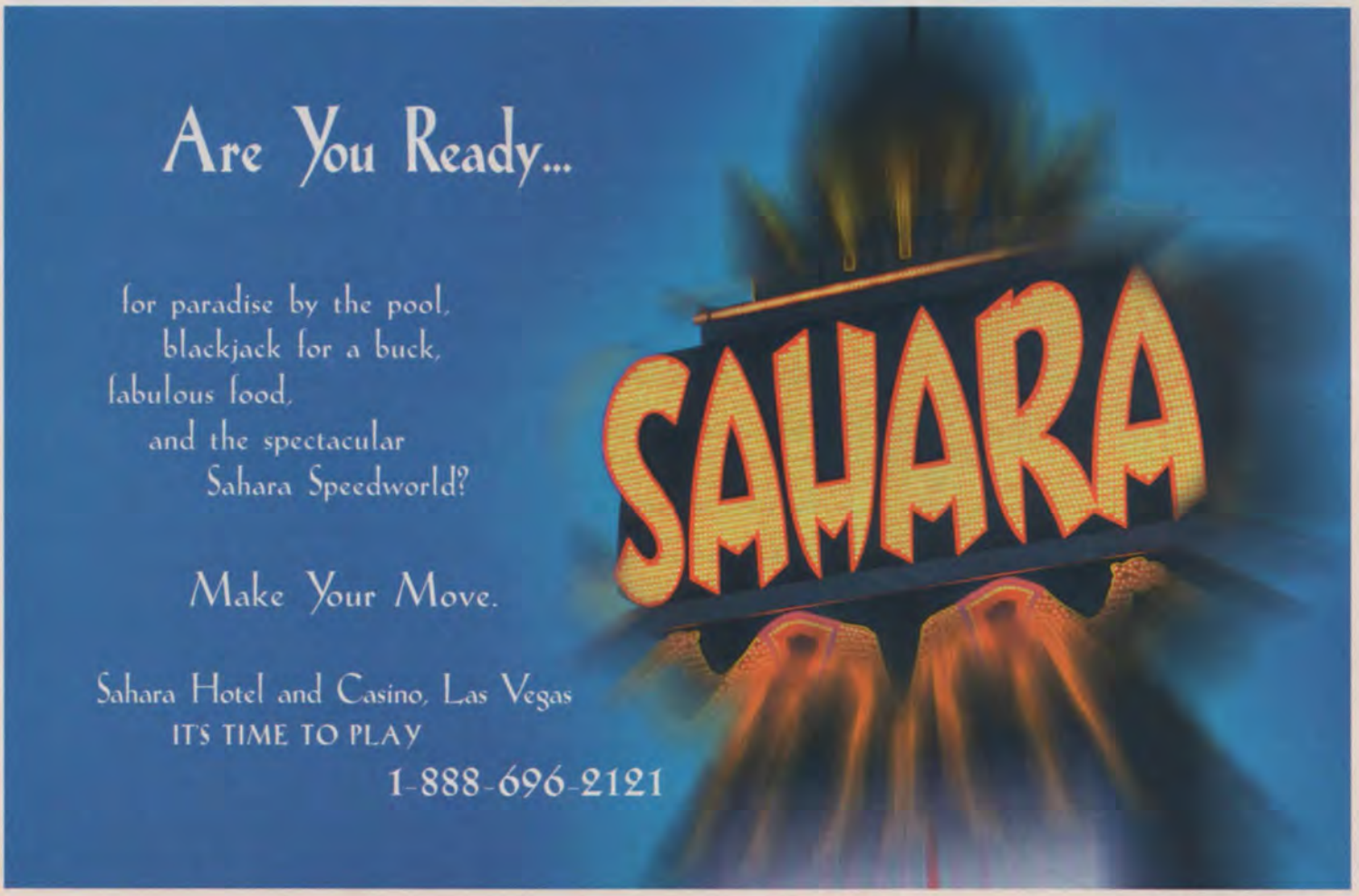
• **1-4 Elko County Fair:** Quarter horse and thoroughbred racing, working cow horse competitions, team-branding contest, 4H livestock show and sale, home art exhibits, food booths, carnival, and dances. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

• **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

• **2-3 Ultra Lite Fly-In:** Air show, hot-air balloon



rides, Ultra Lite flights for the public. Yelland Air Field, Ely, 775-289-4687

• **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. 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 for further balloon race information.



Guides give visitors a spirited welcome during the annual Ghost Walk home tour in Carson City. This year's event is scheduled for October 23.

• **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

• **10 Sundae in the Park:** Art and food festival with locally produced quilts, crafts, foods, and art. Entertainment and free ice cream. Yerington, 775-463-1783.

• **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.

• **15-16 Sierra Folklife Festival:** Nevada's cultural heritage is celebrated by 60 local groups with entertainment, crafts, food. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-329-1324 for further festival information.

• **15-17 Silver State Classic Challenge:** Ninety-mile open road car race against the clock on S.R. 318 from Lund to Hiko. Pre-race activities in Ely, 775-289-8877

• **15-17 Dayton Valley Days and Rodeo:** Country fair, crafts, entertainment. Dayton, 775-246-3378.

• **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, od, senior pro rodeo, cowboy poetry, and art show. Old Town, Dayton, 775-246-3378.

• **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.

• **21-23 World of Speed:** Land speed time trials and record runs. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364.

• **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

• **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 Starving Artists Sale:** Nothing over $100. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 775-329-1324.

• **23-24 Ferrari Club of America Hillclimb, Parade, and Car Show:** Time trials. 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 booths. Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **23-24 High Desert Classic Softball Tournament:** Coed softball tournament. Event held at 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.

•**30-Oct. 1 Yerington Airport Fly-In:** Poker run, war bird display, static displays. Municipal Airport, Yerington, 775-463-3511

October 2000

•**1 Smith Valley Fun Days:** Show-and-shine, food, arts, crafts, Smith Valley, 775-465-2354.

• **1-31 16th Annual Comstock Art Show:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **3-8 Las Vegas International Bike Festival and Expo:** Racing, motocross, stunt shows, rock concerts, a world land speed record. Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

• **7 Art and Earth Festival:** Art, food, crafts. Hawthorne, Walker Lake, and Schurz, 775-945-5896.

• **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.

• **14 Wendover Air Show:** Wendover Air Field, Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **15 Harvest Farm Auction:** Antique sale. Smith Valley, 775-465-2353.

• **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 Theatre Company. Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **19-21 Gem and Mineral Fair:** Demonstrations, sales of minerals, fossils, and rocks, silent auction. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

• **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 making, spinners, camp cooking, and crafts. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, 775-358-2284.

• **22 Carson City Symphony:** Classical music concert. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

• **24 Shoshone Christmas Craft Bazaar:** Native American arts and crafts, food booths. Shoshone Indian Colony, Ely, 775-289-3013.

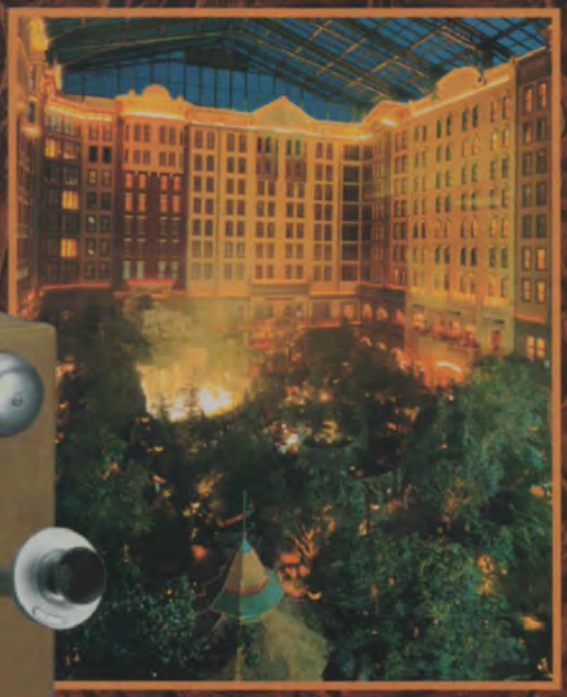
• **24-31 Nevada Day Celebration:** Parade, carnival, midway games, entertainment, food booths, arts and crafts, and dance bands. Mills Park, Carson City,

Photo: Shirley Yvonne Fraser

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

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

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775-687-4680 for further event information.

• **25-26 Haunted Grand Hall at Valhalla:** For children under 12. Valhalla Grand Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **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

• **28 Burro Races:** Race against time to pack and unpack an uncooperative burro. City Arena, Beatty, 775-553-2424.

November 2000

• **1-30 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 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

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

• **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.

• **29 Deck the Halls of Valhalla:** Bring a non-breakable ornament for the annual Christmas decorating party. Valhalla Grand Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **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:** About 500 exhibitors sell their cowboy trappings. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.

• **1-10 National Finals Rodeo:** Top 126 rodeo contestants compete for more than $4.2 million in prize money. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

• **1-30 The Magical Forest:** Holiday lights and decorations create the annual winter wonderland. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3700.

• **2 Crafters Christmas Bazaar:** Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8261

• **2 Christmas on the Comstock:** Parade of lights and fireworks. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **2 Christmas Ghost Train Ride:** Holiday excursion aboard steam-powered train. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.

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

• **2 Parade of Lights:** Annual parade of 50 decorated boats on Lake Mead. The parade starts at Lake Mead Marina at 6pm 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 Sparks Hometowne Christmas:** 14th annual parade with Santa, holiday music, arts and crafts, and a tree-lighting ceremony. Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **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, 775-782-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 Old-Fashioned Christmas Celebration:** Historic decor, craft and goodie sale, roving carolers, sing-along. Dinner reservations required. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

• **9 Country Christmas:** Santa visit and tree-lighting. Yerington, 775-463-2245.

• **9 Children's Christmas Parade:** Santa meets and greets children after parade through town. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **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.

• **16 Christmas Booksigning and Sale:** Local authors autograph books. Tea and cookies, music. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

• **24 Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade:** Squaw Valley's ski school lights up the night with a torch-light 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.

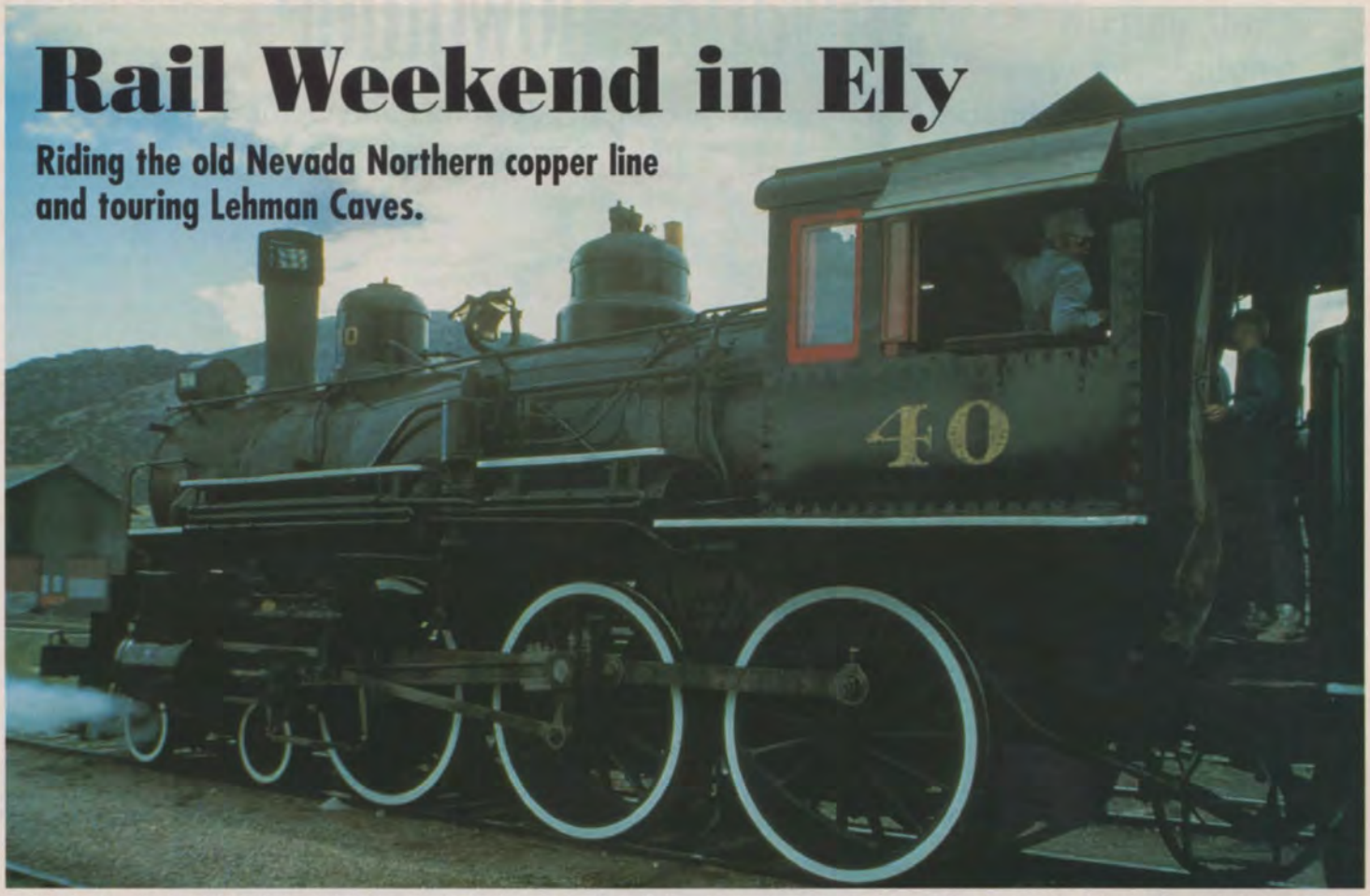
• **31 New Year's Eve Celebrations:** Watch here for more information.

January 2001

• **13-15 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration:** Events will take place in Las Vegas and Reno/Sparks.

Rail Weekend in Ely

Riding the old Nevada Northern copper line and touring Lehman Caves.



Rail buffs can ride the Ghost Train of Old Ely and tour the Nevada Northern Railway Museum during Raildays 2000, September 4-5. The Ghost Train is pulled by Old No. 40 (above), which has served the former copper line since 1910. Ely visitors also can tour Lehman Caves at Great Basin National Park (below left).

When the mountains and valleys surrounding Ely and Great Basin National Park begin to ripen with the colors of fall, it is an excellent time to sample Eastern Nevada's railroad and mining history and explore the area's scenic landscape.

Railroad buffs and visitors looking for a new adventure can climb aboard trains powered by steam and diesel locomotives during Raildays 2000 on September 4-5 at the Nevada Northern Railway Museum in Ely. Saturday, there are steam train rides to Ely's mining district at 1 and 3:30 p.m. and a diesel train excursion to the old mill town of McGill at 5:30 p.m. On Sunday the steam train departs at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Call 775-289-2085 for more information on Raildays. On the same weekend, there will be an Ultra Lite Fly-In at the Ely Airport where visitors will find Ultra Lite and airplane rides, demonstrations, and food booths. Call 775-289-4687 for details.





On September 17, auto-racing enthusiasts will gather in Ely to watch as entrants parade and preen in preparation for the Silver State Classic Challenge, an open-road race September 19 from Lund to Hiko over State Route 318. Call 775-289-6267.

Weekend outings in the Ely area include Great Basin National Park and Lehman Caves, the labyrinth of caverns crafted by water over the eons. Park rangers offer cave tours of 30, 60, and 90 minutes year-round. Times vary, but you can expect at least four per day. Call 775-234-7331 for details. At the park on September 13, members of the San Francisco Amateur Astronomers will present a slide show and viewings on "Astronomy in the Best Dark Skies." Call 775-234-7270. Visitors also can photograph ancient bristlecone pines and hike to the top of 13,063-foot Wheeler Peak.—*Ann Henderson*

Photos: Nevada Commission on Tourism

Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in September and October.

Nevada clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. This fall, Donna Summer will appear at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Engelbert Humperdinck performs at the Flamingo Hilton Laughlin and the Silver Legacy in Reno, and Rick Springfield headlines at 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; the rest of the state is 775.



The Eagles Have Landed

The Eagles perform two concerts during Millennium New Year's Week, on December 28-29, at Mandalay Bay's Special Events Center in Las Vegas. The Eagles scored their greatest hits in the '70s, including "Life in the Fast Lane" and "Hotel California." Jackson Browne will open both shows.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Hacienda (formerly Gold Strike Inn) • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Closed until November.

HENDERSON

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

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

Sunset Station • 547-7777: Sunset Amphitheater: John Michael Montgomery, Sept. 3; Ted Nugent and Night Ranger, Sept. 5; Pure Prairie League With Dave Mason, Sept. 11; Eddie Money and Ronnie Spector, Sept. 12. Club Madrid: Kansas, Dec. 10-11. Disco Inferno, 10:30pm-2:30am Fri. and Sat. Sunset Brewing Co.: bands play Tues.-Sat., Kroakies Karaoke, Mon.

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: Classic Rock Allstars, Sept. 9; Bobby "Blue" Bland, Sept. 16; Hiroshima, Oct. 7; Pablo Cruise, Nov. 10.

Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri. and Sept. 4, Oct. 2, 6, 9, and 13); Andrew Dice Clay, Sept. 4-5; George Carlin, Sept. 30-Oct. 13 and Nov. 4-17.

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

Bellagio • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf. (dark Wed.-Thurs., Oct. 18-19, and Dec. 10-23 and 29-30).

Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Lounge: Joe Diffie, Oct. 15; Jerry Vale, Oct. 29-30; Wade Hayes, Dec. 4; Ty Herndon, Dec. 9; bands play nightly; blues, 8-11pm Mon.; karaoke, Fri.-Sat.

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

Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus: Donna Summer, Sept. 2-5; Tony Bennett, Sept. 9-12; Rocio Durcal, Sept. 15; The Legends of Motown starring the Temptations, Freda Payne, and the Marvelettes, Sept. 23-26; Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, Oct. 1-3; David Copperfield, Oct. 8-31; Howie Mandel, Nov. 4-7; Huey Lewis and the News, Nov. 10-13; Natalie Cole, Nov. 24, 26-28; Vince Gill, Dec. 2-5; Clint Black, Dec. 9-12; Daryl Hall and John Oates, Dec. 31-Jan. 2. Bands play in the Forum and La Piazza lounges, Palace Court and Terrazza restaurants, and Cleopatra's Barge. Piano music in the Galleria Bar. Magicians such as Guy Bavli and Earl Nelson perform Tues.-Sat. 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.

Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Showroom: Tony Danza, Sept. 3-5; Dennis Miller, Sept. 23-26; Don Rickles, Oct. 7-10; Dana Carvey, Oct. 14-17; The Golden Boys: Frankie Avalon, Fabian, and Bobby Rydell, Oct. 22-24; Four Tops, Oct. 28-31; Dennis Miller, Nov. 4-7; Temptations, Nov. 11-14; Gladys Knight, Nov. 18-21. Starlight Lounge: "The Rat Pack Is Back," tribute to Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Joey Bishop, and Sammy Davis Jr., thru Sept. 5.

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

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: Entertainment nightly in the Lobby Lounge and Club Bar on the ground floor. Four Seasons hotel 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, Aug. 25-Sept. 5 (dark Tues.) and Sept. 8-Oct. 31 (dark Mon.-Tues. and Oct. 13-19); "A Tribute to Neil Diamond," starring Barrie Cunningham, Aug. 25-Oct. 10, Sun., Wed.-Thurs. at 9:30pm; "A Salute to Jimmy Buffett," starring Barrie Cunningham, 10pm Fri.; Tropical Splash, Sat. (indf.); ballroom dancing with disk jockey Larry Taylor Tues. and Sun.

Golden Nugget • 386-8100: Cabaret Theatre: "Clint Holmes Show" at 7:30pm Mon.-Fri. and 10pm Sat.-Sun. (dark Wed.); "Hot Stuff," musical revue, 11pm Mon.-Fri. and midnight Sat. (dark Wed. and Sun.). Bands play in the lounge nightly except Mon.

Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650 or 800-HARD-ROCK: The Joint: Alice Cooper, Sept. 3; Duran Duran, Sept. 4; The Black Crowes, Sept. 11; Emmylou Harris and Linda Ronstadt, Sept. 15; The Average White Band and War, Sept. 26; Pet Shop Boys, Oct. 31.

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

Holiday Inn Boardwalk • 730-3194: Lighthouse Showroom: "The Dream King," starring Trent Carlini (dark Sun.-Mon. and Dec. 31).

Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert" (dark Sun.); "Hawaiian Hot Luau: Imperial Style," poolside dinner show on Tues. and Thurs. thru Oct., 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: "Steve Wyrick: World Class Magician" (dark Mon.).

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: LeAnn Rimes, Sept. 3-5; Styx, Sept. 10-11; Wynonna, Oct. 14-16; "Rent," Broadway musical, Oct. 27-Nov. 7; Reba McEntire, Nov. 11-14; Andrew Dice Clay, Nov. 19-20; Johnny Mathis, Nov. 26-27. The NightClub: Loretta Holloway, thru Sept. 26, and Louie Louie.

Luxor • 262-4000 or 800-288-1000: Luxor Theatre: "Imagine, A Theatrical Odyssey," production show; "Lasting Impressions" starring Bill Acosta (dark Mon.); Bolshoi Ballet, Sept. 2-5; Nefertiti's Lounge: Live entertainment. Ra Nightclub: DJ nightly; concerts TBA.

Main Street Station • 387-1896 or 800-713-8933: 777 BrewPub: Shuffleaires, Tues. and Fri.-Sat.

Mandalay Bay • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: "Chicago," Broadway musical (dark Mon.). Mandalay Bay Events Center: Mariachi Festival, Sept. 11; Fight of the Millennium: Oscar De La Hoya v. Felix Trinidad, Sept. 18; Alanis Morissette and Tori Amos, Sept. 24; Mr. Olympia Bodybuilding Championship, Oct. 21-24; Ricky Martin, Nov. 12; The Eagles, Dec. 28-29; Bette Midler, Dec. 31-Jan. 1. House of Blues: De la Soul, Sept. 1; Dwight Yoakam, Sept. 11; David Sanborn, Sept. 24; Jeff Beck, Sept. 25; Molly Hatchet with Calamity Jane, Sept. 26; Echo and the Bunnymen, Oct. 23. Mandalay Beach: The Beach Boys, Sept. 25. Bands play in the Island, Orchid, and Coral Reef lounges.

Maxim • 731-4300 or 800-634-6987: Maxim Showroom: "Comedy Max," comedy nightclub; "Comedy Magic," 1 and 3pm (dark Sun.). Entertainment in Cloud Nine Lounge, Tues.-Sun.

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring Tommy Tune (dark Sun.-Mon. and Sept. 6-13, Nov. 14-22, and Dec. 12-20); "Cats," Broadway musical, Sept. 7-12. Hollywood Theatre: Rodney Dangerfield, Aug. 26-Sept. 8; Wayne Newton, Sept. 9-22; 'N Sync, Nov. 26-27. Grand Garden Arena: Frozen Fury III: Los Angeles Kings v. Phoenix Coyotes, Sept. 11; Andre Agassi's Grand Slam for Children Concert, Sept. 25; Fox U.S. Open of Supercross, Oct. 9; Barbra Streisand, Dec. 31; ESPN's ESPY Awards, Feb. 14. Center Stage Lounge: Catch a Rising Star Comedy Club. Live entertainment in the Show Bar Lounge, Brown Derby, Betty Boop Bar, and Gatsby's. Studio 54: Dancing nightly.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs. and Nov. 26-Dec. 24); 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., Sept. 6-20, and Dec. 12-25); Richard Jeni, Sept. 10-11; Paul Rodriquez, Sept. 17-18. 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

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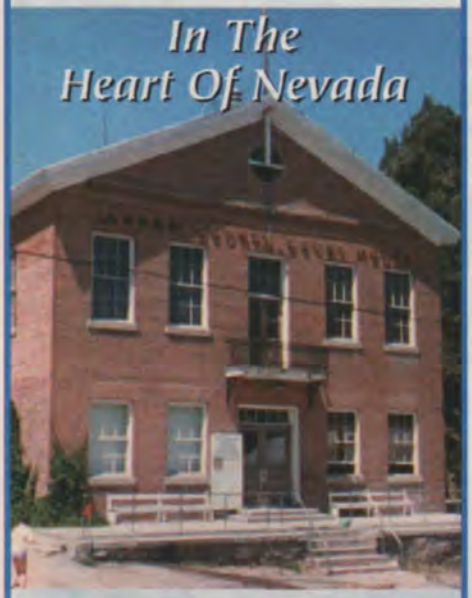
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New York-New York • 740-6969: Broadway Theatre: "Lord of the Dance" (dark Sun.-Mon.). Bands play in the Empire Bar. The N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play 3-6:30pm Fri. and 8pm-2:15am nightly in the Bar at Times Square.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Righteous Brothers, Aug. 31-Sept. 5; Roger Whittaker, Sept. 8-12; Righteous Brothers, Sept. 14-26 (dark Sept. 20); Ray Charles, Sept. 29-Oct. 3; Frankie Valli, Oct. 5-9; Anne Murray, Oct. 11-17; Ms. U.S. Continental Pagent, Oct. 18; Smothers Brothers, Oct. 19-24; Righteous Brothers, Oct. 26-Nov. 7 (dark Nov. 1); Everly Brothers, Nov. 9-14; Frankie Laine, Nov. 19-21; Willie Nelson, Nov. 24-28; Lorrie Morgan, Dec. 3-5; Robert Earl Keen, Dec. 6-8; Waylon Jennings, Dec. 9-11; Don Ho, Dec. 17-19; Smothers Brothers, Dec. 29-31. Bourbon Street Cabaret: Bands play nightly; strolling Orleans Parade Band (dark Sat.-Sun.).

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Trax Nightclub: Mitch Ryder, Sept. 18; Gary Puckett, Nov. 19. Bands play nightly in Trax and Fri.-Sat. in the Palace Saloon.

Paris Las Vegas • 739-4111: New hotel-casino will open in September next to Bally's on the Las Vegas Strip. Entertainment in the Parisian Theatre and LeCabaret Show Lounge.

Rio Suite • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada): Copacabana Entertainment Complex: Impressionist Danny Gans (dark Mon. and Thurs.). Masquerade Show in the Sky: Carnival-themed parade with exotic floats and costumes above the casino, every two hours beginning at 2pm Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.). Rio Bamba Cabaret, Ipanema Piano Bar, Voodoo Lounge have live entertainment. Club Rio: Dance-video nightclub Wed.-Sat.

Riviera • 794-9301: Top of the Riv: Kevin James, Sept. 4-5. Splash Theatre: "Splash," nightly. Royale Pavilion: Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling, Oct. 15-16; "Colors of Christmas" with Dionne Warwick, Peabo Bryson, Denise Williams, and James Ingram, Dec. 22; Frankie Avalon, the Tokens, and the Shangri-Las, Dec. 30-31. La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.); Count Basie Orchestra, Oct. 5. Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.). "Riviera Comedy Club," comedians appear nightly. Le Bistro Lounge: "Tribute to Elvis" with Billy Ortiz from 4-7:30pm Sat.; 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: The Platters, Drifters, and Coasters in Concert, thru Oct. 3; The Amazing Johnathan, Sept. 13-16, 10:30pm show; Elayne Boosler, Oct. 4-17; Jeff Dunham, Oct. 18-30; The Platters, Drifters, and Coasters in Concert, Dec. 3-11; The Platters, Marvelettes, and Coasters in Concert, Dec. 27-Jan. 2. Bands like Next Movement 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: "Night Madness," revue (dark Tues.). Bon Chance Lounge: Entertainers such as Tim Ballard and Armando Flores perform nightly.

Santa Fe • 658-4900: Groups perform 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 mystery dinner theater Thurs.-Sat. Bands like The Fortunes play in the Mardi Gras Lounge (dark Mon.).

Silverton • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Poolside: Luaus are held Thurs. and steak barbecues on Fri. Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Three Dog Night, Sept. 5; bands play nightly.

Stardust • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Stardust Theatre: "Enter the Night," production show (dark Fri.); Three Dog Night, Sept. 3. Stardust Ballroom: Ray Anthony Orchestra, Sept. 11; Les Brown and the Band of Renown, Oct. 30; Ricky and the Redstreaks, Dec. 1-12. Bands play in the Starlight Lounge.

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

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystère" (dark Mon.-Tues., Oct. 10 and 13, and Dec. 8-21). Music in Captain Morgan's piano bar.

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 at the Tropicana includes live birds and monkeys.



Jackpot Remembers Roy

Look-a-like Larry Branson stars in the "Musical Biography of Roy Orbison," playing September 14-19 at Cactus Petes in Jackpot. Branson presents such Orbison hits as "Pretty Woman" and "Blue Bayou."

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

Venetian • 733-5000: Carnevale 2000: When completed in October, the new hotel's three-tiered showroom will feature skyboxes and cigar and sushi bars. Entertainment TBA. Entertainment daily in the Rialto Bar and La Scena Lounge.

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: Michael La Rocca Show, indf.

LAUGHLIN

Avi • 535-5555: Bands play nightly.

Colorado Belle • 298-4000: "D" Deck: Riverboat Ramblers, strolling musicians. Boiler Room Brew Pub: Bands play Fri. and Sat., karaoke, Thurs.

Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Daemine and the Rhythm Connection, Sept. 7-12; Wild at Heart, Sept. 14-19; Cornell Gunter's Coasters, Sept. 21-26; Rubber Biscuit: Tribute to the Blues Brothers, Sept. 28-Oct. 3; Cornell Gunter's Coasters, Oct. 12-17; Billy Erickson and the Bandits, Oct. 19-24; Louie Fontaine and the Rockets, Oct. 26-31.

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Silver Bullet Showroom: "Dancing to the Hitz," musical revue (dark Fri.). Outdoor Amphitheater: Randy Travis, Sept. 18; Engelbert Humperdinck, Oct. 9; Wynonna, Oct. 13.

Golden Nugget Laughlin • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon.

Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: Ronn Lucas Show (dark Thurs.).

Ramada Express • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theater: Entertainment TBA; Back to the 1940s Speakers, Tues. 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: Bands play nightly except Mon.; Karaoke Madness, Mon.; swing and Latin dance contests, 5pm daily. Train rides also are available.

River Palm • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Crystal Sands Club: "Spice on Ice," revue, thru Sept. 28 (dark Wed.); DJ music or bands like Sneak Preview and The Checkmates perform nightly in the Bermuda Club.

Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: "Shogun," revue, indf.; BTO, Sept. 4; Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons, Oct. 14-16; Bill Medley, Oct. 20-23; Ricky Van Shelton, Oct. 26-30; Everly Brothers, Nov. 4-7; Debbie Reynolds, Nov. 9-14; Jack Jones, Nov. 16-21; Debbie Reynolds, Dec. 29-Jan. 1; Carme Pitrello, Dec. 31; Carl Hurley, Jan. 2-9; Mel Tillis, Feb. 15-20; Roy Clark, Feb. 22-27; Roger Whittaker, March 28-April 1.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Theatre: Little River Band, Sept. 11; Oak Ridge Boys, Nov. 6; Don Williams, Dec. 4. 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: Redd Boot Saloon: Video and live DJ, Fri. and Sat. Sandy Hackett's Comedy Club on Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly.

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

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Entertainment 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: Najee and Wayman Tisdale, Sept. 4; Loretta Lynn, Sept. 24; Clay Walker, Oct. 1; Toby Keith, Dec. 10. Armadillo Lounge: Yellowjackets, Oct. 1; 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: Brooks and Dunn and Trace Adkins, Sept. 9. 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: Bands like Heartache Tonight play nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret.

Boomtown • 345-6000: Boomtown Cabaret: Entertainers such as Stew Stewart and Tommy Bell play nightly except Mon.

Cal-Neva's Virginian • 877-777-7303.

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

Club Cal-Neva • 323-1046.

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: Rock, blues, and swing bands play nightly at the microbrewery. Piano music in Bistro Roxy.

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

Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands like Garfin Gathering, Perfect Circle, and Whiskey Ridge play nightly.

Flamingo Hilton Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "Carnival of Wonders," magic production (dark Tues.). Bands play in the Show Spot Cabaret. Terry Thompson, Colin Ross, Yil Ozpay, and Al Valdez play at the Top of the Hilton restaurant (dark Tues.).

Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Cirque Berserk," revue, 7pm, followed by "Skintight," revue, at 9:30pm with additional show at 11:30pm Sat. (dark Thurs.).

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Rose Ballroom: Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, Oct. 8-9; John Michael Montgomery, Oct. 15-16; Tom Jones, Nov. 11-12; Wayne Newton, Nov. 26-27. Celebrity Showroom: Charo/Sammy King, Aug. 19-Sept. 1; Crystal Gayle/Billy Garan, Sept. 2-15; The Lettermen/Kelly Montieth, Sept. 16-29; Bill Medley, Sept. 30-Oct. 13; Rich Little, Oct. 14-27; Michael Martin Murphey, Oct. 28-Nov. 10; Lou Rawls and Michael Pace, Nov. 11-24. Bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's restaurant.

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

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 359-9440: Entertainers like Tony Vee and Siren play on weekends in Rail City's 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, thru Dec. 18 (dark Fri.); Robert Cray Band Featuring The Memphis Horns, Sept. 24; Outdoor Amphitheatre: Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, Shawn Colvin, Bruce Hornsby, and David Lindley, Sept. 22; Jethro Tull, Oct. 1. The Improv Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon. Aspen Lounge: Mon. night jazz; live music and dancing.
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: Kenny Rogers, Sept. 18; Doobie Brothers, Sept. 24-25; LeAnn Rimes, Oct. 1-2; Tony Bennett, Oct. 8-9; George Carlin, Oct. 16; Engelbert Humperdinck, Oct. 22-23; Righteous Brothers, Nov. 12-13; Alabama, Dec. 3-4. Comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club.
Western Village • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.



Lounge Rockers

Bands like Wild at Heart (above) help keep Nevada lounges hopping till the wee hours. The rock group appears September 14-19 at the Edgewater in Laughlin.

CARSON AREA

Carson Nugget • Carson City, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Bands like Big Tiny Little and Louie Fontaine play nightly.
Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands play in the casino lounge nightly.
Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Shannon Ballroom: Pappa Clutch and the Shifters, Oct. 2; Hotel California: A Salute to the Eagles, Nov. 19-20. Bands like Shake, Rattle, and Roll and White Wing play in the Cabaret Lounge for dancing nightly except DJ night, which is scheduled for Mon. at the Minden casino.
Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890: Mark Twain Lounge: Bands 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. Also, extensive displays of boxing, circus, and rodeo memorabilia.
Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.
Caesars Tahoe • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Rick Springfield, Sept. 11; the Temptations and the Four Tops, Oct. 1-2; Carrot Top, Oct. 22-23; Clint Black, Nov. 26-27. Nero's 2000 nightclub presents live music. Cleo's Bar and Entertainment Lounge: Pianist Arthur Hervey appears indf.
Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "New York, New York" and "Erocktica 2000," revues, thru Sept. 26 (dark Tues.); Bob Newhart, Oct. 1 and 3; the Everly Brothers, Oct. 7-10, Elvin Bishop and Little Charlie and the Nightcats, Oct. 14-17; Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, Oct. 21-24; Don Rickles, Oct. 29-31; Tower of Power, Nov. 25-28; Danny Marona, Dec. 26-30; Mitch Woods and John Carleton orchestras with Rick Michel, Dec. 31. Bands play nightly in the Casino Center Stage.
Harveys • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Cabaret: "Tahoe Live's Rockin' Blues Revue," production show. Llewellyn's: Ron Rose Sound.
Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Phantasy," magic and comedy revue (dark Mon.). Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.
Lakeside Inn • 588-7777: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382: 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: Regency Ballroom: Pappa Clutch and the Shifters, Sept. 4. Casino Stage Bar: Bands like Primetime and Inside Out play nightly except Mon.
Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 831-7157.
Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

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

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: 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 • 800-821-1103: Gala Showroom: "Musical Biography of Roy Orbison," Sept. 14-19; Danny Marona, Sept. 21-Oct. 3; Starship Featuring Mickey Thomas, Oct. 5-10; Survivor Featuring Jimi Jamison, Oct. 12-17; An Evening at the Improv, Oct. 19-21; The Charlie Daniels Band, Oct. 22-23; Williams and Ree, Nov. 3-6; Exile, Nov. 9-14 and 16-21; "Dino Casino's Rock 'n' Swing Revue," Dec. 14-19, Joe Diffie, Dec. 31-Jan. 1.
Horseshu Casino • 755-2321.

MILL CITY

Burns Bros. Casino • 538-7306.

WENDOVER

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

WINNEMUCCA

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

Pony Express Territory

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 423-3111 ext. 47.
Fallon Nugget • 423-3111.

Pioneer Territory

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Nightly entertainment.
Exchange Club • 553-2368: Weekend 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.

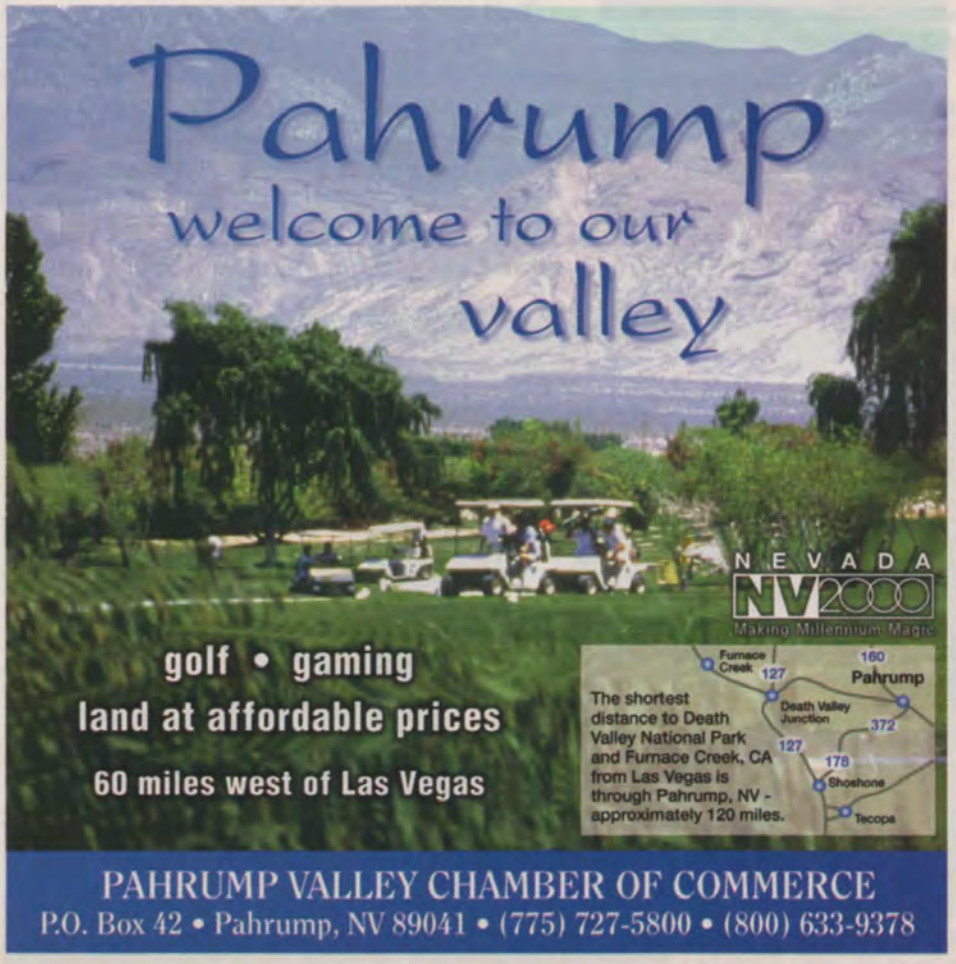
TONOPAH

Banc Club • 482-5409: Entertainment TBA.
Mizpah Hotel • Closed for renovation.
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.





Brother Medley

Bill Medley reminisces about Elvis, Jack Benny, and more than three decades of playing Nevada.

By Kim Pryor



Bobby Hatfield and Bill Medley (right) appear as the Righteous Brothers at the Orleans and Silver Legacy.

Bill Medley remembers the first time Elvis Presley made a surprise appearance during his show. Their meeting took place at the Las Vegas Hilton in 1973. Elvis was appearing in the main room, and Medley was performing solo, without his Righteous Brother partner, Bobby Hatfield, in the cabaret.

As Medley was singing, Elvis strolled across the stage with three bodyguards. "Hi, Bill," Elvis said, waving at Medley, as the surprised audience screamed. Medley was just as shocked as the house.

"It was quite the buzz," he recalls. "And I certainly didn't think he was going to do it the second show. But every woman in Las Vegas had heard he was on my stage, so they all showed up for the second show. Sure enough, he did it again." The second time, Elvis and an entourage of 10 paraded past Medley.

"That was a nice moment only because Elvis had never been on stage with another act," says Medley. "He called me after the show and said, 'God, Bill, I hope I didn't wreck your show. I said, 'Yeah, people can't get in. You're really killin' me.'"

Of course, the Righteous Brothers don't need guest stars to put on a memorable show. During their string of Nevada appearances this fall, Medley and Hatfield will treat audiences to one powerful hit after another—"Unchained Melody," "Ebb Tide," "Little Latin Lupe Lu," "Rock and Roll Heaven," and "You've Lost That Lovin' Feeling." When it comes time for soul and inspiration, Medley and Hatfield sing as if they mean and feel it, stretching for those high and low notes.



Bell bottoms and fringed vests were stylin' when Medley and Hatfield played the Landmark in Las Vegas in 1969.

Between ballads and snappier tunes they offer plenty of humor. One of Medley's favorite routines is a doo-wop section in which the members of the band join the Righteous Brothers for tunes like "Book of Love," "Earth Angel," and "Still of the Night." Beforehand, Medley and Hatfield tell the audience they would get ready for concert shows "by singing in the shower to warm our throats up."

"We felt the show needed humor because when we started doing 'Lovin' Feeling' and all these dramatic ballads, it seemed like we had to lighten it up somehow," says Medley. "We always want the audience to view us as normal guys, so our humor pretty much is directed at us—kind of like Jack Benny."

In fact, Medley says, Jack Benny inspired the duo's comedy style. In the late 1960s the Righteous Brothers opened for Benny at Harrah's Lake Tahoe. Benny incorporated the Righteous Brothers into his monologue, but when Medley and Hatfield first studied the script, they looked at each other in surprise.

"We said, 'God, this ain't funny!'" Medley recalls. "But it was that Jack Benny subtle humor. When we did it with Jack, it was funnier because he's just funny reading the Yellow Pages. It took him being the butt of the joke. With all of his takes, pauses, and faces, it was just the most unbelievable thing in the world. It was a wonderful learning experience."

Medley and Hatfield use a similar style of humor, which Medley believes is one reason the Righteous Brothers have lasted from the '60s to the eve of the millennium.

"Bobby and I have always been more performers than recording artists," says Medley. "We make sure our show is very entertaining and is exactly what the folks

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau (bottom)

want to see and hear." Of course, those all consuming love songs also are part of the package. Medley says modestly, "We didn't write them, so I can say that they're great songs."

So great that they enjoy an endless appeal. "Lovin' Feeling," for instance, caught the attention of a younger generation in the mid-1980s when it appeared on the soundtrack of the motion picture, *Top Gun*. And the song is still so popular that it receives standing ovations during their show. Medley says the song is the most played record in the history of American radio—which sometimes surprises him.

"'Lovin' Feeling' kind of seemed to be this really wrong record that became one of the biggest records," he says. "It was too long, it was too slow, and in kind of this low voice it sounded like it was on the wrong speed."

The Righteous Brothers have been treating Nevada audiences to hits for more than three decades. But because they rarely leave the hotel, they've actually seen very little of Nevada, although Medley sometimes ventures out to eat at Capozzoli's Italian restaurant in Las Vegas.

"I'm kind of one of those guys that doesn't get out and about during the day a lot," says Medley. "I've been threatening to go up to Mount Charleston for I think 35 years now, and I haven't made it. I hear it's just gorgeous."

Over the years, Medley has watched Las Vegas expand.

"The growth of Las Vegas is just staggering," says Medley. "I've talked to people that say, 'Gee, I haven't been to Las Vegas in 15 years.' I tell them, 'Man, you'll flip out.' I can remember flying in here when we worked at the Sands in the '60s, and we literally flew over nothing. There was just the Strip. Now you fly for five or 10 minutes over houses. It's just amazing to me."

Show Notes

The Righteous Brothers appear at the Orleans in Las Vegas on August 31-September 5, September 14-26 (except September 20), and October 26-November 7 (except November 1). Call 702-365-7111. The duo moves to the Silver Legacy in Reno November 12-13. Call 775-329-4777.

Bill Medley headlines at John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks on September 30-October 13. Call 775-356-3300. He performs at the Riverside in Laughlin on October 20-23. Call 800-227-3849.

Kim Pryor of Lake Tahoe is an entertainment and feature writer.

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Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. **By Elizabeth Baker-Nielsen**

Las Vegas Territory

Arabian Nights: The new Aladdin moved closer to its scheduled opening late next spring when workers topped off the 2,600-room resort in June. The Strip hotel will offer a 500,000-square-foot collection of themed marketplaces, restaurants, and entertainment. The property's signature decor will include a gigantic magic lamp, a two-story replica of Scheherazade's Palace, a winged horse, and the talon of a giant Roc taken from the tales of Sinbad the Sailor.

Sunbather's Paradise: The Colorado Belle in Laughlin has created a soft, sandy beach above the high-water line of the Colorado River. The beach runs the entire length of the Belle's Delta Lanai rooms.

Desert Inn Award: The Monte Carlo Restaurant in the Desert Inn in Las Vegas has been awarded the 1999 Four Diamond rating by AAA. Only five percent of more than 10,000 restaurants approved by the California State Automobile Association receive the Four Diamonds.

Nightclub Opens: Baby's, the new Las Vegas nightclub, has opened at the Hard Rock Hotel. Baby's is open from 10 p.m. until the wee hours Thursday through Saturday. On weekends, there is a $15 cover charge for men, but women enter free.

Country's Best: The Las Vegas Hilton was named Casino of the Year by the Academy of Country Music Awards. The Hilton Theater is known for its sound, lighting, and design. Performers such as Reba McEntire, Alan Jackson, LeAnn Rimes, Jeff Foxworthy, and Amy Grant have played the Hilton this past year. The theater was a favorite of Elvis Presley, who performed 837 sold-out shows at the resort.

"Blue Man Group" Vegas Bound: The award-winning, off-Broadway show "Blue Man Group" is conducting a search for musicians in preparation for a new show at the Luxor in Las Vegas. The show is tentatively entitled "Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor." It is scheduled to open in March 2000 and will be designed for the Luxor with new musical numbers.

Lion Framer: The MGM Grand in Las Vegas has opened a glassed-in, tri-story lion habitat whose residents include direct descendants of MGM Studios' marquee lion, Metro. The habitat consists of stone, indigenous foliage, waterfalls, overhangs, and a pond where the lions can prowl. Admission is free.



A MaxFlight virtual-reality roller coaster recently was installed at Buffalo Bill's in Primm, located 43 miles south of Las Vegas on Interstate 15. Riders can choose from more than a billion different ride combinations. The Silver Legacy in Reno also has a MaxFlight machine.

Palace Lessons: The Palace Station is offering free gaming lessons Monday through Friday. Players can learn the basics of craps at 11 a.m. and blackjack at noon. In addition, 450 new courtyard rooms were renovated and opened last summer at the Las Vegas hotel.

New Buffet: The Orleans in Las Vegas has opened a seven-station eatery, the French Market Buffet, which offers Italian, Mongolian, American, Mexican, Chinese, barbecue, and seafood dishes. It will feature a seafood buffet on Monday nights from 4 to 10 p.m.

Yet Another Hotel: Executives of the Mandalay Bay Resort Group have announced plans to build a $65-million, 320-unit time-share complex. Shareholders were also informed that "when the time is right" there are also plans to build a 3,000-room resort. Both projects would be adjacent to the Mandalay Bay on the Strip.

Sam's Town Expands: Boyd Gaming has announced plans for a $78-million expansion and renovation of Sam's Town. The project will include a special events center, an 18-screen movie theater complex, and a cinema cafe.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

New Eats: The Atlantis in Reno has opened its expanded Toucan Charlie's Buffet and Grille as part of a $75-million expansion. The buffet offers interactive cooking stations including wood-fired meats and rotisserie, Southwestern, fresh salsa bar, Mongolian barbecue, Chinese wok, Asian exhibition, and tossed-to-order salads.

Harrah's Awards: The Steak House at Harrah's Reno has received the AAA Four Diamond Award and the DiRoNa Award from the Distinguished Restaurants of North America. There are no other Reno area restaurants rated Four Diamond in the current AAA Tour Book. In addition, the Steak House is one of two Northern Nevada restaurants to receive the DiRoNa recognition.

Spirits and Cigars: Harrah's Lake Tahoe in Stateline has unveiled the new Summit View Lounge, located on the 16th floor of the hotel. The lounge is a haven for those who enjoy a fine cigar. Fifty brands, including Fuente Furete Opus X, the Zino Davidoff, and Vintage Macanudos, are available.

Reno Ice Pavilion: The Reno Ice Pavilion at the Reno Hilton has a November completion date. The 26,000-square-foot pavilion, which will border the Truckee River, will include a professional-sized ice rink, concession, pro shop, and skate rentals. Future plans for the Hilton include a thrill ride and go-cart track.

New Putting Course: The Reno Hilton added a putting course this summer. Located under the Ultimate Rush thrill ride, the 18-hole course has waterfalls, gardens, rivers, and ponds.

New Legacy: The Silver Legacy in Reno has opened a new lounge, an express food court, and a virtual-reality roller coaster ride. The Silver Baron Lounge is located under the mining rig on the main casino floor and features piano music Thursday through Sunday evenings. The hotel's Fresh Express Food Court offers on-the-go Chinese, American, deli, and pizza dishes served in an outdoor-patio setting. Before dining, riders aboard the Legacy's MaxFlight cyber coaster can select a mild or wild trip.



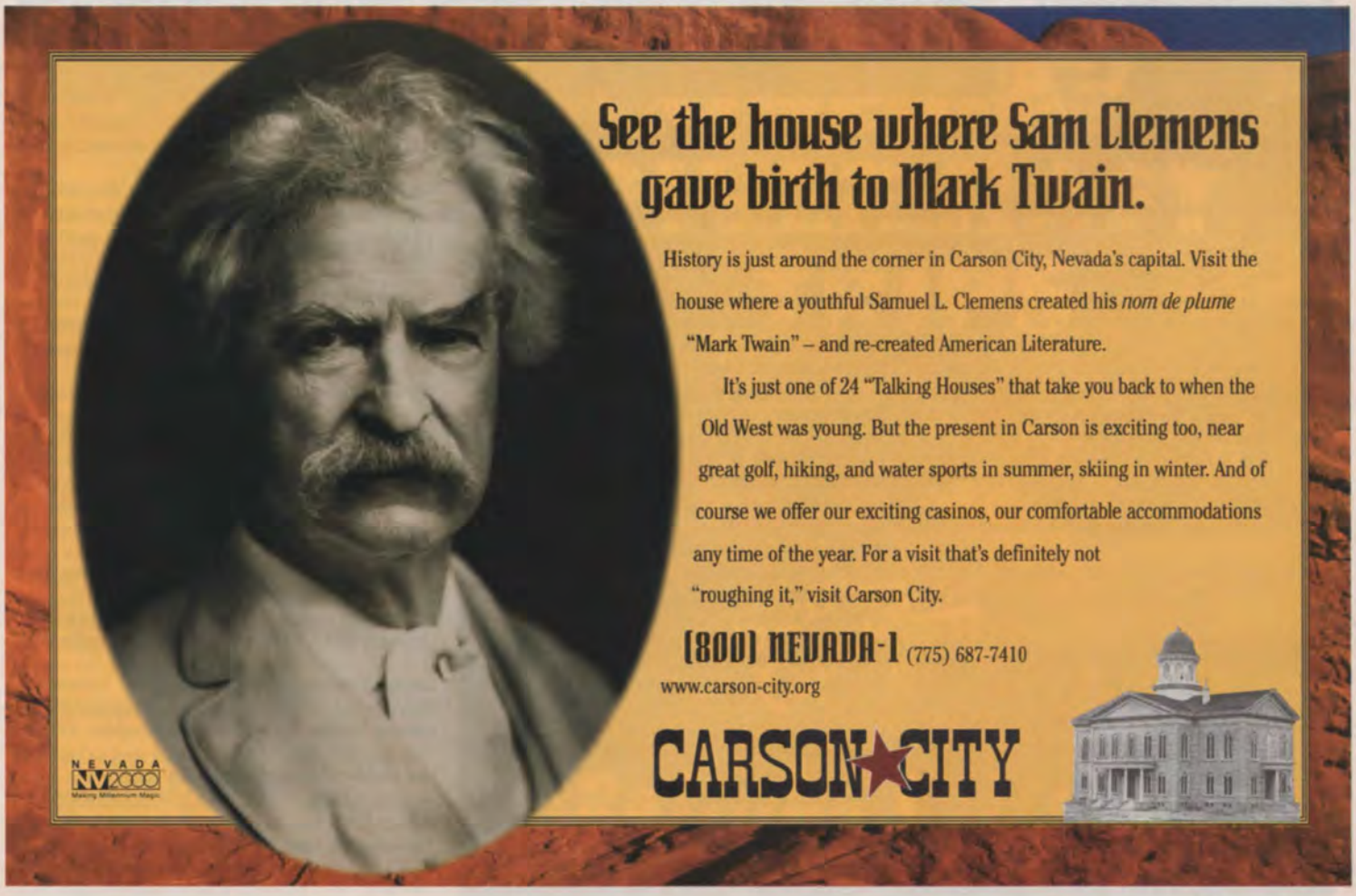
The Reno Hilton offers golf along the Truckee River on its recently installed 18-hole putting course.

Casino Promotions

Scratch and Win: Until September 5, Caesars Tahoe in Stateline will be giving away chances to win $1 million. Every time a guest wins a hand-paid jackpot or cashes in $10 in bonus points at the Emperors Club, the guest will receive a scratch card with a chance to win a $100 or $1 million bonus prize.

Casino Play: Harrah's Lake Tahoe and Harrah's Reno are offering their "Play Slots An Hour On Us" program through September 30. The promotion reimburses new players for any losses, up to $100, during their first hour of slot play. It is open to slot players who are new to Harrah's or who have not previously opened a player's account.

Car Giveaways: Several casinos are holding auto promotions. Harrah's Las Vegas is giving away a 1999 Volkswagen Beetle GZS through September 30. Players can earn chances to win through various activities including checking into the hotel, purchasing meals, marker buy-ins, and signing up for the Harrah's Total Gold Card. The Silverton in Las Vegas will give away a classic '48 Ford pickup September 6 to the winner who qualifies by playing video poker keno, slots, blackjack, or video keno. The Showboat in Las Vegas is celebrating its 45th birthday with a '55 Chevy giveaway on September 3. Tickets are earned when checking in, gambling, bowling, or joining the slot club.





Attractions, Tours & Museums

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

Visitors can explore Nevada's diverse attractions—from the van Goghs and Picassos at the Bellagio Gallery of Fine Art in Las Vegas to the historical exhibits at the newly renovated Nevada Historical Society 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's area code is 775.



Thrills on a Smaller Scale

The Rodeo Rider is the latest attraction at Boomtown, nine miles west of Reno on Interstate 80. The cowboy-themed ride, which reaches heights of 20 feet, gives children brief feelings of weightlessness as it moves up and down. The Rodeo Rider is targeted to children ages two to 13, but it can accommodate adults as well.

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. 100 St. Jude's St., 294-7100.

HENDERSON

City of Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve • Self-guided or guided tours for more than 10 people of the 80-acre preserve and its trails and interpretive signs. 2400 Moser Street off Sunset, Henderson, 565-4264.

Clark County Heritage Museum • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.

Cranberry World West • Tours of Ocean Spray facility. 1301 American Pacific Dr., 566-7160.

Nevada Events & Shows
is a section of
NEVADA
MAGAZINE

Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.

Mountasia Family Fun Center • 2050 Olympic, 898-7777.

Ron Lee's World of Clowns • 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

Adventuredome • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.

A.J. Hackett Bungy • 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.

All-American Sportpark • Golf, baseball, in-line skating, and NASCAR racing, corner of Las Vegas Blvd. and Sunset Road, 798-7777.

Bellagio • 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 Dr. 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.

Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.

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 Collection • Classic and antique vehicles, 794-3174.

Laser Quest • Hide and seek with special effects. 7361 West Lake Mead, Las Vegas, 243-8881.

Las Vegas Art Museum • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 647-4300.

Las Vegas Club • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 385-1664.

Las Vegas Natural History Museum • From dinosaurs to desert creatures. 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.

Liberace Museum • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.

Lied Discovery Children's Museum • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.

Luxor • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum, 262-4000.

M&M's World • Collectibles and candy. Showcase Mall, 736-7611.

Mandalay Bay • Coin and paper money museum, 632-7777.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
MGM Grand • Lion habitat open daily. Theme park seasonal hours begin Sept. 7, 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 • Site of 1855 settlement. 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 Hotel on the Las Vegas Strip, 891-8580.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area • 363-1921.
Rio Suite Hotel • Free carnival-themed sky parade, 252-7777.
Sahara Hotel • Virtual reality Indy car racing on the Strip, 737-2735.
Sam's Town • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
Santa Fe Hotel • Ice arena. 4949 N. Rancho Dr., 658-4993.
Shelby American • Shelby Cobra auto museum and factory tour. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 643-3000.
Southern Nevada Zoological Park • Home of 150 species, from apes to peacocks. 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
Star Trek: The Experience • Las Vegas Hilton, 697-8751.
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, gambling museum, 739-2222.
Venetian Hotel • Madame Tussaud's Celebrity Encounter wax museum, gondola rides. Las Vegas, 733-5000.
Walker African-American Museum and Research Center • Exhibits and records, open by appointment only, 647-2242.
Wet 'n Wild • Water theme park closes for the season Oct. 4, 734-0088.
World of Coca-Cola • Museum. 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 heroes, 298-4200.
Riverside Resort • Classic cars, river tour boat, and bowling center, 298-2535.

MESQUITE

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

NORTH LAS VEGAS

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

OVERTON

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

PRIMM

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

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SEARCHLIGHT

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

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

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

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.

GARDNERVILLE

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

GENOA

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

LAKE TAHOE

Hard Rock Cafe • Harveys, Stateline, 588-2411.
Heavenly Aerial Tram • Seasonal. Stateline, 586-7000.
Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • Sand Harbor, 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.
M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.
Ponderosa Ranch • Seasonal activities close Sept. 6, ranch closes for winter Nov. 1. 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, 530-583-0141.
Tahoe Rim Trail • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • Stream-profile chamber, 530-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours, 530-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • Cruises, boat rentals. 588-5021.

RENO

Animal Ark • 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 • Rides, picnicking. Idlewild Park, 329-6008.
Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk • 334-2077.
Reno Hilton • Water golf, Ultimate Rush thrill ride, putting course, 789-2000.
Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy • Tours. 215 S. Wells Ave., 329-5665.
Sierra Arts Center Gallery • Gallery and offices, 200 Flint St., 329-1324.
Sierra Safari Zoo • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.
Silver Legacy • 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 seasonal hours begin Aug. 30, closes for winter Sept. 12, 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.
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.

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Wild West Museum • South C Street, 847-0400.

VERDI

Boomtown Family Fun Center • Motion theater, Ferris wheel, and miniature golf, 345-8668.

WASHOE VALLEY

Bowers Mansion Park • Seasonal, 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 • Pioneer exhibits, research room with maps and books, 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 • Lovelock-area history, 273-7213.

WENDOVER

Bonneville Salt Flats • 801-977-4300.

WINNEMUCCA

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

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 • Tours of Lehman Caves. 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.
Nevada Maze • Tours of one mile of trails in a corn field at Lattin Farms, Aug. 12-Oct. 31. Fallon, 867-3750.
Sand Mountain • Unusual giant sand dune. 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.
Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge • 15 miles east of Fallon, 423-5128.

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 • Dinosaur fossils, 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 • Main Street, 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.

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NEVADA MAGAZINE

Gift Shop

There's nothing like being a Nevadan—or a friend of Nevada. To help you proudly display your Nevada affinity, we're offering a tempting assortment of gift items ranging from our exclusive Nevada Sports Shirts to the 2000 Nevada Historical Calendar. They'll remind you and your friends and family of Nevada all year long. Be sure to see the "Gift Shop Order Form" for ordering details or log on the magazine's Web site, **www.nevadamagazine.com.**

NVDAIOOX



Sport Shirt

The authentic Nevada Sport Shirt. It's all-cotton, and it's cool. Very cool. White polo-style shirt embroidered with blue logo, 100% cotton, pique fabric, in sizes M, L, XL, #PORT, **$19.95**; add $2.00 for XXL.



Nevada Kid

There's a Nevada Kid inside all of us. Let her out. T-shirts: 50/50 cotton/poly in youth sizes XS, S, M, and L, #CNVK, **$9.95**. This T-shirt also is available in adult sizes M, L, and XL, #ANVK, **$13.00**; add $2.00 for XXL.



Nevada Logo Shirt

That big NEVADA across your chest sends a message. Start sending. T-shirts: 100% cotton with the Nevada Magazine logo emblazoned across the front. White on royal blue (#TNVB) or royal blue on white (#TNVW). Sizes S, M, L, XL, **$13.00**; add $2.00 for XXL.

The Nevada Magazine Cap



Great hat. It's not polyester and doesn't have that see-through mesh stuff on the top. It's an honest-to-goodness, 100% cotton, blue and natural-colored baseball-style cap with the Nevada blue logo embroidered on the front and an adjustable back. Cap: #NVCAP, **$12.95.**

Nevada Suspenders

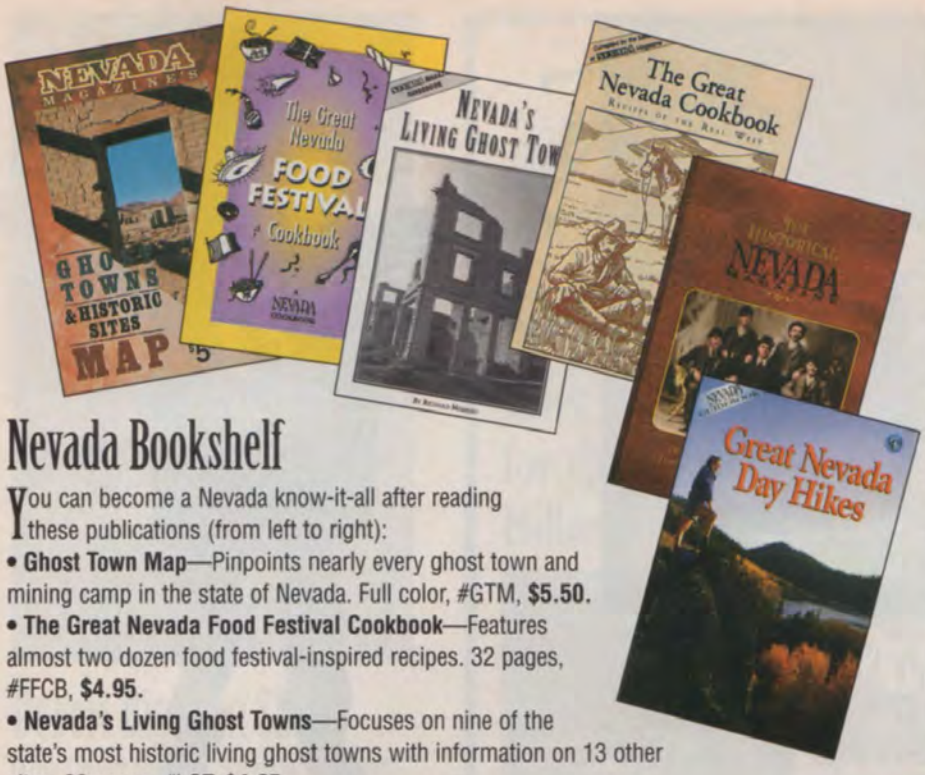


There's no better way to hold up your pants. Nevada Magazine logo is on both straps and the cross patch. Suspenders are available in blue and red in regular and extra-long sizes. Regular suspenders: Blue, #SUSBR; Red, #SUSRR, **$14.50.** Extra-long suspenders: Blue, #SUSBX; Red, #SUSRX, **$14.50.**



Hooked on Nevada

Nevada's official state fish is the Lahontan Cutthroat Trout. Share the knowledge. T-shirts: 100% preshrunk cotton. Natural color tee in sizes M, L, XL, #TFSH, **$13.00**; add $2.00 for XXL.



Nevada Bookshelf

You can become a Nevada know-it-all after reading these publications (from left to right):

- **Ghost Town Map**—Pinpoints nearly every ghost town and mining camp in the state of Nevada. Full color, #GTM, **$5.50.**
- **The Great Nevada Food Festival Cookbook**—Features almost two dozen food festival-inspired recipes. 32 pages, #FFCB, **$4.95.**
- **Nevada's Living Ghost Towns**—Focuses on nine of the state's most historic living ghost towns with information on 13 other sites. 32 pages, #LGT, **$4.95.**
- **The Great Nevada Cookbook**—Sampler of 28 recipes representing various ethnic groups associated with the Silver State. 32 pages, #CB, **$4.95.**
- **The Historical Nevada Magazine**—Highly recommended. Collection of the best historical features ever to appear in the magazine. 140 pages, #HNVM, **$9.95.**
- **Great Nevada Day Hikes**—Spotlights 15 popular day hikes ranging from easy to more challenging walks such as the Mount Rose Trail overlooking Reno and Lake Tahoe. 32 pages, #HIKES, **$4.95.**



Nevada Historical Calendar

Welcome the new millennium with the 2000 Nevada Historical Calendar, which features special millennium moments. This is the best one yet! Chock-full of historic photos and facts. Special offer: $1 off regular price! #C2000, **$7.75** (retail $8.75).



Nevada Writing Paper

This 64-page notepad features beautiful illustrations of nine Nevada state symbols. One notepad, #1NOTEP, **$4.50**. Two notepads, #2NOTEP, **$8.00.**

Nevada Magazine Tote Bag

It really is your bag, man. Made of heavyweight canvas with a double-thick bottom gusset, outside pocket, and sturdy fabric handles. Natural color with navy blue straps and a red Nevada logo, #TOTE, **$17.95.**





Wild Horses

Free and untamed, wild mustangs are a powerful image in Nevada. Be equally powerful. T-shirts: 100% cotton, ash-colored shirt features an attractive wrap-around design of galloping mustangs. Available in sizes M, L, and XL, #THRS, **$17.95**; add $2.00 for XXL. Sweat Shirts: Ash-colored in sizes S, M, L, and XL, #SHRS, **$25.95**; add $3.00 for XXL. Youth T-shirts also available: Sizes S, M, and L, #CHRS, **$11.50.**



Wild About Nevada

Nevada's wildflowers are the best. These shirts have flowers printed on both front and back sides. T-shirts: 100% cotton, puff-printed flowers on red (#TFLR) or white (#TFLW) in sizes S, M, L, and XL, **$19.95**; add $2.00 for XXL. Sweat Shirts: Red (#SFLR) and white (#SFLW) in sizes S, M, L, and XL, **$25.95**; add $3.00 for XXL.



Mountain Bluebird

Nevada's official state bird is the Mountain Bluebird. Take flight. T-shirts: 100% preshrunk cotton, light blue in sizes M, L, XL, #TBIRD, **$13.00**; add $2.00 for XXL.



Henley Shirt

It's simple. These shirts look great. Wear one and look great. Long Sleeve Shirt: 100% preshrunk cotton, red logo embroidered on ash-colored shirt with three woodtone buttons in sizes M, L, XL, #THEN, **$24.95**; add $2.00 for XXL.



Alien Wear

As home of the mysterious Area 51 and the Extraterrestrial Highway, Nevada is Grand Central Station for alien watchers. Greet them in style. T-shirts: 100% cotton, black with a white florescent design, in sizes M, L, XL, #TS&K, **$17.95**; add $2.00 for XXL. Youth T-shirts: Sizes M and L, #CS&K, **$13.50**. All Alien T-shirts come with a matching keychain.





Nevadatude Travel Mug

Nevadatude is contagious. Drink up. Mug is blue with silver Nevadatude Dude on one side and Nevada Magazine logo on the other side, #MUG, **$6.95.**

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Desert Bighorn Sheep

The Desert Bighorn Sheep is a magnificent animal. The shirt shows why. T-shirts: 100% cotton, white shirt in sizes M, L, and XL, **$13.00**; add $2.00 for XXL. Sweat Shirts: White in 50/50 cotton/poly in sizes M, L, and XL, **$20.00**; add $3.00 for XXL.



Nevadatude

Wear the dude with the 'tude. Be the dude. T-shirts: 100% cotton, purple with black lettering (#TTDP), or black with gold lettering (#TTDB), in M, L, XL, **$15.50**; add $2.00 for XXL. Youth T-shirts: Sizes M and L only in purple, #CTD, **$9.95.**



Champagne Glasses

Celebrate the new millennium in style. Crystal Glasses: Collector set of four with Nevada Millennium logo, (#MECG) **$86.00**. Regular Glasses: Set of four with Nevada Millennium logo, (#MCCG) **$50.00.**



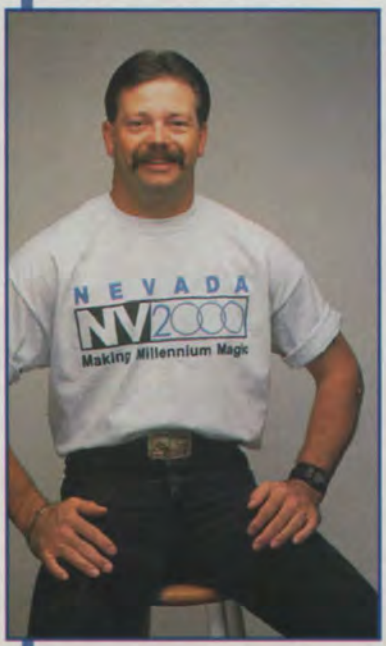
Millennium Wristwatch

Count down the minutes until the New Year. This timepiece features the millennium logo, a silver bezel, and a black leather band, (#WMill) **$65.00.**



Polo Shirt

Get the cool and confident look for the next millennium. Gray Shirt: 80% cotton, 20% polyester, with embroidered Nevada Millennium logo, in sizes M, L, XL, (#PMill) **$35.00**; add $3.00 for XXL.



2000 Tee

Make your own millennium magic. T-shirts: 99% cotton, ash-colored tee with Nevada Millennium logo in sizes M, L, XL, (#TMill) **$10.00**; add $3.00 for XXL.

Mille the Millennium Bear

Move over Beanies. Outta the way Tubbies. Millie the Millennium Bear is here. She wears a blue Nevada Millennium logo T-shirt and loves to be hugged. (#BMill) **$15.00.**



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

Harrah's Laughlin/Colorado Cafe—298-4600. Beef broccoli, pizza, salmon, California burger. B, L, D. $, major.

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/Sahara Buffet—737-2407. Pizza, roast beef, turkey, ham. 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.

Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano—794-9363. Lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. 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—730-7777. 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.



The Rib House at the Imperial Palace serves Western barbecue.

MEXICAN

Harrah's Laughlin/Colorado Cafe—298-4600. Sizzling fajitas, De Hacienda Burrito, fish tacos, and filet mignon on new La Parrilla side menu. D. $, major.

Sahara Hotel/Paco's Hideaway—737-2407. D. $, major.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Harrah's Laughlin/William Fisk's Steakhouse—298-4600. Entrees include coconut prawns, filet mignon, broiled salmon. D. $, major.

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.



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.

Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort/Whiskey Creek Steak House and Saloon—Carson City, 885-9000. "End of the Trail" 22-ounce porterhouse steak, bacon-wrapped shrimp dinner. 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 Station/Station Grill and Rotisserie—883-8400. Baby back ribs, fresh fish specials. L, D. $$, major.

Carson Station/Station Restaurant—883-0900. Homestyle cooking. 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 seafood creations. D. $-$$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, seafood Louis, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. $, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. L, D. $-$$, 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. Shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli. 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.

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Eldorado Hotel/Bistro Roxy—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet dishes include Chilean sea bass with Yukon gold potatoes and creamed spinach. D. $$, major.

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Eldorado Hotel/Choices—Reno, 786-5700. Deli, espresso bar, bakery, Asian Noodle Kitchen. B, L, D. $, major.

Eldorado Hotel/Tivoli Gardens—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. B, L, D. $, major.

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Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. $$, major.

ASIAN

Eldorado Hotel/Golden Fortune-Ho Fu Li—Reno, 786-5700. Authentic Hong Kong-style cuisine in classic Chinese setting. D. $$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$, major.

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Eldorado Hotel/The Grill Steakhouse—Reno, 786-5700. Prime rib, seafood, and grilled entrees. D. $$, major.

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John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak, and lobster. L, 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.

MEDITERRANEAN

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Restaurante Orozko—356-3300. Veal medallions Saltimbocca, braised lamb shank, paella valenciana, cavatoppi with marinated artichoke hearts. D. $, major.

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Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, 460 Sandhill Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; 702-346-2702 or 877-MESQUITE.

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Great Basin Business and Tourism Council: Information on Baker and Great Basin National Park. Box 166, Baker, NV 89311; 775-234-7323.

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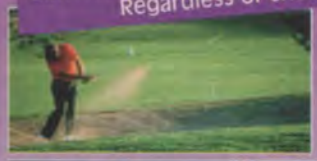
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Going 'Berserk'

This Harrah's Reno show offers more than just clowning around.

By Carolyn Graham









Paul O'Donnell (top) gets a jump on "Cirque Berserk" at Harrah's Reno while comedian Mark Kornhauser (top left) makes snow. Christine Shelton (left) and Darryl Ross (bottom right) are featured performers.

If you arrive a few minutes late for "Cirque Berserk" at Harrah's Reno, you may run into some cast members—literally. Rather than entering from stage left or right, the nine dancers charge right through the showroom's front door.

The dancers' unusual entrance is your first clue that this show has several good twists and turns. As the name implies, "Cirque Berserk" is a madcap blend of dance, music, and comedy loosely based on a carnival-circus theme. But the show is more than a series of song-and-dance routines punctuated by comedic monologues. "Cirque" combines the production, choreography, and costuming talents of Greg Thompson and Mistinguett, familiar faces behind the shows at Harrah's Reno and Harrah's Lake Tahoe, with comedy and magic performed by Mark Kornhauser, a Nevada showroom veteran. Together they have created an innovative and entertaining 90-minute show.

After the Mistinguett dancers enter the showroom and maneuver through the crowd, featured singer Darryl Ross, who also appears in Harrah's Reno's late-night show, "Skintight," opens with a hip-hop number. A large video screen drops to center stage and shows scenes from old-time carnival freak shows, such as sword swallowers, to the Doors' "When You're Strange." The scene segues into a 1920s-era flapper number with cabaret music reminiscent of *Star Wars, pre-Phantom Menace.* The scene abruptly ends when the audience is hit with an explosion of confetti from a cannon onstage.

By now, the audience is primed for a comedic pause, and Kornhauser, who plays several bizarre characters in the show, appears as "The Amazing Brainiac." The Brainiac has a letter-perfect memory, which he demonstrates by asking members of the audience to shout out their ZIP codes.

"4-9-5-0-1!" yells a showgoer in the third row.

"Grand Rapids, Michigan!" Kornhauser replies.

Next, visitors are transported to the Orient, where featured singer Christine Shelton, who grew up in Reno and began performing at shows at Lake Tahoe, sings in Japanese (she also knows Spanish and Portuguese).

Later, during one of the show's funniest moments, Shelton brings a male audience member to the stage to join her for "Midnight at the Oasis." She croons and caresses the embarrassed showgoer as she dresses him in an Arabian robe and headdress. "I must say, you're looking rather 'sheik,'" Shelton jokes.

The freshest comedic moment in the show is the Big Talking Head segment. Kornhauser selects an audience member to sit in as the Big Talking Head—the person's face is projected on the giant screen to the amusement of his family and friends. Afterward, the lights go down and the spotlight turns back to Kornhauser, who tells the audience that his son, who lives in Dallas, has never seen snow. Kornhauser shreds a white napkin and drops the pieces into a glass of water. He shakes the glass, and snow begins to fall softly throughout the showroom, a soothing yet uplifting finale to a show filled with surprises.

Show Notes

"Cirque Berserk" appears in Sammy's Showroom at Harrah's Reno nightly except Thursday. Show time is 8 p.m. Tickets are $21.95, which includes tax but not drinks. "Cirque Berserk" is followed by "Skintight," an adults-only show at 10:30 nightly with an additional 12:30 a.m. show on Saturday. Call 800-HARRAHS or 775-788-2900. Dinner and show packages are available.

Carolyn Graham is Nevada's *associate editor.*

Photos: Marilyn Newton/Reno Gazette-Journal

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Dining Out

Culinary visits to Asia in Las Vegas and France in Reno.

Asian Fusion at the Fremont

By Deke Castleman

Boyd Gaming has a thing about Hawaii. Boyd's three downtown Las Vegas hotel-casinos cater heavily to a clientele from the Aloha State. At the California, for example, the dealers wear Hawaiian shirts and the snack bar serves saimin, miso soup, and bento. Across the street, the buffet at Main Street Station offers luau fare. But the place to experience the kind of fine dining that appeals to Pacific Rim tastes is the Second Street Grill at the Fremont.

"All of our food is prepared with an Asian touch—lots of ginger and soy sauce," says Rachel Breen, the head chef at Second Street Grill. The seafood is flown in fresh from around the Pacific Rim. "Opaka can be hard to get," Chef Rachel explains, "so we sometimes have to go as far as New Zealand to bring it in fresh."

The Grill's signature dishes are the blackened ahi steak (thick enough to cook rare, for Hawaiian tastes), the mahi mahi with a sesame crust, and the lamb chops, soaked in an Asian marinade and broiled. Other entrees include filet mignon smothered with Maui onion rings, 32 ounces of king crab legs, and lobster tail.

Appetizers include sashimi, the popular shrimp and duck tacos, crab cakes, and chicken song, which is spicy chopped chicken that you wrap in lettuce leaves. For dessert, there's mango sorbet, macademia cheesecake, and banana lumpia (a cinnamoned banana wrapped in an egg roll and deep-fried, served with vanilla ice cream with a honey balsamic glaze).

Chef Rachel, who has lived in Las Vegas for 38 years, got extensive on-the-job training when she worked with a famous Hawaiian chef who owns a chain of restaurants in the islands. For the past four years, she has plied her scrumptious trade at the Grill, which occupies an intimate room in a quiet corner of the Fremont. Although it has been one of the best steak-and-seafood restaurants, and certainly the most eclectic, in town for nearly 10 years, the Grill still is relatively unknown in the Las Vegas dining firmament. Eating here is like being in on one of the great Southern Nevada secrets.

And are there any secret ingredients to the fusion fare at Second Street Grill?

"The only secret ingredients are care and love," laughs Chef Rachel. "I love to cook, and if it tastes good to me, I assume it'll taste good to our patrons."

Second Street Grill, Fremont Hotel, 200 East Fremont Street, Las Vegas, 702-385-6277. Open for dinner Thursday through Monday. Full bar. Entrees $13 to $32. Major credit cards accepted.

Deke Castleman is senior editor of the Las Vegas Advisor.



Bistro Roxy bartender Donovan Finch serves guests two of the 102 martinis offered at the eatery inside the Eldorado in downtown Reno.

Tour de France

By Kathleen Stebbins

Diners craving a Parisian infusion can visit the City of Lights in spirit at Bistro Roxy. Located inside the Eldorado Hotel in downtown Reno, the Euro-inspired Bistro Roxy is that rare casino restaurant that lets you forget the casino. You may even forget you're stateside, so convincing is the atmosphere.

Each evening a singer and a pianist perform in the bar, which is decorated in vibrant colors. Some patrons begin with a martini since the bar menu features 102 variations, from the "James Bond" to the "French Kiss," using mixers like hot pepper vodka, Chambord, and even chocolate liqueur. Bartenders such as Ryan Cho are required to memorize all 102 martini recipes in addition to 250 standard drinks. ("I'm still learning," Cho laughs.)

The restaurant, which opened in 1996, includes seven architectural nooks separated by tapestries and dense velvet drapes. Guests seated in an "outdoor" courtyard overlook the Eldorado fountains amid the hustle-bustle of a sidewalk café. Inside, a "wine room" resembles a centuries-old stone cellar. Another area re-creates an old-fashioned bakery.

The service at Bistro Roxy is impeccable. Dinner begins as a bread girl offers a sun-dried tomato baguette or potato roll from a hand-carried basket. You might try the piquant crab cake appetizer, subtly enhanced with black pepper, shiitake mushroom, and green onion, followed by spit-roasted pork loin or chicken, rack of lamb, or filet mignon. Entrees like tender Maine scallops served atop a slightly crunchy crab-tomato ragout showcase Chef Javier Silverio's finesse and delight with contrasting textures. Be sure to save room for a bite of chocolate chunk or apricot soufflé (serves two) and an espresso.

Francophiles will come away gladly restored, and those with no particular Parisian affinity may find themselves converted.

Bistro Roxy, Eldorado Hotel, Fourth and Virginia streets, Reno, 775-786-5700. Bar opens at 4:30 p.m. Dinner begins at 5:30 nightly. Entrees start at $14.50. Major credit cards accepted. Mandy Todd, violinist with "Spirit of the Dance," performs in the bar from 12:30 to 2 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights.

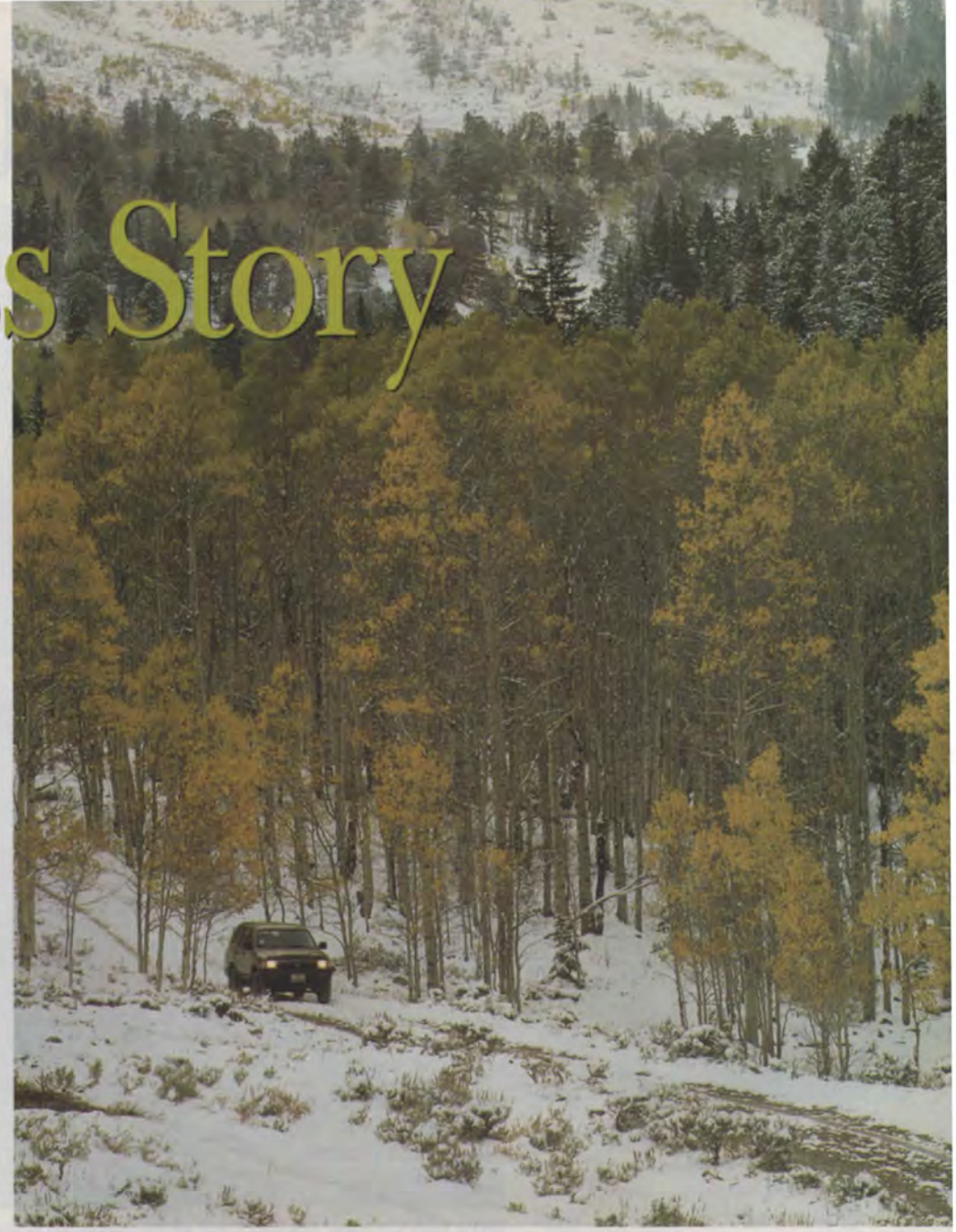
Kathleen Stebbins is a Reno-based freelance writer and catering professional.

Photo: Jay Aldrich

Success Story

We took part in two Ely rescues while heading for the fall—color, that is.

By Carolyn Fox

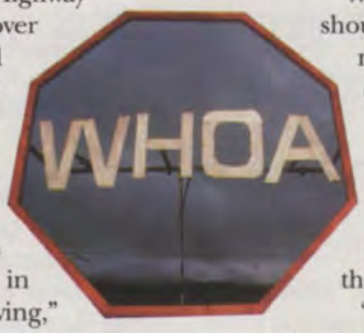


Newly fallen snow dusts the fall foliage that brightens a scenic side canyon off the Success Loop near Ely.

We knew we'd entered Eastern Nevada on State Route 487. The indications were clear: wandering bovines, no traffic, the bare mannequin legs and cowgirl boots sticking upward from a culvert. Then we passed the big "WHOA" sign that warns drivers of a T intersection near the town of Baker. Now, that's the Nevada we have learned to love.

All we wanted was to take U.S. 50 to Ely, find a cheap buffet, settle into an equally cheap motel room, get up early, and drive the Success Summit Loop between McGill and Cave Lake. It was mid-October, and if we were lucky, we'd find a little fall color—maybe some yellow or a smidgen of orange. However, the road had something else in store for us, and it was ready to let us have it with both lanes.

Cruising toward Ely on Highway 50, Larry and I drove over Sacramento Summit and approached the flats. The storm we had followed all afternoon had left a shimmer on the blacktop like silver in the twilight.



"Larry, I think there's something way up ahead in the road, and it's not moving," I said.

"I don't see anything," said Larry, who was driving and is legally nearsighted.

A quarter mile later I pointed. "Yeah, there is something—a vehicle facing the wrong way with no headlights." We saw a man waving his arms and something flopping around on the pavement.

We parked on the right shoulder. I suggested to the man that he get the heck out of the roadway. He was alone and acted helpless. He said he was from Southern California. We looked at him with sympathy. I had escaped from there, with help, 20 years ago.

"I've just hit this big bird," he said, "and I'm sure it's hurt, and it can't fly, but I can't catch it, and I'm headed to Great Basin National Park. By the time I get there, it will be too late to get help. What should I do?"

We were standing in the middle of nowhere, 30 miles south of Ely, with this guy and a cormorant-looking-short-legged-waterfowl-type creature sitting in the road with its wings spread, hissing at us.

"We'll put it in one of the sleeping bags. The darkness will keep it quiet," said Larry, the former Eagle Scout.

"We can't do that," I countered. "It'll be upset by all the goose down in the bag. They may be feathers from a distant relative. Let's use the sack that covers the sleeping bag."

The bird tried to get away, but Larry used his hat to distract it. The bird clamped down on the hat as if it were a fish. Larry covered its head with the hat and then picked up the bird, holding its

Photos: Carolyn Fox (top), Larry Angier (bottom)

wings against its body. We put the bird in the sack feet first, leaving the head out, and pulled the drawstring around its neck. I told the man *we'd figure something out.*

I was pretty sure we'd bagged a loon, but we were in White Pine County, Nevada, not on Golden Pond. What was Jesse "The Body" Ventura's state bird doing so far from Minnesota?

All our questions were answered at our next stop, the East Ely sheriff's office. The dispatcher called Curt Baughman, a state wildlife biologist. Matt Hibbs, a state investigator, stopped by on his way home to see what was hatching. A couple of inmates were let out of their cells and put in charge of a cardboard box to hold the bird. Larry brought in the loon and held the bird on his lap. The loon attached its bill to Larry's finger. They were both perfectly happy. Above them I saw a display case containing drug paraphernalia and jail-made knives confiscated from inmates.

Curt identified the bird as a *Gavia immer*, or common loon. After a quick pat-down of its wings and legs, he and his teenage son, Carson, helped put the loon in the box. They found no injuries. Curt thought the young bird probably had seen the rain on the road after the storm. Mistaking the wet highway for a pond, the bird landed, but it wasn't built to take off from the ground—only from water or a nest. I noticed the loon's delicate webbed feet were folded up, slim as a pencil, all the better for skimming through water.

They put the loon in the box, sealing the flaps with gray duct tape, and took the bird away. This was anticlimactic. Had I become attached? Had I become a loonatic? I made Curt promise to let me know what happened to our loon. Later he sent me a short note: "We released the loon at Comins Lake that night. It swam off, dove a few times, and looked good. We didn't do any follow-up checks. Thanks again."

Larry and I secured a room at the Surerest Motel and headed to the Jailhouse Casino for a buffet dinner. Our waitress told us a story. The night before, she'd waited on a couple who said she reminded them of a woman, a nurse, they knew in Wyoming. The waitress looked like the nurse, talked like her, walked like her, and even acted like her.

"What's the name of the nurse?" asked our waitress.

"Mary Lou."

"That's my mom!" she exclaimed.

How could we top that story? We didn't tell her about the loon rescue because we were about to order chicken. I asked her to hold the feathers.

The next day we planned to find fall color, but with the storm dumping snow and rain ahead of us, our cause seemed lost. Then, driving around Ely the next morning, we saw pumpkins for sale at the Shell station. The sign read:

SMALL—$2.99
MED.—$3.99
LARGE—$4.99
SUPER—$5.99
GIANT (BIG UGLY)—$19.99

Encouraged by this touch of fall, we decided to take Matt the Investigator's advice. Matt suggested we start at the north end of the Success Loop because the first part is well-paved. If snow forced us to return to McGill, we'd still see some aspens. If we started at the south end near Cave Lake State Park, we might have trouble with the rough road and newly fallen snow.

So we entered the Success Loop from U.S. 93, five miles north of McGill. A sign said the loop was 30 miles in length. Later, at the south end, we saw a sign that said it was 33 miles. Close enough.

The Success Loop winds through the part of the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest that encompasses the Schell Creek Range. Its highest point, North Schell Peak, stands 11,883 feet, more than 5,000 feet higher than Ely.

It was a beautiful drive. The sun made the sagebrush sparkle. Taking a side canyon, we had Duck Creek and its cadmium-yellow aspens all to ourselves.

While taking another side trip up







Explorers Fox and Angier are greeted by the bare-legged artwork of Baker's Permanent Wave Society (top). Pumpkins await new owners at the Shell station (left) while Larry and the loon land in the sheriff's office.

Photos: Carolyn Fox



Pushing and straightening the pickup on Timber Creek Road proves to be a slippery proposition.

Timber Creek, we encountered a truckload of camouflaged bubbas prowling for deer. They stopped, and Larry rolled down the driver's window. The three hunters seemed to be one person dressed in camouflage with three heads. I was envious of their three matching hats with the fuzzy ear flaps. The driver spoke:

"There's some people up ahead from Las Vegas who didn't read the sign about 20-foot motor homes, and they tried to turn around. Now they're jackknifed in the road so you can't get by."

I wondered how they knew the people were from Las Vegas and why they hadn't tried to help. I didn't ask because of the rifles in the rack behind their fuzzy flaps. To us, the situation sounded like a photo opportunity.

Sure enough, we found a trailer and a pickup zigzagged across the road. We thought we could cut through the campground nearby and avoid the snarl. Then the guilt settled in, cold and heavy. They had a big ol' Ford pickup with rosary beads hanging from the rearview mirror, and we had a teenie-weenie Toyota four cylinder with nothing hanging. Maybe we could keep them company.

We introduced ourselves to Hud and his brother, Al. They were on a deer-hunting trip. They had been trying to reach Timber Creek Campground but jackknifed after hitting a patch of ice on the shady side of an aspen stand. We saw two boys, Hudson and Jason, sliding down the hill on plastic discs, making the best of the situation. Hud's wife, Marianne, had gone to the campground for help and was now trudging back. On the verge of tears, Marianne told me she'd been looking for anyone with a vehicle that could help, praying the entire time. Rather than tell her it wasn't gonna be us, I told her *we'd figure something out.*

A few minutes later we saw a big pickup pulling a double horse trailer and heading toward the icy spot. Waving my tripod didn't work, so I stood in the middle of the road. Bob, the driver, came to a slippery stop on top of a cattle guard.

He and his wife, Rosie, had their two-deer limit in the back of the pickup. I gave him the lowdown. He asked if I'd seen some other hunters in his group. I described the three men in camo dress.

"They weren't my bubbas, thank goodness," he said. "They would have stopped to help. Let me get on my other shoes, and I'll see what I can do."

Meanwhile, Larry helped Hud and Al disconnect the truck from the house trailer. The next step was to push the pickup up the hill to straighten it out, back it down, and align it with the trailer tongue, all on the surface of an ice-skating rink. After a little head scratching, rock moving, and direction giving, the whole outfit was backed down the road and onto a wide spot. We celebrated with a round of Gatorade.

Always nosy, I learned that the rescuing couple also were from Las Vegas. Bob was a Presbyterian minister. When he found out I was a Presbyterian, he suggested I go to church, and soon.

Rosie was an attorney. In the process of looking for her business card in her handbag, she extricated two deer jawbones that she had found. She was very pleased with the jawbones. We were all very pleased the couple had shown up. Did the rosary beads help just a little?



While the adults grunt and groan, the kids go sliding.

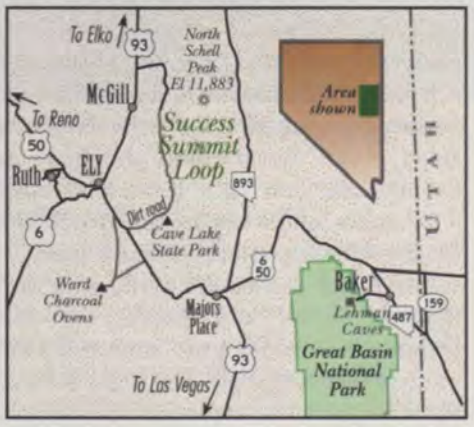
Carolyn Fox and Larry Angier are writer-photographers who live in Jackson, California. In last issue's "Full Service Only" they reported on Ed Hillygus' gas station in Yerington.

White Pine Explorations

Besides fall color and wayward loons, the forested mountains around Ely offer hiking, fishing, and camping. Ely also has a popular tourist train (see page 55). Destinations include:

Great Basin National Park: From Wheeler Peak to Lehman Caves, this park tells the story of the region. Call 775-234-7331 or www.nps.gov/grba.

Success Summit Loop: For a map of the Success Summit area send $4 to Ely Office, Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, Box 539, Ely, NV 89301; call 775-289-3031.



Cave Lake State Park: A scenic fishing spot and home of state-record brown trout. Box 761, Ely, NV 89301; call 775-728-4467.

Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: For Ely-area lodging and recreation, write Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; call 775-289-3720.

Great Basin Business and Tourism Council: For attractions in Baker and Great Basin National Park, write Box 166, Baker, NV 89311; call 775-234-7323.

Photos: Carolyn Fox (top), Larry Angier (bottom) Map: NDOT/Nevada Magazine

Mark Twain's Forgotten Tour

(Continued from page 19)

reads as follows: 'And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain.'" The report continued, "Twain would never object to going even farther if sure of getting a fellow to the bar presented him by Mr. Wiegand, and provided he was furnished a seat in a good, easy-going and softly-cushioned carriage."

With the Virginia and Truckee Railroad more than a year from completion, Twain probably took a stage to Carson City, where he presented two lectures on successive nights. He apparently stayed with Supreme Court Justice John Neely Johnson, a former California governor and old friend from territorial days. Johnson and Governor Henry Blasdel had been among the prominent residents of Nevada's capital who invited Twain to speak there in 1866, stating the "people of Carson City ... have none other than the most kindly remembrances of you." Twain later wrote James Redpath that he "lost money" on his Carson City appearances, but *The Daily Appeal* stated that Twain's April 29 presentation on the "Holy Land" at the Carson Theater drew "one of Carson's best audiences."

Before he left Carson City, the *Appeal* asked Twain to repeat his old "Sandwich Islands" lecture for a public school benefit. Twain obliged, telling an audience of about 100 on April 30 that "it was his last will and testament of the Sandwich Island lecture, resurrected from the grave of his memory." In truth, it was his favorite presentation, and he lectured on the Hawaiian Islands for years to come.

As the tour wound down, Twain was welcomed and praised. The atmosphere was in sharp contrast to the mood surrounding his previous two departures, in 1864 and 1866, when he left Nevada under duress. Because his 1868 tour is so obscure, we have forgotten that Twain was remembered fondly in Silver-Land. In a sense it had been a tour of reconciliation. Twain had made his peace, and Nevadans made peace with him.

The 1868 tour also marked an important point in Twain's career. Lecturing night after night, he honed the style that would make him one of the great public speakers of his time. Also, while on his Western tour, he turned his "Holy Land" letters and lectures into a book. The result was *Innocents Abroad* (1869), which helped transform Twain from a popular humorist to a famous literary figure.

After his Carson lectures, Twain returned to Virginia City for the last time on May 1, 1868. "This is May-Day!" he wrote in the *Chicago Republican*. "How it floods me with memories of the past!... I know exactly how this May-Day looks in the Mississippi Valley.... Here, 8,000 feet above the sea, it is May-Day, too, and the wintry weather is howling, and it is snowing like all possessed." Contrasting the warm, verdant May Days of his youth in Missouri and Iowa with the harshness of Virginia City, Twain continued:

"I see no grass, no flowers, no trees, no vines. I hear no songs of birds, I breathe no fragrant odors. There is no balmy softness in the air. There are only rocks, and sand, and sagebrush—a gray barrenness all about, compassed round with bleak mountains, capped with snow and turbaned with eternal clouds. It is not Paradise, and yet, to me, this was always a pleasant place to live in."

> For most of his Comstock associates, it was the last time they ever saw Twain.

Boarding the stage on May 3, Twain bid his friends, and Nevada, good-bye. For most of his Comstock associates, it was the last time they ever saw Twain. A farewell send-off published in the *Enterprise* entitled "Going to Leave Us," probably written by lifelong friend Joe Goodman, captured the sentiments of many who knew Twain in his Nevada days:

"Mark Twain leaves this morning for San Francisco. Sorry to see you go, Mark, old boy—but we cannot expect to have you always with us. Go then, where duty calls you, and when the highest pinnacle of fame affords you a resting place remember that in the land of silver and sagebrush there are a host of old friends that rejoice in your success."

Guy Louis Rocha, the state archivist, has written extensively about Mark Twain in Nevada. The Carson City resident is the coauthor of two books, The Ignoble Conspiracy: Radicalism on Trial in Nevada *with Sally Zanjani (University of Nevada Press, 1986) and* The Earps' Last Frontier: Wyatt and Virgil Earp in the Nevada Mining Camps, 1902-1905 *with Jeffrey M. Kintop (Great Basin Press, 1989).*







People Page

The *Cosmo* guy, a female wrestling champ, and a dog-and-mule show.

All the Right Moves

Carrie Birge of Pahranagat Valley could be a poster girl for the All-American High Schooler. A 4.0 student, Carrie was 1999 class valedictorian. Before graduating last June, she was active in track, gymnastics, and cheerleading.

Carrie also is the national girl's wrestling champion in the 128-pound division. Last March, Carrie and her coach, Mike Klein, traveled to Michigan, where she competed against girls representing 42 states.



Champion wrestler Carrie Birge (front) with her Alamo teammates.

"I wrestled better at Nationals than I ever have before," Carrie says. "There were over 400 girls there, and they were much tougher than any of the girls I've competed against in Nevada."

Last year she competed for 112-student Pahranagat Valley High School in Alamo, 100 miles north of Las Vegas. Although Carrie claims that more girls in Nevada are getting into the sport, she usually wrestled against boys.

"It can be really hard on some of the boys to get beat by a girl," says school secretary Debbie Smallwood. "Especially when Carrie first started, the boys were really put out. Now they ask her for advice on wrestling moves."

Principal Larry Lytle agrees. "Everybody cheers for Carrie when she is wrestling. Anyone else might have had an ego that would have made her acceptance harder, but Carrie is so gracious and no attitude."

Originally from Aurora, Colorado, Carrie competed in gymnastics and began wrestling in school there. "At first my mom was the only one who really supported me when I decided to get into wrestling," Carrie says. "My dad and the rest of the family didn't like the idea at all. Now that I'm into it my whole family is really with me on it, and both of my parents got to see me win the national title. Now I'm thinking of trying out for the Olympic Wrestling Team."

Carrie moved to Pahranagat Valley in her junior year and joined Coach Brad Loveday's wrestling team. "We have had other girl wrestlers, and they usually can't compete because the boys are usually much stronger than the girls in their weight class. In the first meet of her junior year, a guy grabbed her and really slammed her on her head, and she just kept wrestling. Most girls I've seen wrestle would have just started crying. She got beat that time but went on to win her next match," Loveday says.

Carrie, 18 and weighing 128 pounds, uses a combination of skill and strength to pin her opponents. During one match Carrie pinned a boy using one of her favorite moves, a "Steiner with a Figure Four." Her opponent ran from the mat crying and in pain—Carrie had broken two of his ribs.

Carrie moved back to Colorado after graduation to attend community college. She is considering becoming an English teacher, but while weighing the possibility of trying out for the Olympics, she hasn't quite pinned down her future.

—Shannon Montana

A Long Journey

Charlie Martin was a strange sight when he rode into Nevada with his three traveling companions—a horse named Coal, Ella the mule, and scrappy little Mr. Fugley, a dog who often rides atop Ella. Last summer, the foursome entered Nevada at Ely and stayed at the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, 61 miles southeast of Elko. Martin, who calls himself a lone faith rider, has been riding across America since April 1997.

"I serve the Almighty," said Martin, who began his cross-country trek in Pensacola, Florida. "I'm one of the last faith riders you'll ever see." The slim, mustached Martin coaxed Ella to perform some of her 30 tricks for children and staff members at the refuge, where he dined on sandwiches of elk meat and shared conversation with visitors. When opportunity allowed during the trip, Martin and his mule performed for the elderly in rest homes and for children in rural towns.

Martin explains that their journey to the Pacific Coast is a leisurely one. "I like to get up early in the morning and ride until about 11:30 a.m. We rest until about 4 or 5 p.m., then ride till dark. On moonlit nights, we ride as long as we can." He said he planned to stay in remote areas during his trek through Nevada.

—Kathie Hoxsie



Charlie Martin and his flamboyant troupe made a stop at the Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

Photo: Kathie Hoxsie (bottom)

Harrah's Harvard Hunk

Jay Snowden was celebrating his 23rd birthday last March when *Cosmopolitan Magazine* called to tell him that he had been named Nevada's most eligible bachelor. The Las Vegas native says he was both delighted and amused to hear that he would appear in the "Babe Watch, '99" feature in *Cosmo's* special summer issue, "All About Men."

A Harvard graduate and football star, Snowden was nominated by his colleagues at Harrah's Las Vegas. According to a coworker, the young executive's official title, "other than cutie," is slot performance manager.

After the issue hit the newsstands last spring, Snowden's life became a whirlwind of television appearances, radio shows, and interviews. "It's been pretty wild," Snowden laughs. "Everyone in the casino now recognizes me as 'the *Cosmo* guy. I'm more on the shy side, but my friends have enjoyed taking advantage of all the attention."



Las Vegan Jay Snowden appeared in *Cosmo's* "Babe Watch, '99."

Although Snowden graduated magna cum laude with a degree in government, he dreamed of playing football for his favorite team, the Miami Dolphins. His hopes were dashed when he suffered severe shoulder injuries playing quarterback for Harvard. Because of the *Cosmo* article, Snowden is now thinking about modeling in his spare time. "Many people have expressed surprise that I've never modeled before," he says. "Why not go for it?"

Snowden describes himself in *Cosmo* as "driven, motivated, and hardworking." Although an avid reader whose favorite books include Tolstoy's *Death of Ivan Ilych*, Snowden says he is not the bookworm described by *Cosmo*. He doesn't have the time.

Has the handsome brunette been surrounded by admiring women since the "Babe Watch, '99" article? Not really, he says, but he has noticed his message machine works overtime, recording eight or nine hangups every day.

—Genevieve Kilpatrick

Photo: Cosmopolitan Magazine

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Venetian Vistas

Visiting the Venice that is Vegas. **By Deke Castleman**

A giant pictorial overview of historical Venice hangs behind the front desk of the new Venetian Hotel in Las Vegas. In a glance, you can see how Venice was built on a series of alluvial islets. The detail is minute, and if you know your Venice, you can pick out landmarks like the Rialto Bridge, the Clock Tower, and the Doge's Palace.

If you don't know your Venice, all you have to do is step outside the front doors to see reproductions of these landmarks. Standing under the replica Campanile Tower is like stepping into a time machine and emerging in Venice when it was the artistic, architectural, and commercial center of the 17th-century world. Of course, the Strip borders the tower's other side. Thus the Venetian also represents Las Vegas, arguably the artistic, architectural, and commercial center of the late 20th-century world.

In short, at the Venetian the grandeur of Venice meets the glamour of Vegas. Like Caesars Palace, Luxor, and New York-New York before it, this joint raises the standard of thematic realization in Las Vegas, and it's a measure of the Venetian's accomplishments that it achieves not only an aesthetic tour de force but a festive one as well.

The Venice motif is reproduced meticulously throughout the hotel. In the lobby, for example, reproductions of famous frescoes are rimmed by 24-karat-gold frames on the 65-foot-high domed ceiling. The geometric design of the marble floor provides an M.C. Escher-like optical illusion that gives the sensation of climbing stairs—a unique touch in a town where such particulars are getting harder and harder to pull off. Costumed characters straight out of Titian and Tintoretto roam the hotel, singing opera, playing flute, juggling, jesting, even kissing hands.

The casino is new, huge, and tastefully decorated. It has 110 table games and 2,500 slot machines. The perimeter houses a fancy fast-food court. Nearby is the sprawling 550-seat Grand Lux Cafe, a venture of the Cheesecake Factory. The restaurant roster reads like a *Who's Who* of celebrity chefs: Wolfgang Puck's Postrio (Asian-Mediterranean); Emeril Lagasse's Delmonico Steakhouse; Stephan Pyles' Star Canyon (New Texas cuisine), and Joachim Splichal's Pinot Brasserie (Franco-California), and others. Splichal, whose Patina is often ranked as Los Angeles' number-one restaurant, has imported most of his brasserie's decor from France in an effort to re-create a Parisian bar and grill. It's only slightly overdone, not spectacularly so, as are many of the restaurants found in the other latest Las Vegas megaresorts.

The Venetian's rooms are big—700-square-foot, split-level suites that are 250 square feet larger than the average Las Vegas hotel room. Guests can luxuriate at the ultra-upscale Canyon Ranch Spa, which features a 40-foot indoor rock-climbing wall, medical center, beauty salon, and cafe. Shoppers can cruise the $250-million Grand Canal Shoppes as they might in Venice—by water. Gondoliers ply the Grand Canal, serenading up to four passengers at a time. The canal ends at a colossal reproduction of St. Marks Square, authentic right down to the colors of the facades.

Perhaps the coolest attraction at the Venetian, for the sheer squealing merriment of it, is the $20-million Madame Tussaud's Celebrity Encounter. The wax museum presents nearly 100 statues of movie stars, rock stars, sports stars, and Las Vegas legends that are so true-to-life you'll do double-takes. It's a hands-on affair: You get to pose, mug, and "interact" with the $30,000 statues. That's something you won't find in the real Venice.





Guests trod the Escher-like marble floor in the Venetian's lobby (left). Gondoliers offer rides in the Grand Canal Shoppes (right).

Deke Castleman is the author of Las Vegas *and* Nevada Handbook. *The Venetian, which opened in Las Vegas in May, has 3,036 suites. Rates range from about $150 to $300. Call the Venetian, 800-494-3556 or 702-733-5000.*

Photos: Chris Leedham

Members of the Club

(Continued from page 22)

ing the summer and winters in Las Vegas, likes to play for cash back. She prefers neighborhood places like Kilroy's and Boodles, both on Charleston Boulevard. "That way," Goebel says, "my husband can have a couple of drinks, and I can play the video poker machines." Kilroy's and Boodles are among the 198 bars and small casinos linked by a statewide player tracking system called Gamblers Bonus Club.

Jessie Wilson, a resident of British Columbia who takes bus junkets to Reno each year, says she joins slot clubs because "at least you don't feel so bad about losing when you get something back. The points add up, so I usually can exchange them for a meal or a T-shirt. And when I do end up winning, the cash back is a nice little bonus."

Connie Emerson is a Reno travel writer and guidebook author who discovered that none of her 25 slot club cards works at her ATM.

Acing the Clubs

by Genevieve Kilpatrick and Shannon Montana

Which casino slot clubs give you the most pull for your dollar? The following statewide guide contains information on slot clubs that responded to a recent survey. Casinos marked with an asterisk (*) offer the following additional benefits, depending on the level of play: Complimentary or discounted rooms, food, beverages, and shows; discounted shopping; invitations to special events, parties, and tournaments; VIP services such as preferred restaurant seating; and a toll-free reservation number for members only.

Southern Nevada

LAS VEGAS AREA

Arizona Charlie's, 800-342-2695 or 702-258-5200. The ***Charlie Card*** can be used for slot machines, table games, bingo, and betting at the sports book. A member who signs up a friend receives 5,000 points. Once 100 points have accumulated, members receive two free buffets and drinks redeemable during their birthday month.*

Bally's, 800-7-BALLYS or 702-739-4156. ***MVP Booth*** and ***Club Paris*** cards can be used at either Bally's or the newly opened Paris. Earn comp value depending upon amount of play at slots, tables, race and sports book, and keno. Hotel reservations and food and beverage purchases qualify. Comp value can be redeemed at Bally's or Club Paris for anything from buffets to penthouse suites. Members can win $1 million, buffet tickets, T-shirts, and other prizes on the Bally's Million Dollar Free Slot Pull.

Bellagio, 800-987-5687 or 888-987-6667. ***Club Bellagio*** offers bonus points whenever denominations of $1 and above are played in slot machines. Personal hosts are provided to assist members.*

Binion's Horseshoe, 800-937-6537 or 702-382-1600. ***Players Slot Club*** members can use their cards in all slot and video poker machines. The "Royal in Sequence" promotion gives poker players a chance to win up to $100,000.*

Boulder Station, 800-6STATION or 702-258-PLAY. The ***Boarding Pass*** also can be used at the Palace Station, Sunset Station, and Texas Station. Members can earn points while playing all slot machines, table games, and bingo to purchase food and beverages and hotel reservations.*

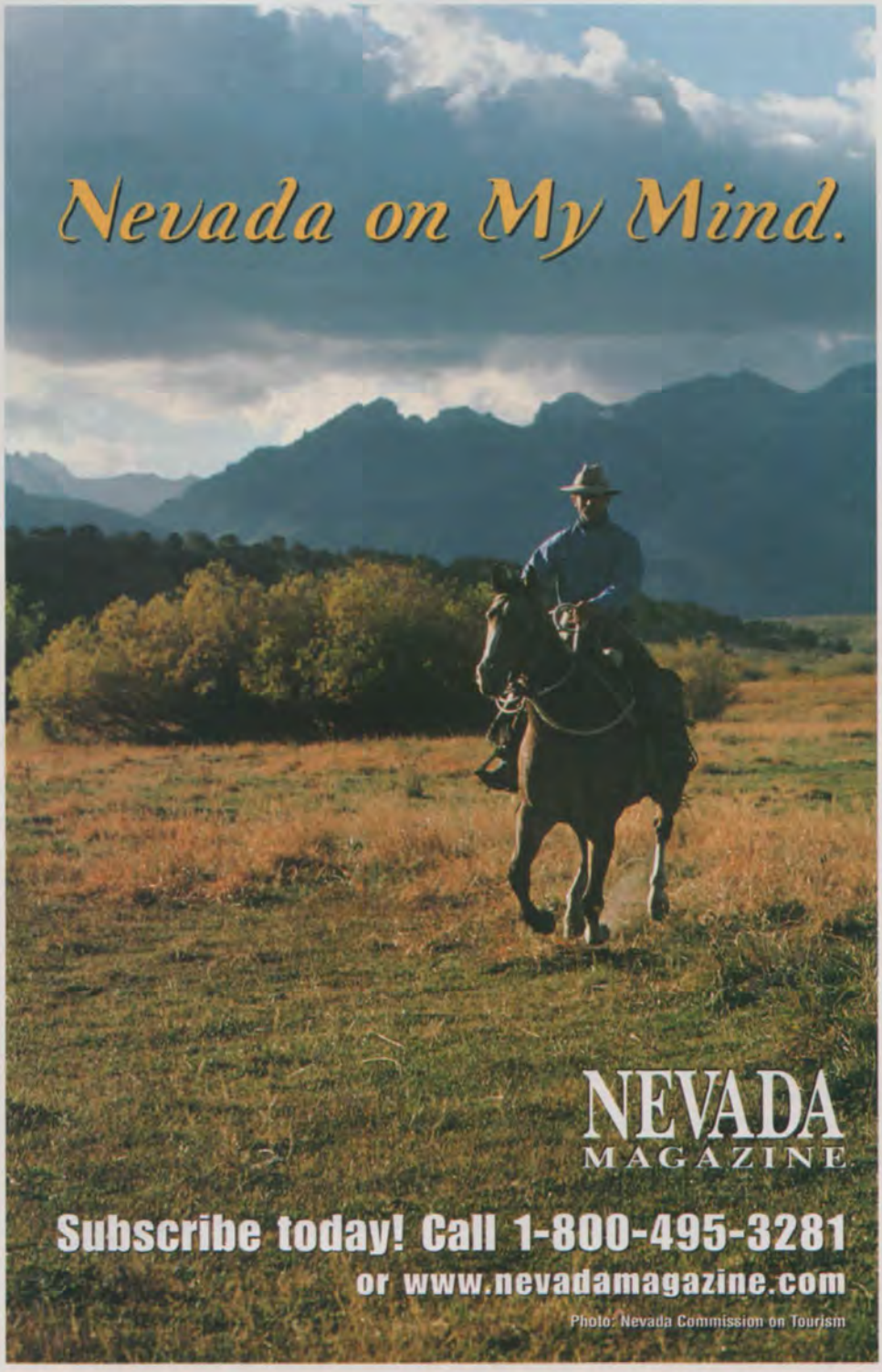
Caesars Palace, 800-634-6661 or 702-731-7499. The ***Emperors Club*** rewards slot and video poker players on 25-cent or higher denomination machines. When members reach designated point levels, they receive "Roman Rewards" such as Caesars Palace medallions, Emperors Club T-shirts, or Gucci watches.*

Circus Circus, 800-444-2472 or 702-734-0410. The ***Ringmaster Players Club*** gives points for both slots and table games, including blackjack, craps, and roulette. There is a designated Ringmaster member hotel check-in area.*

Desert Inn, 800-634-6909 or 702-733-4444. The ***Desert Inn Players Club*** card can be used on slots and some table games.*

Excalibur, 800-937-7777 or 702-597-7777. The ***Crown Club*** offers points on all slot and table games.*

Fiesta, 800-731-7333 or 702-631-7000. The ***Amigo Club*** offers points on all slot and tables games, keno, sports book, and bingo. Earn triple points on all games on Wednesdays.*



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Fitzgeralds, 800-648-5022 or 702-785-3300. The *Fitzgeralds Card* covers slots, table games, and keno. Points can be traded for O'Lucky Bucks and Cents. Shamrock level players receive six complimentary room nights per year by maintaining 25 O'Lucky Bucks in their accounts.*

Flamingo Hilton, 800-221-7299 or 702-733-3111. The *Flamingo Players Club* card can be used in any slot machine.*

Fremont, 800-634-6460 or 702-385-3232. *Players Gold Club* members earn points on all slot and table games and can win cash and prizes on the Players Gold Jukebox. Members can play the Jukebox once a day by inserting their cards.*

Gold Coast, 1800-331-5334 or 702 367-7111. *Gold Coast Players Club* members earn points on all slot play. Points are redeemable for buffets and restaurants, bingo buy-ins, beauty shop certificates, gift certificates, golf outings, rooms, and movie theater tickets.

Golden Nugget, 800-634-3454 or 702-385-7111. *24 Karat Club* cards can be used on any $1 or above slot machines. New members receive a free buffet and $15 in Gold Certificates.*

Harrah's Las Vegas, 800-HARRAHS or 702-427-7247. *Total Gold*, named "Best Slot Club" in 1999 by *Casino Player* magazine, allows members to play on any quarter or higher slot machines in any Harrah's casino, nationwide. "Play Slots An Hour On Us," a promotion that runs through September 30, reimburses new members for any losses up to $100 during their first hour of slot play. There are three levels of cards, Total Gold, Total Platinum, and Total Diamond. Rewards may be redeemed at Total Reward kiosks at all of the casinos.*

Hotel San Remo, 800-522-7366 or 702-739-9000. The *Money Club* card can be used in slot and video poker machines. The club was voted No. 1 in the *Las Vegas Review-Journal's* Best of Las Vegas survey and the *Las Vegas Advisor's* Guide to Slot Clubs. The hotel's *Money Club Newsletter* keeps members informed.*

Imperial Palace, 800-351-7400. *Imperial Player* members can earn points on all slots, which can be redeemed for show tickets, rooms, food, and logo items. A different promotion is featured each month for players with a designated number of points. In October, players can earn double bonus points and in December can receive a free box of chocolates.*

Mandalay Bay, 877-632-7200 or 702-632-7777. *Club Mandalay* members earn points based on the amount of play on all slot and table games. Points can be redeemed for food, beverages, rooms, and cash back.*

Maxim, 800-634-6987 or 702-731-4300. *Club Max* members can earn points on slot play and can redeem them for food, rooms, cash, or shows after accumulating 1,000 points. Table play earns you comp value only.*

MGM Grand, 800-929-1111 or 702-891-1111. *Directors Club* members accumulate bonus points and can earn American Airlines AAdvantage frequent-flier miles while playing slot and video poker machines and table games, if the player is an AAdvantage member.*

The Mirage, 800-627-6667 or 702-791-7111. *Club Mirage* offers bonus points for playing dollar and above slot machines. Personal slot hosts assist members.*

Monte Carlo, 800-822-8236 or 702-730-7777. *Club Monte Carlo* members earn points on slots and time on table play and Wheel of Fortune or Jeopardy

slots. Points can be redeemed for cash back and time redeemed for food and rooms.*

New York-New York, 800-NY-FOR-ME or 702-740-6969. The ***Slot Exchange Players Club*** allows players to earn points each time they play quarter and above slot machines.*

Orleans, 800-ORLEANS (675-3267) or 702-365-7111. ***Club Orleans*** offers points for playing any slot, poker, or keno machine. Players receive prizes ranging from baseball caps to jackets. Members can spend points at locations in the casino, including the beauty salon, bowling alley, and movie theater.*

Palace Station, 702-367-2411 or 800-634-3101. The ***Boarding Pass*** also can be used at Boulder Station, Sunset Station, and Texas Station.*

Paris, 702-739-4111. See Bally's for ***Club Paris***.

The Reserve, 702-794-9301. The ***Club Reserve*** card can be used on slots and table games and redeemed for comps or cash. Comps can be issued from any slot machine card reader.

Riviera, 702-794-9301. ***Riviera Players Club*** members can play any slot machine to win points, which may be redeemed for cash back, Riviera Bucks for the gift shop, rooms, shows, food, and apparel. Promotions include random drawings for free show tickets, merchandise, and meals; free bingo; and birthday passes to the Riviera Health Club.*

Sahara, 800-634-6666 or 702-737-2111. The ***Club Sahara*** card can be used on any slot, video poker, or video keno machine. Members receive the *Player's Choice Newsletter*, which keeps them informed about ongoing promotions such as members-only coupon books and slot tournaments.*

Sam's Town, 800-634-6371 or 702-456-7777. ***Sam's Town Club*** card can be use for both slot machines and table games.*

Showboat, 800-634-3484 or 702-385-9123. ***Big Easy Club*** card can be used for slot, video poker, bingo, and table games. Five levels of membership begin with the White card. The Gold final level provides a 20-percent discount in restaurants and shops.*

Sunset Station, 800-634-3101 or 702-547-7777. Membership in the ***Boarding Pass*** program allows members to use their card at Boulder Station, Palace Station, and Texas Station. See Boulder Station for more details.*

Texas Station, 800-634-3101 or 702-631-1000. Membership in the ***Boarding Pass*** program allows members to use their card at Boulder Station, Palace Station, and Sunset Station. See Boulder Station for more details.*

Treasure Island, 800-944-7444 or 702-894-7111. ***Treasure Island Club*** membership can be used with any 50-cent or above participating slot machine.*

The Venetian, 800-494-3556 or 702-733-5000. ***Venetian Players Club*** cardholders can earn points on all slot machines.*

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's, 800-FUN-STOP or 702-386-7867. ***Bank of Prima Donna*** members earn points or comps on slots and comps on table games. Points can be redeemed for cash back and comps for food, drinks, and rooms. Points earned at Whiskey Pete's and Primm Valley Resort also apply.*

Primm Valley Resort, 800-FUN-STOP or 702-386-7867. See ***Bank of Prima Donna*** at Buffalo Bill's.*

Whiskey Pete's, 800-FUN-STOP or 702-386-7867. See ***Bank of Prima Donna*** at Buffalo Bill's.*

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel, 800-634-1539 or www.gold-strike-jean.com. ***Strike It Rich Players Club*** is for both reel and video games. Every 90 days top point earners receive either a Signature or Signature Elite card, which entitles the player to additional comps.*

LAUGHLIN

Colorado Belle, 800-47-RIVER or 702-298-4000. ***Club Belle*** is for slot and video poker players. The Wild Adventure Celebration Cart Prize Patrol randomly selects players who have their cards inserted and gives away "bayou booty," gifts, and cash.

Edgewater, 800-289-8777 or 702-298-2453. The ***Winners Edge Players Club*** covers slot and video poker play. Members can participate in slot tournaments that pay more than $100,000.*

Flamingo Hilton Laughlin, 800-662-6004 or 702-298-5111. The ***Magic Club*** is for slots, video poker, and table games. Complimentary bonuses include a midweek overnight bus tour for two from Phoenix.*

Harrah's Laughlin, 800-HARRAHS. ***Total Gold*** allows members to play on any quarter or higher slot machines in any Harrah's casino, nationwide. "Play Slots An Hour On Us," a promotion that runs through September 30, reimburses new members for any losses up to $100 during their first hour of slot play. There are three levels of cards, Total Gold, Total Platinum, and Total Diamond. Rewards may be redeemed at Total Reward kiosks at all of the casinos.*

Pioneer, 800-634-3469. ***Round-Up Club*** members can lasso points while playing any slot machine and use the "Howdy Box" to find out how much cash back and complimentary dollars they've earned.*

Ramada Express, 800-243-6846 or 702-298-4200.



Slot Club Savvy

by Connie Emerson

Ideally, slot clubs should provide printed guidelines that fully disclose how much play is required to earn each point and the number of points needed before a player can redeem them for cash, prizes, and other perks.

In reality, some do, others don't. In his book, *The Las Vegas Advisor Guide to Slot Clubs* (Huntington Press, Las Vegas, 1999), Jeffrey Compton writes about the "don't ask, won't tell" slot clubs. Compton notes, "The good ones give you cash rebates, free rooms and meals, free shows and gifts, VIP treatment. The bad ones give you a hassle and a headache." Compton, who has been dubbed the "King of the Slot Clubs," says he is a member of every slot club in the United States.

My own research shows that at the "don't ask, won't tell" clubs it's almost impossible to find out how the point accumulation process works or how many points are needed to earn rewards. Confirming your current point total can be daunting. Usually you have to search for a read-out machine in the casino or wait in line at the slot club counter in hopes that someone will give you the answer.

To be satisfied with your choice of slot clubs, look for those that are helpful, clear on points and rewards, and fit your gambling requirements (for instance, while other people may not care much if they win or lose, you want to play the video poker machines with the best payouts in town). Also consider the playing atmosphere and types of prizes.

Because of the variety of slot clubs and benefits, you'll find several ways to maximize your memberships. Following are a few tips:

• **Before joining, compare several clubs' point systems.** At one club, two points may be awarded for every dollar wagered. At another, it takes $2.50 to earn a point, and $5 at a third. Some clubs require twice as much action to earn points at video-poker machines than at slots. Bear in mind that you're not actually spending a dollar to get each point, since you are playing your winnings, too. Occasionally you'll find an unusual system of calculating points, such as the one used by Dini Buck$ Slot Club at Dini's Lucky Club in Yerington. Points are awarded on a one-to-one basis: As noted on Dini's Web site (www.tele-net.net/dinis), a $100 jackpot is worth 100 points; a $2,355.50 jackpot is worth 2,356 points (cents are rounded off to the nearest dollar). The maximum number of points awarded for any single jackpot is 5,000, and points are given to members simply for buying change.

• **At most clubs there's a comparable relation between points required and value received, but that's not always the case.** Gaming experts say that clubs offering the cash-back option, for instance, give back anywhere from a dime to a dollar per $100 of action.

• **According to Anthony Curtis, the experts (and he knows a lot of them) say that to maximize your membership, join only one club and "mine" it.** Jean Scott believes that a couple will benefit by signing up for individual memberships rather than as Mr. and Mrs. That way, Scott says, you can take advantage of some offers twice.

• **Choose machines with the best payout schedules.** For example, while some "jacks or better" poker machines pay nine coins for each full house with one coin bet and six coins for a flush, others pay eight and five coins respectively.

• **Be discriminating.** It doesn't make much sense to rack up points that can only be used for rooms, meals, and logo items at a particular hotel-casino if you don't really like the rooms or the food there.

• **Don't play the machines or gamble more than you usually would in order to get a comp.** Remember that in every casino game, the house has the advantage. Except in rare cases, over the long run you will put more money into a machine than you will take out. Losing $50 just so you can get a $6.95 buffet is not a bargain.

• **Keep an eye on your watch.** Many slot club booths close before midnight and don't reopen until the next morning.

• **Despite the clubs' differences, one thing is a sure bet: Slot clubs will continue to introduce new promotions and rewards to keep up with the competition.** So it's important to keep abreast of new developments. If the club doesn't have a newsletter, phone the casino's toll-free number and ask to be connected to the slot club counter. Players interested primarily in Las Vegas casinos might consider subscribing to the *Las Vegas Advisor* ($50 per year), which has a monthly "Slot Club Update" column.

• ***The Las Vegas Advisor Guide to Slot Clubs*** by Jeffrey Compton ($9.95, 118 pages, softcover), ***The Frugal Gambler*** by Jean Scott ($12.95, 252 pages, softcover), and the ***Las Vegas Advisor*** are available through Huntington Press, 3687 S. Procyon Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89103. The phone for books is 800-244-2224, and the Web site is www.klas-tv.com/lva.

The *Ramada Express Slot Club* is for quarter or higher denomination machines. Members can win two free room nights on their next visit if they reach 450 points within 48 hours of signing up. Bonus points can be redeemed for cash, hotel rooms, meals, and getaway packages.

Riverside Resort, 888-REELWIN, 800-227-3849, or 702-298-2535. *King of Clubs* players earn bonus points when they play selected nickel and higher video poker, keno, slot machines, and bingo. Members can earn complimentary passes for bowling, movies, and Don's Kid Kastle, depending on the level of play. Member Getaway packages also are offered, and guests can receive the club newsletter, *The Kings Chronicle.**

Reno/Tahoe Area

CARSON CITY

Piñon Plaza, 775-885-9000, and **Carson Station,** 775-883-0900. *Capital City Rewards* can be obtained when a video poker, blackjack, or slot player hits a max-coin natural four-of-a-kind, a dollar reel slot machine win of 150 coins, a quarter reel slot machine win of 400 coins, or a nickel reel slot machine win of 600 coins. Blackjack players also can receive a reward with a Royal Match or any same suit 6-7-8 or 7-7-7 combination. Rewards can be used toward complimentary food, hotel rooms, bowling, gift shop merchandise, and cash. Rewards are also redeemable at the Station Grill and Rotisserie.*

Slot World, 775-882-7568. *Slot World Players Club* members earn a sticker for every four-of-a-kind on a max bet. Once you fill your card with stickers, you can redeem it for $10 cash back or food credits or gifts at the redemption center.*

MINDEN/GARDNERVILLE

Sharkey's Nugget, 775-782-3133. The *Video Poker Bonus Program* offers a bonus card for video poker machines. Each time a player gets a four-of-a-kind, the member's card is marked. Once the card is filled, it can be traded for cash. Players can win up to $500.

Carson Valley Inn, 877-783-7711 or 775-783-7711. *Inn Club* members can earn points at any slot machine and at any gaming table. Members 50 years of age and older receive a 10-percent discount at the Carson Valley Inn Hotel, Motor Lodge, and RV Resort, the hotel's restaurants, and on some purchases in the gift shop. Members-only promotions include random cash bonus drawings and special coupons in the *Inn-Sider* newsletter.*

RENO

Atlantis, 888-551-7007 or 775-824-4467. *Club Paradise* players can earn points while playing keno, slot, and video games including Video Monopoly, Boom, Winning Touch, Life of Luxury, and Sphinx.*

Boomtown, 800-648-3790 ext. 8799 or 775-345-8765. *Player's Club* cards can be used when playing slots, video poker, table games, and keno. Participation in the Vacation Celebration II drawings is one of the bonuses. Each night, a name is drawn for a four-day, three-night West Coast vacation. All entries also go into a monthly grand prize drawing worth more than $8,000 in cash and vacation prizes. Hourly cash drawings are held daily with a chance to win $1 million.*

Comstock Hotel, 800-COMSTOCK or 775-329-1880. The *Prospector's Club* card is for any slot machine, keno, or table games. Points can be redeemed for gift shop certificates, $10 meal vouchers, free room nights, and cash back. There also are four VIP club levels, depending on the amount of play: Bronze Baron, Silver Baron, Gold Baron, and Diamond Baron. All Baron members receive free room nights.*

Eldorado, 800-777-5325 or 775-786-5700. *Club Eldorado* members can play any nickel and higher denomination slot machines with their Gold Card, and they have a chance to win prizes such as cars, boats, cruises, and cash during the Bucks & Benz giveaway weekends. When members earn 1,000 points, they reach the Golden Dollar level and receive more benefits.*

Fitzgeralds, 800-635-LUCK or 775-785-3300. *Fitzgeralds Card* members can earn O'Lucky Bucks and Cents on slots, table games, or keno. These can be used for free rooms, food and beverages, slot and golf tournaments, and to purchase gifts at the Welcome Center.*

Flamingo Hilton Reno, 800-648-4882 or 775-785-7210. *Club Flamingo* cards are good for slot and table play. Complimentary golf tournaments are included in the benefits, depending on the level of play. A newsletter keeps members informed about slot and table tournaments, special offers, and parties.*

Harrah's Reno, 800-HARRAHS or 775-5886611. *Total Gold Club* players can play on any quarter or higher slot machines. "Play Slots An Hour On Us," a promotion that runs through September 30, reimburses new members for any losses up to $100 during their first hour of slot play. There are three levels of cards, Total Gold, Total Platinum, and Total Diamond. Rewards may be earned and redeemed at any Harrah's Casino location nationwide.*

Peppermill, 800-648-6992 or 775-826-2121. *VSP* members earn comp value on slot and table play.*

Reno Hilton, 800-648-3568 or 702-7891122. *Club Magic* members earn points good for Hilton Dollars or complimentaries when playing any video poker, reel machine, or table game, and the Four-of-a-Kind Video Poker Special pays double when the player gets the "card of the day." The Diner's Club allows members to earn points for dining in the Reno Hilton restaurants.*

Silver Legacy, 800-687-7733 or 775-329-4777. *Club Legacy* is for slot and table games. Members also get one chance each day to win $10 million by cracking the "Millennium Madness" code and stopping the giant computer from "crashing."*

Sundowner, 800-648-5490 or 702-786-7050. The *Sundowner V.I.P. Card* is good for all slot machines. Bonus points can be redeemed for meals, rooms, and souvenirs.

SPARKS

John Ascuaga's Nugget, 800-843-2427 or 775-356-3300. *John's Club* members earn comp dollars on all slot and table play that can be redeemed for rooms, food, and drink or items in the gift shop.*

Rail City, 775-359-9440. Rail City Player's Club members earn points on all games in the casino. Points are redeemable for rooms, food and drink, and cash back.*

Silver Club, 800-905-7774 or 775-358-4771. The *Quick Silver Slot Club* is for slot and video poker machines. A monthly calendar gives the dates for specials and when members can win double and triple bonus points. The slot card is also good for a five-percent discount (10 percent for ages 55 and older) at the casino's restaurants.*

LAKE TAHOE, STATELINE

Caesars Tahoe, 800-648-3353 or 775-588-3515. The *Emperors Club* rewards slot and video poker players of 25-cent or higher denomination machines. When members reach designated point levels, they receive "Roman Rewards" such as Caesars medallions, Emperors Club T-shirts, or Gucci watches. Through September 5 Caesars Tahoe is holding its 20th Anniversary Cash Celebration. Members will receive double cash back on their slot play during the promotion. Caesar, Cleopatra, and their Roman court will lead daily processions through the casino.*

Harrah's Lake Tahoe, 800-HARRAHS or 775-588-6611. *Total Gold* allows members to play on any quarter or higher slot machines in any Harrah's casino, nationwide. "Play Slots An Hour On Us," a promotion that runs through September 30, reimburses new members for any losses up to $100 during their first hour of slot play. There are three levels of cards, Total Gold, Total Platinum, and Total Diamond. Rewards may be redeemed at Total Reward kiosks at all of the casinos.*

Harveys, 800-553-1022 or 775-588-2411. *Tahoe Player's Club* members earn cash back on slot play and complimentary dollars on tables and slot play. Cash back points will be doubled if redeemed for slot play. Complimentary dollars can be redeemed for food, drinks, rooms, and shows.*

LAKE TAHOE, NORTH SHORE

Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, 800-327-3910 or 775-832-1234. The *Country Club by Hyatt* offers player tracking on slot, video poker, and table play. Once 2,000 points are accrued, Social Members become Full Members and are entitled to free access to the Health and Fitness Club, 20 percent off massages at the club, and a 15-percent discount on gift shop purchases. Points may be redeemed for merchandise from the Premium Rewards Catalog, Regency Club upgrades, free Camp Hyatt, and free stays at Hyatt Hotels around the world.*

Tahoe Biltmore, 800-245-8667 or 775-831-0660. *Club Biltmore* members can earn points on both slot machines and table games.*

Rural Nevada

ELY

Hotel Nevada, 775-289-6665. The *Hotel Nevada and Gambling Hall Slot Club* is for slot machine and video poker players. Benefits include a complimentary birthday dinner, 10 percent off meals and rooms, twice weekly drawings for prizes, and quarterly drawings for grand prizes such as cars and vacation packages.*

JACKPOT

Cactus Petes, 800-821-1103 or 775-755-2321. *Plateau Player's Club* cards offer daily members-only promotions on slot and table play. On Wild Wednesdays from 5 to 11 p.m., members earn double points and all restaurants offer half-off menu prices. In November a tournament for seniors (55 or older) will be held.

WINNEMUCCA

Model T, 800-645-5658, 775-623-2588, or www.modelt.com. *Model T Bonus Bucks* are awarded to customers for certain winning combinations while playing slots, table games, and keno. No membership or card is required.

YERINGTON

Dini's Lucky Club, 775-463-2868 or www.telenet.net/dinis/ *Dini Buck$ Slot Club* members can play any nickel or above slot machine, including video poker, video keno, slot, and progressive machines. Points can be redeemed for cash or merchandise. Bonus points are awarded during Dynamite Days and Midnight Madness.*

Genevieve Kilpatrick is a Carson City writer. Shannon Montana is a Virginia City writer-photographer.

Fallon's Amazing Maze

This old-fashioned farm offers a cornfield where visitors can truly lose themselves.

By Candice Towell

The maze craze began for Rick and Ann Lattin when they met maze designer Adrian Fisher last year at a farming conference in British Columbia. Soon afterward the Fallon couple commissioned Fisher to design the Lattin Farms Maize Maze in the shape of Nevada.

The maize maze, now in its second year, will be open through October 31. To cut the trails, the Lattin family, which settled in Fallon in 1915 and operates Lattin Farms, puts more than 15 relatives to work with machetes. The task takes about three weeks to complete. "We try to cut the maze before it's waist high," Rick Lattin explains. The full-grown corn stands 12 feet tall, and the maze spans more than two acres.





The Nevada-shaped cornfield maze at Lattin Farms in Fallon is a puzzling attraction. In the summer, the farm also offers pick-your-own raspberries, which Lana Sappa of Fallon displays (left).

Maze-goers, carrying white bamboo flags to note their positions, can consult the maps that are provided. Maze-rescuers use a nearby bridge as a lookout. Lattin says he has seen kids study the maps and solve the maze in about 10 minutes, but he's also seen people wander for more than two hours. Lattin admits, "I didn't solve the maze, being in it off and on, for two months." Some maze-goers use escape hatches to sneak out of the puzzle. A series of questions relating to this year's theme, "Treasures of Nevada," are scattered throughout the maze and also help visitors find their way.

During the fall the maze is filled with scarecrows (visitors can design their own scarecrows on October 16 and 23). Lattin Farms offers moonlight maze walks on September 24-25 and October 16, 22-23, and 29-30. On October 16 and 22-23, Fall Festival days, visitors can join a pumpkin-carving contest and a pumpkin tower-lighting ceremony. The Lattins' pumpkin patch is one of the state's largest.

During the summer, the Lattins operate roadside fruit and vegetable stands where visitors can buy tomatoes, cucumbers, corn, and other fresh produce. The farm is famous for its berry batch, where you can pick your own raspberries (you'll find a large selection of jams, too). Visitors also can explore the pick-your-own flower and herb garden, where you can create your own arrangements or stock up on fresh cilantro, dill, and rosemary.

The Lattin maze is open through Halloween. Admission is $6 for adults, $4 for children 14 and younger, free for kids under four, and $20 for families. The cost includes admission to a rope maze for teenagers and a straw maze for young children. Call 775-867-3750 for information.



Candice Towell is a Reno writer and photographer who believes in getting lost in her work.

Photos: Lattin Farms

The Summit and Civil Rights

Sammy Davis Jr. and other black entertainers knew both success and prejudice on the Strip, as recalled in this excerpt from the new book, *A Short History of Las Vegas.*

By Barbara Land and Myrick Land

In the 1950s and 1960s, Las Vegas entertainment meant big-name stars, lavish costumes, extravagant salaries. Some entertainers, like Elvis, were destroyed by it. Others survived to remember it fondly.

"The money was enormous," comedian Red Buttons recalled on a 1996 television documentary. "Four weeks in Vegas could buy you a Third World country."

Singer Wayne Newton remembered the camaraderie. "I loved it when Elvis was at the Hilton and Sammy was at the Sands and Frank was at Caesars and Dean was at the Riv. The greatest entertainers in the world, bar none—and we were all friends!"

Newton, a Las Vegas showroom regular since his downtown debut at the age of 15, was a relative newcomer to the Strip in the '60s. Sammy Davis Jr. had been singing, dancing, and clowning on Las Vegas stages for years. Frank Sinatra, idol of teenage girls in the 1940s, had been a star attraction at the Desert Inn and the Sands in the 1950s, long before Caesars opened in 1966. Dean Martin, after a series of movie roles as straight man opposite comedian Jerry Lewis, was building his Las Vegas reputation as a romantic singer. Separately, these veteran performers drew crowds to the casinos. When some of them started appearing together in 1960, they were dynamite.

"The event that put Vegas on the front page of every newspaper throughout the world was the Summit," said producer George Schlatter, once entertainment director at the New Frontier, "when Dean, Frank, Joey Bishop, Sammy Davis, and Peter Lawford were on stage at the same time at the Sands."

Schlatter may have overstated the newspaper coverage, but the effect of this team on Las Vegas was electric. Earlier, the five had been friends, hanging out backstage at each other's shows, referring to themselves as "the Clan." The press called them "the Rat Pack." They preferred Sinatra's title for the group, "the Summit," and they called him "Chairman of the Board." In 1960 the five were making a movie together in Hollywood and Las Vegas.

The film was *Ocean's Eleven*, a comedy about a plot to rob five Las Vegas casinos. Since the actors were working together on the movie set every morning, Sinatra suggested a joint appearance in the Sands' Copa Room at night. In those days, the Copa Room was the place to be. Top performers like Milton Berle, Nat "King" Cole, and Danny Thomas had been headliners in the Copa Room since its opening in 1952, but Sinatra drew the biggest crowds. He was also part owner of the casino.

When Sinatra's Rat Pack took over the stage—singing, bantering, ad-libbing, and mingling with the crowds—the room was jammed with celebrities. Not only entertainers. These fans included politicians and jet-setting socialites. When Senator John F. Kennedy, campaigning for the presidency, was in Las Vegas to meet with Nevada delegates, the young Democratic candidate turned up at the Sands to see his brother-in-law, Peter Lawford, cavort with Sinatra and friends. After the show, Kennedy joined the performers for an informal celebration.

"Frank had been getting the theatrical community behind Kennedy," Sammy Davis reported in *Why Me? The Sammy Davis, Jr., Story* (with Jane and Burt Boyar), "and the five of us had been doing rallies and campaigning for him." After his inauguration, Kennedy came back to Las Vegas from time to time. When he did, news cameras clicked all night long.



Copa Girls held cue cards for Peter Lawford, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., and Joey Bishop on opening night of the "Summit Meeting at the Sands."

The Sands had just one star dressing room, and the Rat Pack shared it. Davis remembered one night when Sinatra came in, just before the second show, and told them JFK was going to be out front.

"We always had celebrities in the audience," Davis said. "All five of us were onstage, and we'd introduce them round-robin, each of us taking one, always saving the biggest for last.... That night Frank stepped back to where we had a bar on the stage, and as I was pouring a drink he said, 'Smokey, you introduce the President.' Frank threw that to me! Instead of taking the glory for himself and doing a number with it—which I would have done if I'd been that close to the man—he gave it to *me*."

Davis and Sinatra had been friends long before the others entered the picture.

The two entertainers had been friends long before the others entered the picture, and Davis had been in show business the longest of all. As a child he had performed in New York and across the country with his father in "Will Mastin's Gang, featuring Little Sammy." Later, their act became the popular Will Mastin Trio.

"My home has always been show business," Davis recalled in *Why Me?* "That's where I've lived since the age of three. I've slept in hotels and rooming houses, in cars, on trains and buses, in our dressing rooms, with my father and a man I called my uncle, Will Mastin; and, when we were out of work, with my grandmother, Rosa B. Davis, whom I called Mamma, at her place in Harlem. But home was where the lights were, the people out front, the laughter and applause, the acts that I watched from the wings all day long.... I had traveled 10 states and played over 50 cities by the time I was four."

Audiences cheered his song and dance performances and later his impersonations of famous entertainers. He met Sinatra in Detroit in 1940 when the singer and the Will Mastin Trio were on the same bill with Tommy Dorsey's orchestra. Five years later, after Davis returned from military duty in Army Special Services, they met again in Los Angeles, where armies of screaming teenagers in bobby socks waited for Sinatra at the stage door. Davis joined the fans, asked for Sinatra's autograph, and the singer remembered him. From that time on, Sinatra and Davis kept in touch. Sometimes they found themselves in Las Vegas at the same time.

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau



The Moulin Rouge was the first major Nevada resort to have a racially integrated staff and clientele. In 1955 its swinging shows lured big-name entertainers.

With the Will Mastin Trio, Sammy Davis Jr. made his Las Vegas debut in 1945 at El Rancho Vegas on Highway 91. Within a few years, that stretch of highway would become the famous Las Vegas Strip, studded with casinos and entertainers, but in the early 1940s the El Rancho was a pioneer, offering big-name entertainers from Hollywood. A mile down the road, the Last Frontier was its only competition. Davis and his costars were ecstatic to be offered $500 a week at El Rancho.

"The band was the biggest we'd ever worked with," Davis recalled. "The floor of the stage was springy; the lighting was the most modern I'd ever seen. After rehearsal we asked about our rooms. The manager said, 'We can't let you have rooms here. You'll have to find a place on the other side of town.'" It was a slap in the face. For the rest of his life, Sammy Davis would remember his introduction to the ugly face of racial prejudice in Las Vegas. Over the years he would see more of it.

"No performer has been playing the city as long [as Davis]," Jefferson Graham wrote in *Vegas: Live and In Person*, his 1989 illustrated portrait of the city. "No white performer has suffered the indignities Davis endured playing Vegas in the 1940s and 1950s."

Davis summed up the experience: "We were performing at the hotel, but we couldn't stay there. We couldn't eat there. We couldn't gamble in the casino. We couldn't walk in the front door." Other black entertainers—Ella Fitzgerald, Pearl Bailey, Lena Horne, Billy Eckstine, Harry Belafonte, and Nat "King" Cole—also found themselves barred from the hotels.

"In Vegas, for 20 minutes, our skin had no color," Davis recalled. "Then, the second we stepped off the stage, we were colored again.... The other acts could gamble or sit in the lounge and have a drink, but we had to leave through the kitchen with the garbage. I was dying to grab a look into the casino, just to see what it was like, but I was damned if I would let anyone see me with my nose against the candy-store window."

Morton Saiger, a Polish immigrant who worked at the Last Frontier in the 1940s, remembered those days in an oral history for the University of Nevada: "Many black entertainers worked at the Last Frontier but could not stay there. It was unfortunate, but that was the law. I was so hurt that I couldn't see straight because this was the way I was treated in Poland as a Jew, so I just ached.... If we had some black entertainers, I had to pick them up at six to bring them down to the show. We had rooming houses on the West Side, which was known as the colored neighborhood at the time.... I had to take them back after midnight, because there was no other transportation over to the West Side."

Saiger recalled a performance by Sammy Davis at the Last Frontier, before he became a solo act: "The Will Mastin Trio were through about 10, and at 12 they had to go on again. They couldn't even eat in the kitchen. There was a picnic table outside the kitchen. I had to bring out sandwiches for them to eat there."

Race relations in Las Vegas didn't get much better in the 1950s. *Ebony* magazine reported in 1951 that Las Vegas lagged far behind other cities in civil rights, with the exception of the Deep South. Nevada was called "Mississippi of the West." In that uncomfortable climate, a group of entrepreneurs opened the first integrated hotel-casino in Las Vegas.

When the Moulin Rouge opened its doors on West Bonanza Avenue in May 1955, it was a glittering showplace. Mahogany-lined walls, crystal chandeliers, generous swimming pool, and spacious showroom made it a serious competitor for gamblers and showgoers who filled the five big



Sammy Davis Jr. performed with his father and uncle, Will Mastin. During the trio's El Rancho Vegas debut in 1945, they were denied rooms at the resort.

Photos: Special Collections, University of Nevada, Las Vegas Library (top), Las Vegas News Bureau (bottom)

hotel-casinos on the other side of town. Famous black entertainers were brought in from all over the world, and black tourists filled the hotel. Every night, after their performances at other casinos, black and white entertainers came to the Moulin Rouge for late-night jam sessions. Showroom crowds followed them to the West Side.

"If Las Vegas had been a southern town, the opening of the Moulin Rouge might be considered by some to be the beginning of the civil rights movement," says a character in *Death of a Tenor Man*, a 1995 suspense novel by jazz musician and Las Vegas writer Bill Moody. The murder mystery pursued in Moody's novel is fictional, but the vivid background is based on fact, records preserved in newspaper files and in the library at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, where Moody has taught English. Opening night at the Moulin Rouge is presented by Moody as described in a 40-year-old diary kept by one of his fictional showgirls: "They just kept coming in big limos—Harry Belafonte, Sammy Davis, and the man, Nat King Cole!!!!—dressed so fine, and there were photographers everywhere, even some people from *Life* magazine."



Showgirls at the New Frontier presented a cake to Davis on his 30th birthday, December 8, 1955, in Las Vegas.

A photo of actual showgirls on the cover of *Life* magazine and more photos inside the magazine record the Moulin Rouge opening for history. For the next few months, the place filled with celebrities. Then suddenly, without explanation, it closed in September. Why? There was speculation that the Moulin Rouge had lured business away from other casinos and that the owners were pressured by Mob interests to remove the unwanted competition. Whatever the reason, the place was sold and never quite regained its early glory—in spite of efforts by a long list of subsequent owners.



Fewer than 10 years after its 1955 opening, the Moulin Rouge had become a meeting place for community leaders, black and white, seeking an end to segregation in Las Vegas. When members of the NAACP met at the Moulin Rouge with Governor Grant Sawyer and the Nevada Resort Association in 1960, they reached an agreement that led eventually to the desegregation of the Strip.

Slowly, the situation began to improve as the Civil Rights movement gained momentum. In his own corner of the movement, Sammy Davis Jr. kept chipping away at barriers. When the Will Mastin Trio moved from the Frontier to the Sands in 1958, Davis went to entertainment director Jack Entratter and said he and his father and uncle had to be allowed to live at the Sands while performing there. Entratter moved the trio into the hotel, but registration still wasn't open to everybody. As late as 1961, African Americans were still having a hard time getting through the front door at the Sands.

Davis was sitting with Sinatra when a black couple walked in and Sands security guards tried to block them.

According to Jefferson Graham: "Davis was sitting with Frank Sinatra in the lobby one afternoon when a black couple walked in the front door and two security guards walked over to block them.... Davis and Sinatra walked over to the guards and ... the unofficial president of the hotel told the guards that the couple were his guests and ushered them in. Then Sinatra called Sands executive Carl Cohen on the phone."

Sinatra's colorful language evidently made an impression. "The next day," Graham reports, "Davis went to Entratter and suggested that now was the time to start hiring blacks at the Sands.... The entertainer went to the NAACP, which sent over a group of applicants; suddenly the Sands was hiring black bellhops, busboys, and waiters." The doors were swinging open.

The preceding excerpt is taken from the chapter "The Entertainers" in A Short History of Las Vegas, *written by Barbara Land and Myrick Land, with a foreword by Guy Louis Rocha. The book recently was published by the University of Nevada Press. Reno resident Barbara Land and her late husband, Myrick "Mike" Land, are members of the Nevada Writers Hall of Fame and the authors of 18 books, individually and together, including* A Short History of Reno *(University of Nevada Press, 1995).* A Short History of Las Vegas *(264 pages, 96 black-and-white photos, ISBN 0-87417-326-4, $15.95 paperback) is available in bookstores or from the University of Nevada Press, Mail Stop 166, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557-0076; phone 877-NVBOOKS toll-free.*

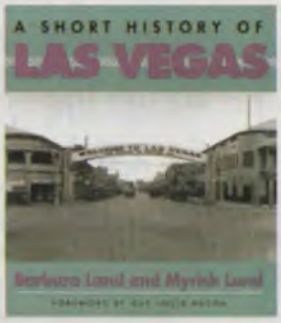
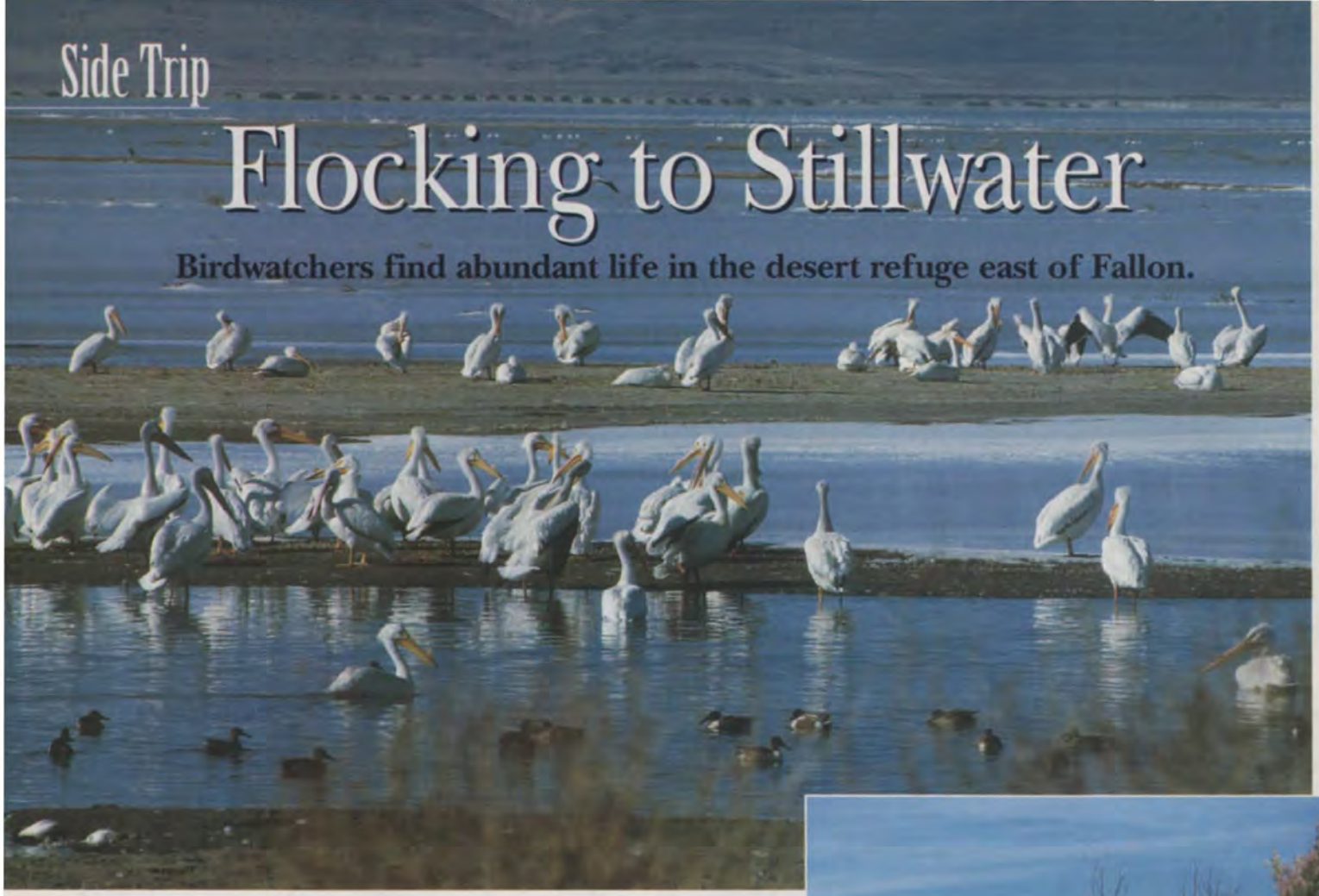


Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

Side Trip

Flocking to Stillwater

Birdwatchers find abundant life in the desert refuge east of Fallon.





Pelicans and other water birds that wing their way to Stillwater attract binocular-toting visitors such as the author (above).

Story and Photos by Bob Goodman

People ask me why I go to Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge so often. How does one describe the allure of a place as flat as a pool table? Or alkali flats so barren that the skeletons of dead plants offer welcomed visual relief?

But there is more to Stillwater than first meets the eye. Water covers the landscape, and life abounds here as it has for thousands of years. As Clay Cole, a birdwatcher from Fernley, says, "It's a whole bunch of nothing that is absolutely beautiful."

That "whole bunch of nothing" also is home to one of the country's most notable bird sanctuaries. Stillwater was designed first by nature—the marsh is a remnant of ancient Lake Lahontan, which covered most of Northern Nevada about 12,000 years ago—and then by humans, most recently to meet the needs of wildlife, especially water birds. Stillwater is so critical to their survival that the refuge was declared a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve in 1988. The result is a bounty of birds—at least 160 species have appeared here—and other creatures who call the refuge home.

Mr. Coyote could dart across the road with the catch of the day in his mouth.

Traveling through the marsh by car, one has a sense of going back in time. The area is vast, covering 160,000 acres, and shows little evidence of human intrusion. Stillwater is a place where humans are truly visitors.

The best way to see the refuge, managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is to follow the "Loop Tour" signs that start at the entrance, 15 miles east of Fallon. The loop leads visitors across barren flats and past dead cottonwood trees hosting nests of red-tailed hawks and great-horned owls.

As you drive, you'll notice that Stillwater has two water forms: channels and ponds. The loop road follows the channels and rides the low dikes that surround the ponds. Birds may flush from the waters in the channels. Deer may emerge from the brush. Mr. Coyote could dart across the road with the catch of the day in his mouth.

Visitors should note that the area has 200 miles of roads, all of which are capable of bogging down the best of vehicles if it rains or snows. Most of the refuge is open to the public, including the bulk of the 14,000 acres of wetlands. About one-third of the refuge is closed to visitors, providing a sanctuary for wildlife.

The refuge attracts different species of birds every season. In the fall, thousands of migratory birds fill the ponds on their way to southern wintering grounds. Tundra swans and colorful ducks, including pin-



A great blue heron guards its nest at Stillwater.

tails, canvasbacks, and redheads, have followed this cycle for hundreds of years, as have the Native Americans who lived in and hunted these wetlands.

During winter migration, some birds stop at Stillwater to feed for a few days. Others spend weeks or months before returning to northern breeding grounds. The most noticeable winter resident is the tundra swan, whose unforgettable call sounds like a soft mewing. Bald eagles perch at night on the aging cottonwood trees near Timber Lake, northwest of the main refuge. About 50 of these majestic birds have used the refuge for many years, providing an awesome sight when they soar into the cottonwoods as the midwinter sun sets.

When spring arrives at Stillwater, so do thousands of shorebirds. It is a time of refueling and rest for migrants such as phalaropes, dowitchers, curlews, and avocets. By this time, the swans and eagles have left for the north. White pelicans begin to arrive at Stillwater for daily foraging from their nesting sites at Anaho Island in Pyramid Lake. Many species of birds nest at the refuge in the spring. The American avocet, pintail duck, Canada goose, and American coot raise their young on the abundant food of the shallow ponds. Visitors should keep in mind that the birds' basic foods include mosquitoes and their larvae, so bug repellent is a must.

In spring and summer, one can follow the growth of young families. Coots grow quickly from multihued chicks to black-feathered adults. In just weeks, chicks of other species lose their camouflage brown in favor of colorful adult plumage. At birth many shorebird chicks, such as the killdeer and American avocet, appear as miniature adults from birth.

Although the terrain is mostly flat, Stillwater has many ecosystems that account for its diversity of life. There are barren sand dunes where each morning one can see etched in the sand the past night's activities of lizards, coyotes, kit foxes, and snakes. The channels and riparian vegetation, such as tamarisk and willow, are home to sparrows, finches, herons, and egrets in addition to mammals such as rabbits and muskrats.

Although Stillwater doesn't offer many human comforts, things are changing. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is revising its management plans for the refuge, and new informational and directional signs are planned. Future visitors may be able to watch the birds from towers overlooking some of the ponds, and officials are planning special places where school children can experience the wetlands as they were meant to be—one on one.

Bob Goodman is a Reno writer, photographer, and naturalist who speaks more to birds than humans.

Field Notes

Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, 15 miles east of Fallon, is open to visitors year-round, although temperatures can range from below zero in winter to more than 100 degrees in summer. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recommends that you bring plenty of drinking water and bug repellent and check your car's tires, belts, and fluids before driving into remote areas. Roads can become impassable during wet weather.

In the fall, hunting is permitted, and fishing is allowed during state-regulated seasons. Although there are no facilities, you can camp up to eight days. Boats with motors of up to 10 horsepower are allowed in the Stillwater Marsh area; the Indian Lakes area is a no-wake zone. For USFWS maps, brochures, and bird lists, call 775-423-5128 or write the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, Box 1236, Fallon, NV 89406.

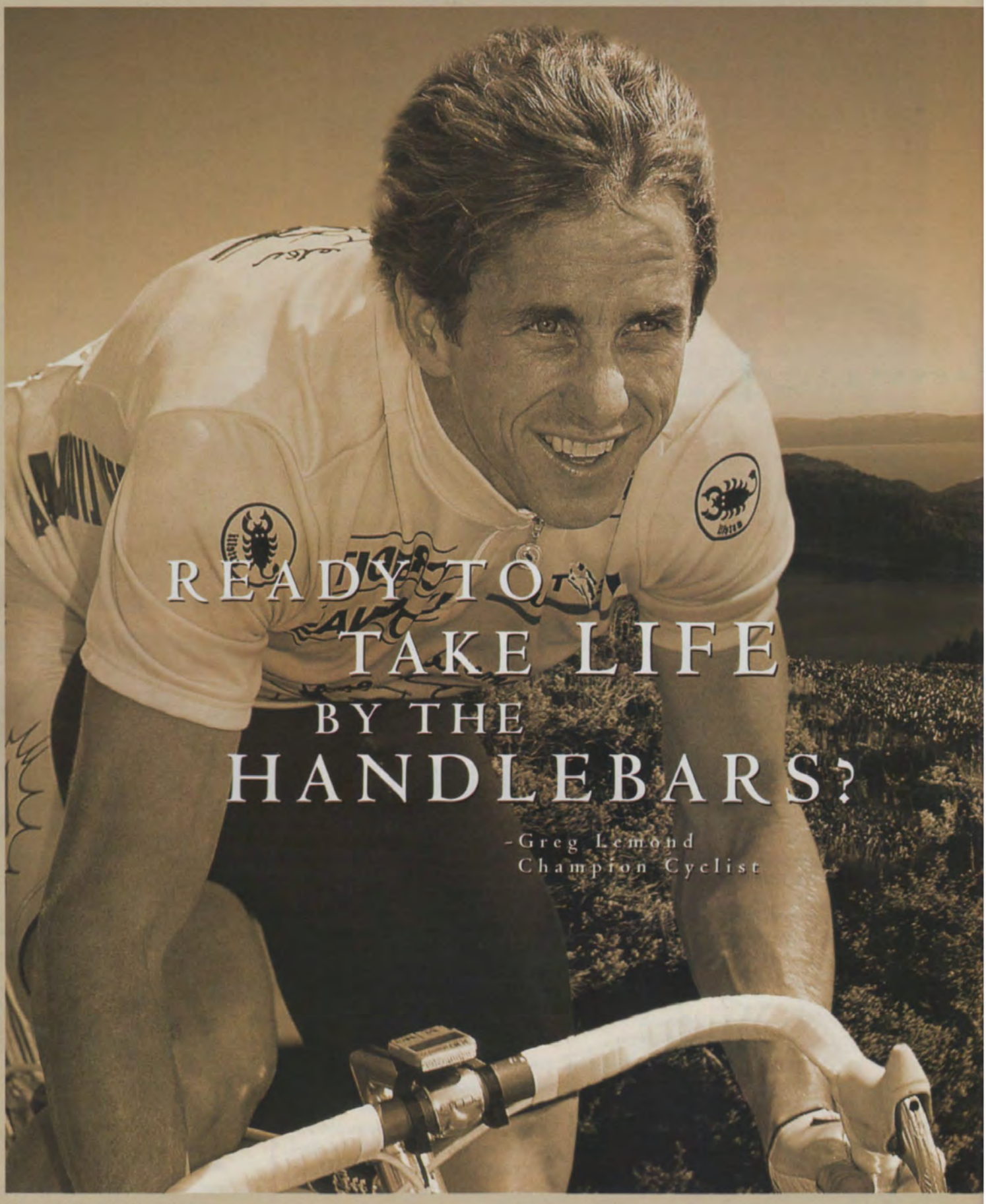


Map: NDOT/Nevada Magazine

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