Las Vegas' Room Boom ■ Will James ■ Nevada Events: Special Section
Photo Contest Winners ■ Robert Laxalt's New Novel ■ Incline Village

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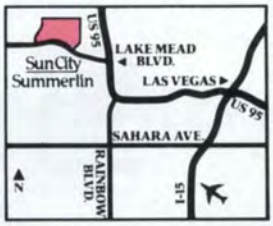


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VOLUME 49, NUMBER 6

NEVADA

NOV/DEC 1989

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LETTERS

Statehood and Jar-bridge

Dat So La Lee and the Myths

I thoroughly enjoyed Christopher Ross' article, "Dat So La Lee and the Myth Weavers," in the Sept/Oct issue.

Relying on the research of Professor Marvin Cohodas, Ross has done much to set the record straight on the life and work of the Washoe basket maker Dat So La Lee. Unfortunately, after stripping away the myth and hype, it seems that we may never know much about this extraordinary Native American artist.

One small point of fact: Dr. Simeon Lemuel Lee was not a Sacramento dentist but a highly respected Carson City physician who had moved to the area in 1870 and died in the capital city in 1927 Dr. "Lem" Lee is probably best remembered for his magnificent collection of minerals, shells, and Indian artifacts now housed at the Nevada State Museum.

Guy Louis Rocha
Reno

Weaving Views

The article about Dat So La Lee by Christopher Ross in the last issue was interesting. Being a writer and having worked with the Washoe (Washo) Indians for 15 years, it was hard to distinguish whether Ross was debunking the validity of established authorities on the history and culture of the Washoe people or whether he was promoting a Canadian self-taught basket weaver.

One can only guess about the thoughts, feelings, or motives of either the Cohns or Dat So La Lee. Even historians and tribal members are not agreed on the subject.

My husband and I, however, prefer to accept the knowledge of people who actually knew them and those who have made scholarly studies of the Washo people.

Some of your readers might like to read the findings of Robert H. Lowe (University of California), Dr. Warren L. d'Azavedo (University of Nevada), Grace Dangberg, and Jo Ann Nevers (a Washo writer) who published a book of Washo tribal history called *We She Shu*. Further resources may be found in the National Archives, Smithsonian Institution, and many other libraries and centers.

Dat So La Lee's baskets speak for themselves.

Peg Ward
Reno

Native News

After reading "Indian Country" by Becky Lemon and Linda Johnson in the July/August issue, I am interested in subscribing to the *Native Nevadan*. Can you get me in touch with this publication?

Tom Papagna
Las Vegas

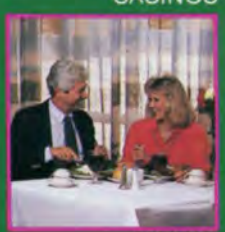
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Nevada and Civil Rights

Congratulations on the Sept/Oct issue celebrating Nevada's 125th anniversary I liked best "Union Made," the significant article by Jerome Edwards reminding us of the great role Nevada played in support of President Lincoln. To be confident of re-election he needed the three electoral-college votes that Nevada's 40,000 residents could provide. Perhaps he needed even more to have Nevada's representatives in Congress to pass the 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments that freed the slaves, broadened due process, and gave blacks the right to vote.

Most Nevadans today don't realize that in its infancy the Silver State was a great civil rights pioneer.

Don Lynch
Sparks

Remember Carlin and Mesquite

I especially enjoyed the article "Fossils of the Sea" by Don Mathias in the Sept/Oct issue. Why not have an article in each issue concerning Nevada



Happy Holidays!

Wishing everyone happy holidays and a merry 125th Nevada birthday, from the staff of Nevada Magazine. *Top row, from left: Cliff Glover Tamara Charland, Kirk Whisler Isabel Espinoza holding Tito Andrés Gonzalez Whisler David Moore, Sharon Hernandez, Cynthia Kelley, Gary Cook, Melissa Loomis, Donna Cunningham. Bottom row, from left: Ann Henderson, Gary Haines, Patty Noll, Rich Moreno, Jackie Morgan, Ruth Buechel, Debi Frame, Brian Buckley. Wardrobe, props, and studio were provided by Loretta Morales of O'Quigley's Old Time Photo Studio in Virginia City, and Patrick Kennedy was the photographer*

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Photo: Patrick Kennedy

minerals, fossils, or geology? As a mineral collector I would love to see anything about present day mining and historic mining.

Also I have noticed there are two towns you fail to mention in the *Nevada Events* Travel Planner section, those being Carlin and Mesquite.

Richard Wayman
San Diego, CA

Wayman, thanks for the tip. Carlin doesn't have a regular chamber of commerce, but Mesquite does, and the oasis of Virgin Valley been included in "Getaway Hot Lines" in Nevada Events.

Is That Jar-bridge?

Don Mathias' "Fossils of the Sea" in Sept/Oct '89 opens a floodgate that requires a bridge.

Question: What is the most mispronounced and misspelled place name in Nevada? Answer: Jarbidge. It's not Jarbridge. The correct pronunciation is Jar-bidge.

If you ask someone if they've been to Jarbidge and they say Jarbridge, you know they've never been near the place, not even the sign that reads, in part, "Warning! Grades in excess of 15 percent."

Don Mathias spelled the name correctly in his article. In his book, too. But then, he'd rather be in Jarbridge—oops, I mean Jarbidge.

D. Webber
Reno

The Advantage of Ads

Ho-hum is my reaction to letters from people who object to the advertisements, particularly ads for gambling establishments which appear in *Nevada Magazine*. Haven't these people found the numerous and interesting historical and sightseeing articles about the wondrous state of Nevada?

My husband and I plan our vacations to Nevada with help of the ads and other information appearing in your magazine. Please do not change.

Ann Varrill
Fischer, TX

The Jackpot Trail

I first came to Las Vegas in 1947 I made a big mistake, hitting 13 eight-dollar jackpots at the old Las Vegas Club. I've been trying ever since to duplicate that feat.

My first wife had phenomenal luck on the slots—she recarpeted the house after one trip and bought all new drapes and shades after another. When she passed on from cancer, I found a stack of $100 bills in a drawer.

My second wife cared only about dinners and the swimming pools. She also passed on from cancer.

Now at a healthy age 83, I have a third wife who likes Laughlin.

We have been in Ely, where we found a real old-fashioned drug store with a soda fountain and a man that knows how to make an ice cream soda!

Jackpot was interesting. I've been to Reno, Carson City, and Tahoe also. I like the north shore of the latter.

J. R. (Andy) Anderson
Desert Hot Springs, CA

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As part of Nevada's 125th anniversary celebration, the state is publishing a catalogue of memorabilia and merchandise available from suppliers. For a free catalogue write or call the Nevada Commission on Tourism, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 702-687-3636.

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Publisher: Kirk Whisler
Managing Editor: David Moore
Art Director: Brian Buckley
Associate Editor: Cliff Glover
Events Editor: Melissa Cronin Loomis
Production Editor: Tamara Charland
Business Manager: Ann Henderson
Circulation Manager: Gary Cook
Retail Coordinator: Isabel Espinoza
Subscriber Relations: Debi Frame
Administrative Assistant: Jackie Morgan
Support Services: Denise Madera
LasVegas Representative: Jackie Brett
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Advertising Assistant: Donna Cunningham
Nevada Magazine, 1800 Hwy. 50 East, Carson City, NV 89710-0005, (702) 687-5416

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Cool Days, Warm Springs

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Las Vegas

Winter in Warm Springs

Warm Springs Resort, 60 miles northwest of Las Vegas, is as close to a tropical island as you can get in the desert. Lay back in the clear pools and streams, gaze up through the palm trees at the blue sky, and you can almost hear the swish of hula skirts and the refrain of a steel guitar.

The palms are several hundred years old. A group of peacocks visits the resort daily, and the two resident golden retrievers love visitors.

The main pool, which has a white-graveled bottom, sits above one of 12 natural springs that are the headwaters of the Muddy River. The clear water flows at a constant 90-degree temperature. There are barbecues and large, grassy areas suitable for picnics. The resort also has a jacuzzi, a clubhouse with a small kitchen, RV spaces and hookups, and showers. No food is available.

To reach the resort, take Interstate 15 to the Glendale exit, which is 49 miles northeast of Las Vegas. From there you head eight miles northwest on State Route 168, where a sign indicates a left turn to the springs.

Warm Springs is a private membership resort owned and managed by Lynn and Bob Plummer. From 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. the park is also open by reservation to a limited number of public guests. The daily fee for nonmembers is $6 per person. For reservations call 702-865-2780.

Fancy Footwork in Boulder City

A new brochure can take you on a pleasant exploration of Boulder City,

Photo: Kate Butler

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the quiet, tree-shaded town built by the federal government in the early 1930s for Hoover Dam construction workers. It's easy to meander through the town's historic district—after all, it was designed for walking with sidewalk arcades, centralized services, and large green lawns.

There are five short tours of historic buildings and neighborhoods described in the new walking-tour brochure. The Commercial District Tour, for example, leads from the Boulder City Theater on Arizona Street past the old Uptown Hardware Building (now the Ace Shopper Stopper), the Nevada Drug Building, the Boulder Dam Hotel, and on to the Coffee Cup Cafe (formerly Ida Browder's Cafe), the oldest remaining commercial building in Boulder City The four-block district is said to be a forerunner of today's large shopping plazas. For more information, contact the Boulder City Chamber of Commerce, 1497 Nevada Highway, Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-293-2034.

Christmas Cul-de-Sac

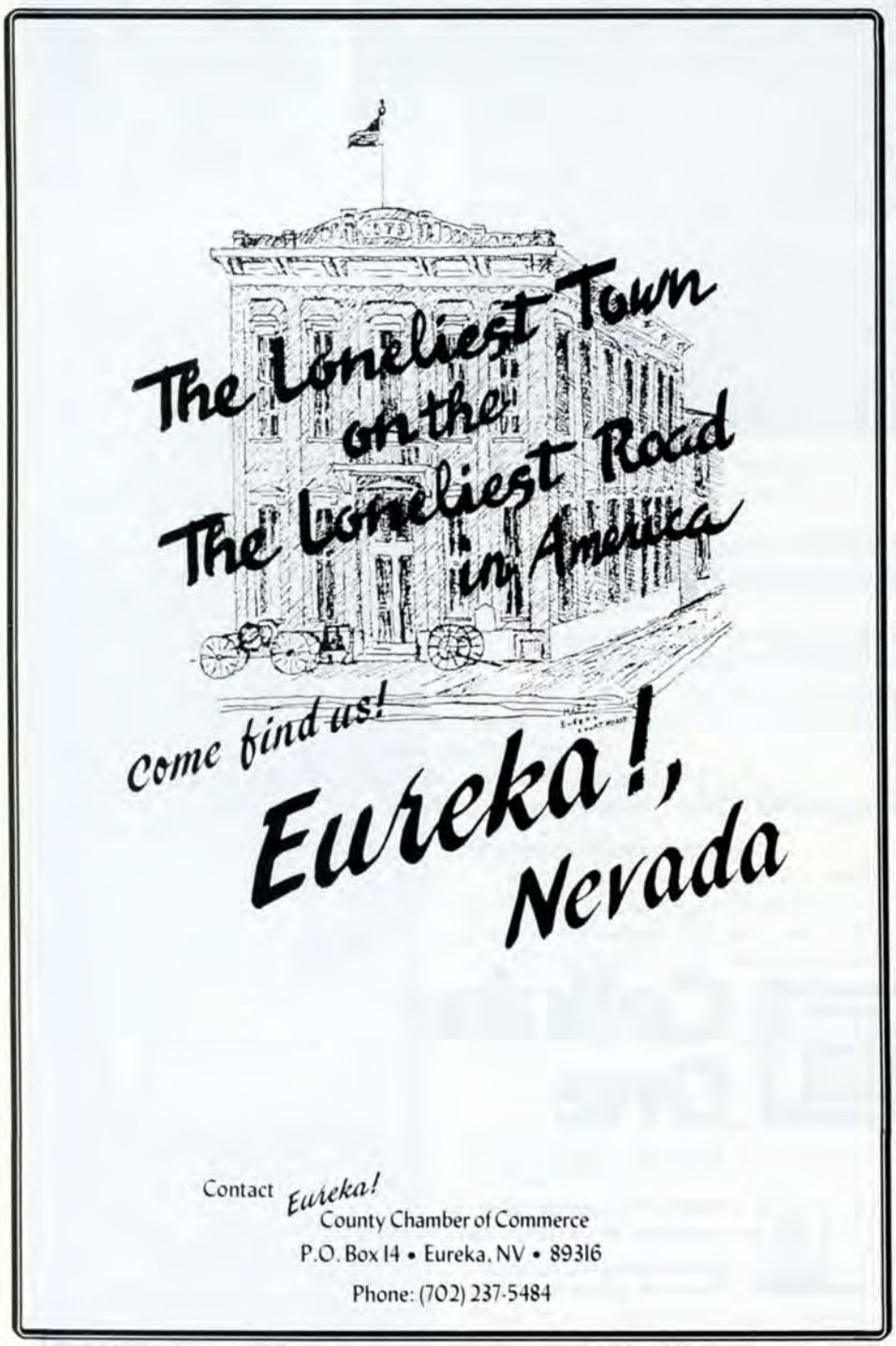
The spirit of the season comes to light—literally—every year at the corner of Tomkins Avenue and Hondo Court in Las Vegas. Beginning with a September planning party, about 10 neighbors spend the fall months decorating their homes and yards with multicolored lights and paintings to create a fantasy holiday scene. Walkways, trees, windows, and roofs are all lighted. Hand-painted scenes with Mickey Mouse, Miss Piggy, the California Raisins, and other popular characters adorn garage doors. You might see a Star of David hanging from a tree limb while a Christmas tree blinks through an uncovered window

The display begins after Thanksgiving and lasts until just after New Year's Day. The festive corner is located a long block east of Pecos Road between Flamingo Road and Tropicana Avenue. You can't miss it—look for the warm holiday glow

Getting into Hot Water

It could be trouble for a city stroller, but for the advanced hiker the challenging rock scrambles on Lake Mead's Goldstrike Hot Springs Hike can lead to satisfying soaking in warm, clear water. The trail descends from an open wash off U.S. 93 through a dramatic, narrow canyon to the Colorado River below Hoover Dam, 1,000 feet below the trailhead. Along the way, the route passes several inviting hot springs and pools, heated by the cooling of deeply-buried igneous rock and ringed by rugged canyon walls.

The distance to the river is four miles, or about five hours round-trip plus soaking time. Hikers should bring sturdy shoes, hat, trash bag, small first-aid kit—and hiking companions, since solo treks are not advised. For more information, pick up the National Park Service's handout about the hike at the Alan Bible Visitor Center, located at the junction of U.S. 93 and State Route 166. Or call 702-293-8906.—*Kate Butler*



RENO–TAHOE

Snow Walking

Snowshoeing is an exhilarating way to tromp through a winter forest. Unlike with downhill or cross-country skiing, you don't need special skills to snowshoe. "It's like standing on a wide board," says Mike Wilhelm, manager of Ken's Mountaineering and Backpacking in Reno. "You're not gliding, though—just walking."

There are two types of snowshoes,

the traditional wooden shoe and a lighter, more durable aluminum shoe. Wear a warm, waterproof winter boot; the snowshoes' laces will attach over your footwear. A favorite Reno-Tahoe snow-play area is Tahoe Meadows on Mount Rose (State Route 431). You can find rental snowshoes at most mountaineering stores.

On the Antique Trail

Antique nuts can never get enough. The more shops, the more diversity, the better. At the Antique Collective in Reno, 15 shops are under one roof, and their dealers offer everything from kitchen primitives to oak furniture.

For bargain hunters the dealers clean out their attics once a year and have a parking lot sale. The Antique Collective can also host a coffee or tea for tour buses. For inquiries, contact manager Myrna Dunn, 702-322-3989. Collective hours are 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. Sunday. The store is located at 400 Mill Street, south of downtown.

Poker: East Meets West

Pai gow poker blends east (pai gow) and west (poker) in a casino game that's growing in popularity. Because the game is easy to learn and play, several casinos in Reno, Sparks, and Lake Tahoe now offer pai gow poker as a regular table game.

In pai gow poker, players sit at a blackjack-like table with positions marked for betting, high hand and low hand. To begin, the dealer deals seven hands of seven cards each from a conventional 52-card deck. Players roll three dice to determine who gets the first hand, and remaining hands are distributed to the other five players and the dealer.

Each player then divides his cards into a high hand of five cards and a low hand of two cards, using traditional poker rankings (pair, flush, straight, etc.) to create the strongest high and low hands. Then the dealer arranges his hand, and all players win or lose their bet by competing against the dealer. After each round, the house dealer will offer each player the opportunity to act as the "banker" against whom others will play The house takes a five-percent commission on all winning bets.

To learn about the game, ask for an information booklet at any casino where pai gow is played or for instruction from the dealer.

—Deborah A. Mawhar



Artistic scenes adorn garage doors in a holiday-spirited Las Vegas neighborhood.

RURAL

Watching Birds and Catching Fish

Some people know Kirch Wildlife Refuge for its good reservoir fishing and others for its great birdwatching. But because of its distance from major cities—Las Vegas is 174 miles south—it's not crowded.

The refuge is located on the Sunnyside cutoff (State Route 318) north of Hiko. The Hot Creek Campground, the only designated camping site in the refuge, is four miles west of the highway and has minimal facilities. The spring, a pleasant 80 degrees Fahrenheit, is located a short distance west of the campground and has its own parking area.

Among your supplies, don't forget binoculars, cameras, and fishing gear. Sunnyside, a few miles further north, has a small market. Outboards are permitted on the reservoirs at limited speeds. For information in Las Vegas call the Nevada Department of Wildlife, 702-486-5127.*—Kate Butler*

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Photo: Kate Butler

Winter Retreats

You can bask in either snow or sun on a Nevada winter vacation.
By Connie Emerson

During winter in Nevada when you want a change of pace—or temperature—you don't have to go far to find it. Our state is large, stretching from 35 to 42 degrees latitude (about the same distance as from Charlotte, North Carolina, to New York City), and its altitude varies from 490 to 13,140 feet, so differences in climate and terrain are enormous. Too, the people who live and visit here have an extremely wide range of ideas as to what constitutes fun.

As a result, there's a diversity of places and pleasures in the state that you won't encounter in many other parts of the country Ski one weekend, sunbathe the next. Rough it in a rustic campsite, or stay in a $1,000 luxury suite. The following is a sampling of those diverse winter getaways.

The Tahoe Alps

Lake Tahoe's lodging places have, for years, epitomized the best in winter retreats. Be they chalet-style cabins, luxury condos, or high-rise resorts, their proximity to the lake and the ski slopes insure their popularity

Places like the Big Four at Stateline—Harvey's, Harrah's, High Sierra, and Caesars Tahoe—are the choice of people who like to combine nature's beautiful sights with the beautiful sounds of coins clinking in slot-machine trays.

Some Tahoe vacationers find the ultimate in serenity at tucked-away inns and resorts. One such retreat is the Eagle's Nest. With its clock tower and European-style furniture, this inn seems to have stepped out of the Alps. The atmosphere extends to the dining room, where waitresses wear white peasant blouses, bodices, and dirndls. The lines of the wood and stone exterior are quintessentially old world.

> Although Stateline's sky glows to the northwest, the only sounds you'll hear are those of your boots on the snow.

The European atmosphere is no accident, although the reason its owner landed in the United States was. Tito Pordon came as a member of the Italian ski team to Squaw Valley for the 1960 Olympics. But his Olympic hopes were dashed with a bad fall that put him in a Reno hospital. His doctor, taking pity on the disappointed young man who couldn't speak English, found him an interpreter—Barbara Sbragia of Reno.

Romance blossomed, and the two were married, moved to Italy, and then returned to the U.S. After working as a truck driver for two decades, in 1984 Pordon realized his lifelong dream of opening a European-style inn.

On a sunny, cloudless day, the Eagle's Nest, perched a quarter-mile off Kingsbury Grade, seems continents rather than a few minutes from the bustle of the South Shore. Although you can see Stateline's sky glow to the northwest, the only sounds you'll hear on a winter's night are those of your boots as they scrunch on the snow Crystals of ice decorate the fir trees, and smoke curls cozily from the chimneys.

Most mornings are crisp, with faultless blue skies ideal for sitting on the deck and drinking your first cup of coffee. You can take early-morning walks along roads with names like Quaking Aspen and Needle Peak. Skiing starts outside the Inn's front door, with Heavenly Valley's Stagecoach ski lift just a few hundred feet away and the Boulder lift a bit farther. After a day on the slopes, it's time to relax in the whirlpool in your suite.

When the snow's falling hard enough that you'd rather not be skiing, you can curl up on your bed with its eyelet-trimmed coverlet and start the novel you've been too busy to read. Or you might chose to wander down to the lounge, where there will be a fire blaz-

Skiers can schuss and admire the views at Lake Tahoe resorts like Diamond Peak at Ski Incline (top).Those vacationers who never want to see snow can visit Laughlin, the river town where RVs are plentiful and the nights are balmy.

Photos: Jay Aldrich (top), John Daelick (bottom)


PIONEER
HOTEL • CASINO
NEVADA
Del Webb's
CLUB
NO • SLOTS

ing in the stone fireplace.

The dining room menu is continental with a decidedly Italian accent. Breakfasts include croissants, Italian omelettes, and cappuccino as well as traditional American fare. Among the dinner entrees are veal saltimbocca and lasagne alla Toscana.

Thus, from morning till night, you could call it Tahoe's Alpian way.

Hot Sun Spot

According to the U.S. Weather Service, Laughlin—that three-mile strip of glitz and glitter at the edge of the southern Nevada desert—has the highest average wintertime temperatures in the state. For instance, consider the balmy average high of 71.5 degrees for January 1988.

"Each winter when we're running around in our shirt-sleeves, I think about my neighbors back in Reno and how they're all bundled up in sweaters and coats," says Betty Adams, a retiree who goes to Laughlin each January with a group of friends.

In addition to being Nevada's hottest winter spot, Laughlin is also its latest boom town. Nine hotel-casinos and a smaller gambling hall line the west bank of the Colorado River, and two more casinos are being built while three are adding on.

Only about 3,500 people live in town now, but the population is projected to reach 30,000 by the year 2000. All this means that if you like watching bulldozers and cranes, inspecting model homes, and going to shopping-center openings, you'll have lots to keep you busy while you're getting that suntan.

Laughlin is a last frontier sort of place, where people are friendly and you don't have to get all gussied up when you go to dinner. The pace is slower than in most parts of the country—unless you're one of those construction workers.

If you want to check out Laughlin's casinos, hop on the shuttle bus that travels down Casino Drive every 30 minutes (the fare is 50 cents, exact change required). Or cross the Colorado River to the Arizona side on one of the free passenger boats that ply the river. The trip doesn't take long, and it offers the chance to take some great photos.

You'll find that hotel rates are lower in Laughlin than just about anywhere else in the state—$19 and even less a night during midweek. If you have a recreational vehicle, your getaway will cost still less. Although there's only one RV park in town, RV owners are actually encouraged to park their rigs in the casinos' parking lots for up to three days at a time.





A bird's-eye shows the Eagle's Nest (top) while Glitter Gulch shines brightly.

The Big Splurge

If you're not adverse to a little hedonism and—this is somewhat important—have the money to pay for your pleasures, you might consider a luxury weekend in Las Vegas.

First, you check into your hotel suite. The height of luxury at the Las Vegas Hilton—a 29th floor suite—costs $875 to $950 for one bedroom, $1,250 for two. You'll have lots of room to stretch out with your 27-by-19-foot parlor and a spacious terrace with panoramic views of the city. In fact, the suite will be so big you'll be able to entertain 80 of your friends for cocktails without feeling crowded.

For dinner, you'll want to try Le Montrachet, the hotel's gourmet restaurant. Start with oysters, clams, lobster medallions, and jumbo shrimps on ice ($18.50), then cream of asparagus soup ($5.75). The salad Californienne, with avocado slices, alfalfa sprouts, and other good things ($6) and roast breast of duckling with peaches ($30) or medallions of venison ($32) will round out your meal nicely, especially if you top it off with white espresso ice

Photos: Jay Aldrich (top), Las Vegas News Bureau (bottom)

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Please allow four weeks for delivery. California residents must add 6.5% sales tax.

More Getaways, Snow or Less

The following vacation ideas are suited to those who like their winters hot or cold:

Heli-Skiing in the Ruby Mountains. The cost: $1,200 for a three-day package includes lodging at the Breitenstein House or Pine Lodge in Lamoille or at the Red Lion Inn in Elko, full breakfasts, and lunch on the slopes. The promise: a guaranteed 3,900 lineal feet of skiing. Each day, unless weather prohibits it, a helicopter ferries skiers up from the valley floor to the virgin slopes of the Rubies for 20- to 40-minute ski runs, usually on fresh powder Skiers are advised to be fit enough to ski all day. Phone 702-753-7628.

Exploring Valley of Fire State Park. Hike or drive around this outdoor extravaganza of red, pink and orange-colored sandstone formations with names like Elephant and Beehive Rocks. Examine the ancient petroglyphs at Atlatl Rock and in Petroglyph Canyon, a secluded canyon that leads to Mouse's Tank. Be sure to bring along a picnic lunch, since refreshments aren't available in the park, which is 55 miles northeast of Las Vegas and 12 miles south of Overton.

Cross-Country Skiing at Great Basin National Park. If you're looking for solitude, you'll find it in the country's newest national park in wintertime. Although they're generally not marked, it's easy to follow the unplowed roads and foot paths that make up the trail system. One of the most interesting trails leads past Stella Lake to a bristlecone forest. It's uphill all the way but worth the climb. Be alert to changes in the weather, because storms come up quickly. And if you expect to be hungry, be aware that the park's food concessions are open only in summer.

Soaking at Walley's Hot Springs. When spring seems as though it will never come, you can drive 43 miles south of Reno to this oasis just south of Genoa where the season seems to start a bit earlier than anywhere else. Five geothermal pools, each of which hold 13 people, will warm your bones while the view of the mountains warms your soul. The temperature of the water in the swimming pool is kept at about 82 degrees, so you can swim outdoors even in January There are five cabins as well as a restaurant with a Sunday brunch that attracts diners from miles away. Phone 702-883-6556.



Skiing Charleston's Lee Canyon.

Houseboating on Lake Mead. It's easy to get away from it all on the largest man-made body of water in the United States. Just rent a houseboat and glide away from any of the lake's six marinas to explore the 550 miles of shore line. The houseboats come with fully equipped kitchens, bathrooms with shower or tub, a dinette, built-in bunks, deck chairs, an ice chest, stereo cassette, and a gas barbecue. All you need to bring are the groceries and your fishing rod.

Skiing Mount Charleston. Forty-five miles from the Las Vegas Strip, the Lee Canyon area of Mount Charleston—in the heat of summer, a cool retreat—gets downright chilly in winter (see page 64). Its 8,000-foot elevation produces enough snow for downhill skiing at Lee Canyon Ski Area, which has three double chairlifts, a beginners' hill, and lots of ponderosa pines and fresh air. Mount Charleston Inn, with 63 guest rooms, is the place to stay if you want to be a few miles from the slopes.—*Connie Emerson*

cream in a chocolate swan ($10.50). As for wine, the restaurant's cellar gives you 400 choices.

After you've wined and dined, arrange for the next day's car and driver. Perhaps a Rolls-Royce. Then, start thinking about where to go. There's shopping at the Fashion Show Mall, where you can buy designer furs or an original Chagall.

It might be fun to hire a helicopter for a look at the Strip from another perspective; a half-hour tour of Las Vegas and Hoover Dam costs about $65 per person, or $225 if you want to picnic on the floor of the Grand Canyon. Unless, of course, you're one of the highest of the high rollers. In that case you may be invited for a Lake Mead cruise, complete with champagne and caviar, on a casino's luxury yacht.

Perhaps you want to include your body and physical spirit in all this indulgence. If so, check in to the Desert Inn for the four-day spa package. For $400 (not including room or meals), your body will receive the ultimate in attention—four half-hour massages, two hour facials, four private whirlpool sessions, three herbal wraps, two loofa scrubs, a salt glow scrub, manicure, pedicure, and unlimited group fitness classes.

Women get a shampoo and set, men a haircut and blow dry. Since spa facilities are available only to hotel guests, you should budget about $105 a night if you want a room. Suites with their own swimming pools start at $500.

Warm People, Cold Fish

In the wilds of northeastern Nevada, locals swear that the only reason weathermen on nightly TV don't announce Wildhorse Reservoir as the coldest spot in the U.S. is because it doesn't have an official weather station. So rather than trying to hide from the cold blast of winter, why not face it head-on and go to Wildhorse for some ice fishing.

To get to the reservoir on the Owyhee River, you drive due north of Elko for an hour or more, through a vast expanse populated by only a few cows and fewer people. On the 70-mile trip you'll rarely meet another car, for

(Continued on page 63)

Photo: Kate Butler

That Dam Hotel

A hideaway for the rich and famous in the '30s, the Boulder Dam Hotel has been a heartbreak hotel for a long succession of owners who fell under its spell, but now it has a new lease on life.
By Dennis McBride



Since its doors opened, the Boulder Dam Hotel has stood virtually unchanged for more than half a century.

Nowhere else in Nevada is there a place like the Boulder Dam Hotel.

There's an enduring sense of otherworldliness here, where reality slips beyond reach like a cat along the corridors, and where the cool whispers of what's gone before tickle your ear. Even if you come through the front door of the hotel ignorant of its history or insensitive to the beat of its subterranean heart, you'll never leave untouched or escape the seduction of its secret life.

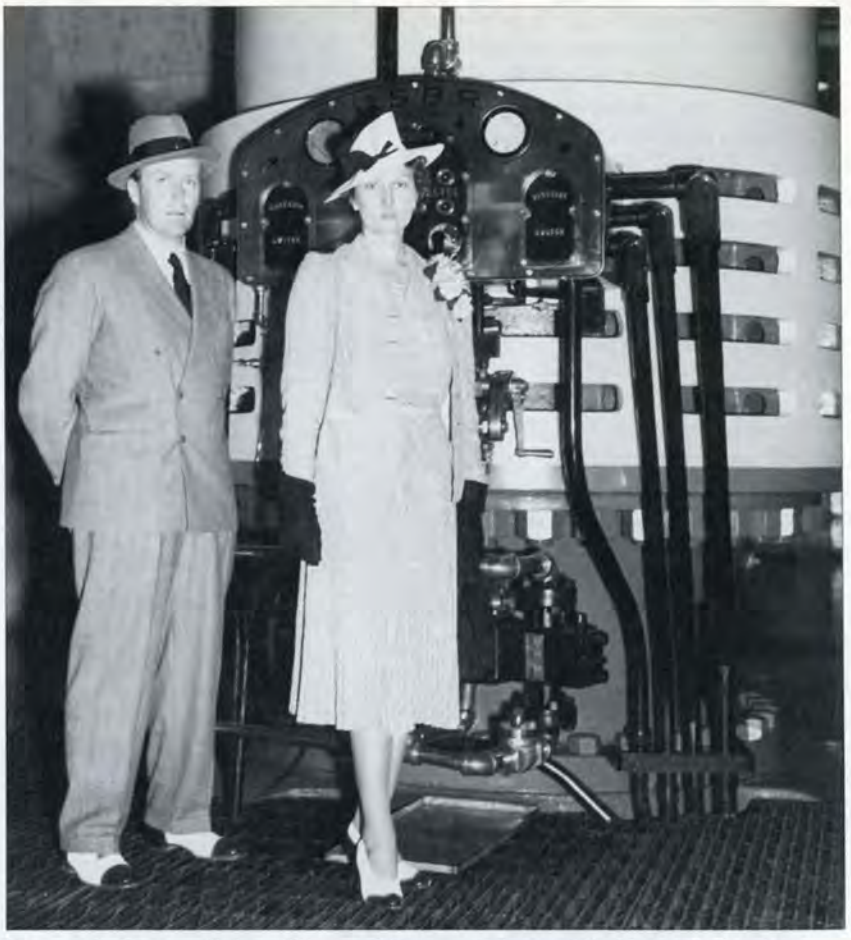
> The hotel was glamorous when glamour was more than Reeboks and BMWs.

The Boulder Dam Hotel has stood virtually unchanged for more than half a century which in itself is remarkable in southern Nevada. It was elegant when elegance meant more than wearing a tie over your T-shirt, glamorous when glamour was more than Reeboks and BMWs. The hotel has been both a lover of the unloved and a capricious, expensive bitch. It enjoyed a brief, bril-

Photo: Dennis McBride Collection



Maharajah and Maharanee of Indore, India.



Norway's Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Martha visit the dam.

liant period of international fame in the 1930s, endured declining fortunes, and later survived assaults by interior decorators and a threat of demolition.

It stands now resurrected on Boulder City's Arizona Street, watching passersby through white columns that line the porch like bones, enticing them in to enjoy for a little while the pleasures of the past.

"The Boulder Dam Hotel was the only respectable hotel in southern Nevada," remembers Joe Pittman, a bellhop there in the 1930s. "People were afraid to stay in Las Vegas because it was a rough railroad town. There were men there working in construction and mining, and there was open prostitution down on Block Sixteen. Las Vegas was as much a tourist attraction as Boulder Dam. Tourists would want to *see* Vegas, but they wouldn't stay there."

It was that missing air of respectability that the Boulder Dam Hotel provided when it opened on December 15, 1933. Built of cement bricks manufactured in Boulder City, the hotel was a Dutch Colonial anomaly set in a business district whose architecture was a hybrid of California Mission and Southwestern Spanish. All the furniture and interior appointments were shipped to Boulder City on the Union Pacific Railroad from Barker Brothers, a prestigious Los Angeles furniture store still in business today With its polished lobby paneled with gumwood, its private bathrooms, and its steam heat and air conditioning, the Boulder Dam Hotel became a favorite haunt of the beautiful, the talented, and the rich, home to characters who no longer exist outside the pages of Agatha Christie novels.

The hotel was home to characters who no longer exist outside the pages of Agatha Christie novels.

There were movie stars like Bette Davis, Ronald Colman, Shirley Temple, Wallace Beery, and Will Rogers. American politicians, foreign presidents, South American millionaires, exotic artists, writers, photographers, and musicians all gathered at the Boulder Dam Hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr. honeymooned there in 1935. G. P Putnam was married on the terrace in 1939. Boris Karloff was divorced there in 1946.

The hotel was even a stylish stopover for such royal jet setters as the Duchess of Westminster, the Maharajah and Maharanee of Indore, Crown Prince Olav and Crown Princess Martha of Norway, Prince Otto Hapsburg of Austria, who strutted Arizona Street in a 10-gallon hat, and Cardinal Pacelli, who was soon to become Pope Pius XII.

"The place was oozing with celebrities," recalls Joe Pittman's wife, Anne, a dining room waitress at the hotel during the '30s. "There was a socialite from New York who was collecting Indian artifacts and went out from the hotel on expeditions. Fred MacMurray came up to Lake Mead to fish, and he always stayed at the hotel. The kitchen used to fry up the fish he caught for his dinner.



The hotel has long been an attraction in Boulder City's downtown plaza area.



The future Pope Pius XII stayed at the hotel.

I remember Sonja Heine was there, and Sophie Tucker, and Robert Taylor. He came in the summer when the temperature was around 114 degrees, and he was astounded anyone could live like that.

"You mingled more with the guests at the Boulder Dam Hotel than you would have in a bigger, more expensive hotel in the East or on the West Coast because there was nothing to do in Boulder but hang around the hotel. People talked to one another. A lot of guests were just lonely, too: the divorcees, the travelers, the millionaires."

The hotel in those years was the social center for Boulder City's upper crust. Wives of the government and company executives involved in Hoover Dam's construction played bridge there, hosted coming-out parties for their daughters, entertained their wealthy friends, celebrated Christmas and New Year's in the dining room.

But while all the pomp and drama went on upstairs, the fun was downstairs in the Help's Hall.

Manager Victoria Thompson, a Kate Smith clone fondly recalled as the Blonde Bitch, hosted private liquor parties in the hotel in 1935 and 1936, when sale or possession of booze in Boulder City would get you thrown out of town.

"She'd invite special guests," says Lila Young, Thompson's switchboard operator, "and there were a lot of people in Boulder she especially did *not* invite. She always had movie stars staying there and she kept liquor around for them.

"Mrs. Thompson drank, too, and she fell down that whole flight of stairs in the lobby once," Young continues. "She used to send me into Las Vegas for liquor, and I'd smuggle it back into town. I'd get the chef something, and Mrs. Thompson kept hers hidden up in her room."

While all the pomp and drama went on upstairs, the fun was downstairs in the Help's Hall.

Gambling was—and still is—illegal in Boulder City, but that didn't stop hotel employees, guests, and influential Boulderites from enjoying poker marathons and floating craps games in the basement.

"Bill Getz, Boulder City's chief ranger, was at the poker games more than anyone," says Joe Pittman. "I was there when I could afford it."

There were even rumors, persistent today, that prostitutes entertained Boulder officials and their well-heeled friends in rooms at the back of the second floor.

The Boulder Dam Hotel was the dream of Southern California building contractor Paul S. "Jimmy" Webb, who built posh mansions in Beverly Hills during the 1920s. Webb's many wealthy friends included mining executive Raymond Spilsbury, who was Webb's business partner in several Boulder City ventures. It was Spilsbury's money that largely financed construction of the Boulder Dam Hotel in 1933 and its expansions in 1934 and 1935 when the dining room

Photos: Dennis McBride Collection

was added.

Webb believed that bigger was better, and he conceived the hotel as the headquarters of a vast Southwestern playground. This led him into partnership with millionaire aviator and inventor Glover E. "Roxie" Ruckstell, with whom he formed Grand Canyon-Boulder Dam Tours, Inc. (GCBDT) in 1936. The company conducted tours into the Grand Canyon and to Pierce's Ferry the Valley of Fire, Las Vegas, and Death Valley

Yet by 1940 GCBDT had overextended itself, lost money, and sank many local investors. Financing that should have gone into maintenance of the hotel was diverted into GCBDT and the hotel, which had not been built as soundly as it might have, got seedy A series of earthquakes in May 1939 cracked walls and ceilings, shattered windows, and smashed furniture.

But 1941 was the year the Boulder Dam Hotel really met its doom. Las Vegas's first luxury resort, the El Rancho Vegas, opened on April 3, and on October 1 the Hualapai Lodge opened on the shore of Lake Mead. Both places lured tourists away from the hotel, partly because they served liquor legally And the El Rancho offered gambling, which the government still prohibited in Boulder City



Harry Won's restaurant was a success.

Finally on December 7, 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, the government closed Hoover Dam, the biggest tourist attraction in the area, and within a few days the Boulder Dam Hotel was empty

By the autumn of 1942 when Ray Spilsbury and his wife, Vona, visited Boulder City, Jimmy Webb was in deep financial trouble, and Spilsbury refused to give him any more money

Instead, the two men divided their Boulder City properties, and the Spilsbury family became sole owner of the Boulder Dam Hotel. They opened the dining room, and business looked promising as the war wound to a close.

But in January 1945, Raymond Spilsbury drove his car to Nelson's Landing on the Colorado River a few miles south of Boulder City and disappeared in a snowstorm down a fisherman's trail. A month later fishermen found his body several miles downstream; his feet had been tied together with his own belt, and his pockets were stuffed with rocks.

A coroner's inquest ruled the death a suicide.

For his wife and infant son, Spilsbury's death was tragic and needless, and it ended Mrs. Spilsbury's efforts to renovate the hotel. In 1946 she



'Stan' by Mike Thompson, Nevada 89

A call for entries

NEVADA 90

16TH TOURING PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT & SLIDE SHOW

NEVADA 90 is the Northeastern Nevada Museum's 16th production of the state's most-attended art exhibit. Since its inception, more than one million people have seen the exhibition and slide show The contest features $1,200 in cash awards, and the show will tour 14 Nevada communities.

Subjects may include anything that captures the spirit and feeling of *Nevada*—ghost towns, people, industry, landscapes, nature, contemporary communities and potpourri. Past entries have come from 28 states, Germany, and Switzerland.

Send for entry forms and rules no later than January 10, 1990. Deadline for receipt of photographs and color slides is February 9, 1990. Show opens in Elko March 27, 1990. **Write: Northeastern Nevada Museum, Attention: NEVADA 90, Box 2550, Elko, NV 89801. PHONE 702-738-3418.**

Photo: Dennis McBride Collection

About the only good thing to come out of the hotel's tar pit of litigation, failed leases, and bankruptcy was Harry Won.

and her brother-in-law Chauncey sold the place, and during the next 43 years the Boulder Dam Hotel had its name changed twice and slipped through the hands of 15 different owners. In each case, no matter how altruistic or opportunistic their motives, the hotel led these otherwise savvy business people into personal disappointment and financial ruin.

About the only good thing to come out of the hotel's tar pit of litigation, failed leases, bankruptcy, duplicity, and unexpected death was Harry Won.

A Cantonese immigrant, Won leased the hotel dining room from 1946 till 1958. He'd owned Chinese restaurants all over Nevada in the 1930s, and Boulderites still recall fondly the chow mein and egg rolls they enjoyed at the Boulder Dam Hotel Cafe when Harry ran it.

"Past owners ran the dining room a few months," Won says, "then it closed, then they opened a few months and closed again. No one could run it except me because I'm a good cook, the prices were cheap, and everybody was satisfied. The whole town was happy!"

For most of the 1960s the Bureau of Reclamation rented rooms in the hotel for offices, and from 1969 to 1973 it was a retirement home. Closed by litigation for three years, the hotel had fallen deeply into disrepair and disrepute by the late 1970s. It was Boulder City's great white elephant.

The first effort to restore the hotel by someone who recognized its historical significance came in 1980 when then-State Senator Cliff McCorkle of Reno bought it.

Like everyone before him, McCorkle was seduced by the Boulder Dam Hotel.

"On seeing it, I instantly saw its potential." he explained during an inter-

(Continued on page 76)

This is paradise.  The Tropics Package on the Island of Las Vegas. It's 3 days and 2 nights in a  luxurious Garden room. And a bountiful Island Buffet breakfast  and dinner. It's  the fabulous Folies Bergere, with cocktails. And it's all for $69.95.* The Tropics Package. Paradise at its best. And remember, the Island has a  championship 18-hole golf course. For reservations, call 1-800-GO 2 TROP. Great rates. Great packages. Only on the Island. 

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ROOM BOOM

When the dust clears, Las Vegas will have eight of the world's 10 largest hotels.
By Stephen Allen



When the old El Rancho Vegas opened on what was to become the Las Vegas Strip 'way back in 1941, the smart money in downtown Las Vegas said the resort would never succeed because it was too far out of town.

One wonders what the same smart money would say today if they could read this statistic:

By the end of 1990, Las Vegas will have eight of the 10 largest hotels in the world.

And that's in a city with a population of little more than 700,000.

The two biggest hotels were under construction this fall. Golden Nugget mogul Steve Wynn was preparing to open his monumental 3,400-room resort, The Mirage, on the Strip right next to Caesars Palace, in early December. The resort's three-armed tower is surrounded by thousands of palm trees and fronted by waterfalls.

For a few months The Mirage will be "the largest luxury resort hotel in the world," having taken the title from the longtime champ, the 3,174-room Las Vegas Hilton. Then in mid-1990, the 4,000-room Excalibur will open on the southern reaches of the Strip across from the Tropicana, and then *it* will be "the largest luxury resort hotel in the world."

But wait a minute. How about the 5,000-room Rossiya Hotel in Moscow, which really is the largest hotel in the world?

"All right," said a Hilton exec who asked not to be named. "So we're the largest luxury resort hotel in the world where you can get running water above the ninth floor. We're the largest luxury resort hotel in the world where you can get room service during your own lifetime."

He also could have pointed out that many of the Rossiya's rooms are leased on a permanent basis to party bigwigs, so it really doesn't count.

At any rate, it all comes down to this: If Las Vegas had an official bird, surely it would be the ubiquitous Building Crane. They're all over the city.

Here are the top eight Las Vegas hotels, in the order of their present or soon-to-come ranking:

1. *Excalibur* This resort is being built by the Circus Circus people, who are generally conceded to have the most financially successful property in Las Vegas. If their annual occupancy rate drops to 98 percent, Executive Vice President Mel Larson likes to say, only half-jokingly, he starts looking around to find out "what the hell is wrong." (In case you are not in the hotel business, an annual hotel occupancy rate of 98

percent is something that would make the Waldorf-Astoria—or even Leona Helmsley—weep.)

After sweeping through England, Germany, and France on a search for a design for their new hotel, Circus Circus execs finally came up with a castle that met their needs. More than anything else, Excalibur will remind you of the many-turreted Neuschswanstein castle of Mad King Ludwig in Bavaria.

2. *Riviera:* A tower is being built that will add another 1,800 rooms to the hotel, thus giving it a total of about 4,000 rooms and making it the largest privately-owned hotel in the world. The Riviera is owned by Meshulam Riklis, who also is the hubby of Pia Zadora, who sometimes sings there.

3. *Flamingo Hilton:* It's adding another 750-room tower, which will bring this Hilton's total to 3,670 rooms by March 1990.

4. *The Mirage:* Rumor has it that Donald Trump has not yet bought into Las Vegas because he simply cannot figure out a way to top Wynn's resort. Incidentally, The Mirage is the first new hotel to be built on the Strip since the MGM Grand opened in 1974.

5. *Las Vegas Hilton*: 3,174 rooms.

6. *Bally's*, formerly the MGM Grand: 2,832 rooms.

7 *Circus Circus:* 2,793 rooms.

8. *Imperial Palace:* 2,637 rooms.

Another Las Vegas phenomenon of the last few years has been the appearance and success of non-gaming hotels. The first was the beautiful Alexis Park, located not far from the airport. The smart money at the time said, "A Las Vegas hotel without a casino? Gimme a break. It will never fly." And we all know how smart the smart money is.

The second non-gaming hotel, right next door, was the St. Tropez, which is now owned by Ramada. The third was Marriott's Residence Inn Las Vegas across from the convention center. All of them have been successes.

Some people, including Donald Trump, have suggested that Las Vegas is overbuilding and that in a couple of years you will be able to pick up properties for a song. Steve Wynn has suggested to Mr. Trump that he shouldn't hold his breath waiting for such a trend.

But when you have two guys whose last names are Wynn and Trump, you know they're going to be at it for a long, long time. Las Vegas can only benefit.

"We're seeing a three-year supply of rooms come on all at once," said John Giovenco, president of the Hilton Nevada Corporation. "You can bet there are some places which won't do all that well. It depends on which owners have pockets deep enough to keep up."

"I think the hotels that are expanding will do well," said Glenn Schaeffer, senior vice president of Circus Circus. "But it will be tougher on the marginal operations."

Some other Las Vegas hotel developments:

Caesars Palace is planning an 875,000-square-foot shopping complex on its north side.

The Frontier is adding another 410 rooms, which will give it about 1,000.

The Holiday Inn, working on another 730 rooms, will have 1,725 by early 1990.

The Lady Luck just added a 400-room tower, making it the third largest hotel in the downtown area.

Rio Suites, a 430-suite hotel across from the Gold Coast on Flamingo Road, opens this January

The Sahara recently added another 570 rooms, giving it a total of about 1,500.

The Sands is planning a 1,300-room tower.

Sheraton has purchased 15 acres near the Strip.

The Stardust plans a major expansion of 1,500 rooms in a 32-story tower, which would give it nearly 3,000.

Vegas World is adding another 380 rooms, which will give it about 900.

In case you were wondering, the world's 10th biggest hotel is the 2,566-room Hilton Hawaiian Village in Honolulu. But it could be bumped by yet another Las Vegas project—the proposed new MGM Grand. Kirk Kerkorian, who sold his original MGM Grands in Vegas and Reno to Bally's but retained rights to the name, has announced plans for a 4,000-room hotel and movieland theme park to be built near the Desert Inn.

And that would give Las Vegas nine out of 10.

Stephen Allen is a writer with the Las Vegas News Bureau and widely published free-lance travel writer



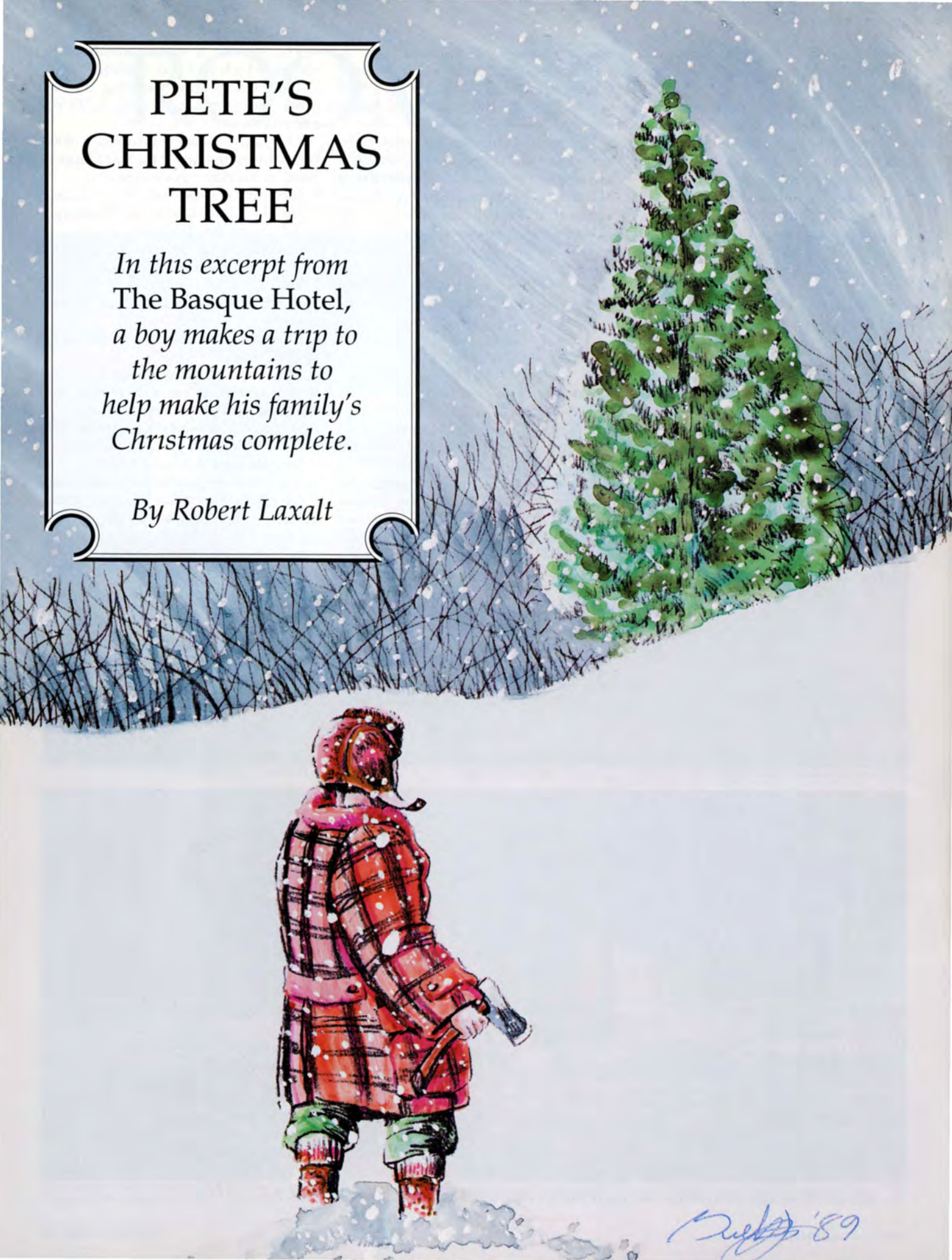
The Mirage (upper left) has a three-armed tower like the Hilton and landscaping like no other Excalibur (above) will be room king.

Photos: Las Vegas News Bureau

PETE'S CHRISTMAS TREE

In this excerpt from The Basque Hotel, *a boy makes a trip to the mountains to help make his family's Christmas complete.*

By Robert Laxalt



In Robert Laxalt's new novel, The Basque Hotel, *the boy Pete comes of age in Carson City in the 1930s, when Carson was the smallest capital in the United States and local school children "accepted the boast and repeated it to each other as dutifully as if it were one of the Commandments."*

Amid this small-town setting Pete lives with his mother and father brothers and sisters at the family's hotel-boardinghouse. As the seasons change, Pete becomes more aware of, and reacts to, his parents' old-country ways as he seeks his own path in life.

The thin line of poplars that served the town as windbreak also marked the outer limits of the houses. The poplars' upward-thrusting branches had long since been blown clean of leaves, the sap had run back into their tapered trunks, and now they stood gray and dead with winter.

Lingering in their uncertain shelter, Pete knew a moment of uncertainty. Beyond the poplars was the unknown. Behind him was the certainty of home and shelter. When he had started out secretly from the little hotel, it had all seemed so simple. Now, he was not so sure. Then he remembered something that Miss Benton had quoted from a story they were reading in class: *To be afraid of a thing and yet to do it is what makes the prettiest kind of man.*

Picturing the explorers who must have repeated the same words, Pete steeled himself and set out resolutely, deliberating which canyon he should choose. The wind began unexpectedly to rise, pouring out of the west and filling the bare branches with a soft roar. It flowed into his face, parting at his forehead and slipping past his cheekbones in a frozen stream.

Without a backward look at town, he chose his canyon and set out across the white expanse of fields that stretched from the line of poplars to where the deep forested mountains began. He felt secure in his Mackinaw jacket and boots and Lindy helmet, but he caught himself wishing he had worn his mittens, even though his friends said gloves were sissy The left hand that held the hatchet was beginning to sting with cold. He remedied that by transferring the hatchet to his right hand and stuffing the other into the pocket of his Mackinaw until it could get warm again. In the deep pocket, his hand joined company with the bread and ham he had brought along as provisions. The book had said that was necessary for an expedition into the wilderness.

With frightening swiftness, the wind became stronger as though slow-moving nature had suddenly decided to show what it was capable of doing. White fragments of clouds led the storm, tearing over the white mountain peaks. The wind swept the light snow from the last storm off the pack that lay over the fields and whipped it into his face like slivers of ice. The eddies of the blown snow moved toward him like an invading army of wraiths.

As the explorers had, Pete bent his head to the storm and trudged onwards. For minutes at a time he was enveloped by drifting snow He reveled in it. When he stopped to catch his breath, the world was overwhelmingly silent as if all sound had been caught between the softness underfoot and the softness overhead. The world became confined to a very little space around him, and he resented the times when the wind dropped and the veil of snow cleared to reveal patches of blue in the sky.

A thicket of willows loomed in the swirling white mist, and Pete decided to take refuge and eat some of his provisions. The mountains were upon him now and he would need his strength. Getting down on his knees, he burrowed into the willow thicket until he found a pocket that was protected from the wind. There were tiny, weightless tracks on the dusting of snow Pete was delighted to find that sparrows had used this place as refuge, too. It meant that he had chosen wisely

With the thick network of little branches surrounding him, it was almost like a cave. He brushed away the snow and the top leaves until he uncovered a layer that was only slightly wet, and hunkered down to eat. But when he tried opening the blade of his jack knife, he found that his fingers were getting numb. He gave it up and bit into the quarter loaf of bread and chewed the ham that had been cured with red pepper and admitted to himself that he was a damn fool for not bringing his mittens.

> Pete had tiptoed to the door and opened it a crack just in time to see Santa Claus hoisting a shot glass of whiskey to his lips.

For the first time, he also caught himself wishing that he had asked one of his brothers to come with him. But having wished it, he put it out of his mind. The tree was to be his doing alone.

It wasn't that the family could not afford to buy a tree or that his father could not go cut one. It was just that neither his father nor his mother seemed to know that a Christmas tree went with Christmas, and the reason was tied up somehow with all the other unexplained things that came out of what they called "the old country"

Pete had considered telling them, but he had not been able to summon up the courage. Whatever way it came out, it would have amounted to a reproach on his part and a failing on theirs. So, there was nothing else to do but keep quiet or tell a lie when his friends who lived in real houses instead of a hotel talked about their Christmas trees. Or worse yet, to have to walk past their homes on the back streets and see the dull glitter of Christmas trees trimmed with tinsel peeping through the windows and feel a pang of loss because Christmas in his family was not complete.

Chewing on the ham that burned the roof of his mouth. Pete reflected that the business of a tree meant more to him than Santa Claus. He had lost his illusions about Santa Claus at a very early age. It happened one night after the American Legion Christmas party for all the kids in town, when they had trooped up dutifully to accept their presents from that terrifying apparition in a red costume and a long white beard.

When the American Legion party was done, he and his brothers and sisters had gone straight to the kitchen of the little hotel to open their presents. The front door of the hotel burst open and Santa Claus came shuffling down the long dining room jingling the sleigh bells he carried over one shoulder. They had all scurried for cover to their common bedroom and locked the door.

Santa Claus did not pursue them, but they could hear his

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Illustration: Brian Buckley

hearty laugh and the jingling of the bells from the kitchen. Pete had tiptoed to the door and opened it a crack just in time to see Santa Claus hoisting a shot glass of whiskey to his lips. The revelation that Santa Claus drank whiskey did not bother Pete, but the way in which his lips curled around the shot glass did. There was only one man who drank his whiskey that way The menace of the apparition dissolved and Pete knew that Santa Claus was only the old prospector, Mickey McCluskey, got up in costume.

Scattering the remains of his bread and ham on the dusting of snow around him for the sparrows to eat, Pete crawled stiffly out of his willow cave. When he stood up, his heart gave a little jump of fear. The wind had died, but it had done its work of bringing in the storm. The air was so filled with huge snowflakes that he could barely make out the evergreens on the white mountain above him. He took a backward look across the fields to town, but the town was no longer to be seen. His chest tightened with a spasm of terror, and he very nearly abandoned his quest. But when he faced the mountain again, the stubborn streak in him took hold. He had come too far to give up now.

Again, Pete bent his head to the storm, but this time it had nothing to do with pretending he was an explorer. There was a Christmas tree to be cut, and in a hurry, before the snow got too deep. It was already around his waist, and the higher he climbed, the deeper it got.

Without being aware of it, he was following the firm backbone of a ridge that led into the mountains. He had no way of knowing that the inviting smoothness of the ravine below meant really deep snow that concealed many things. But it was in the ravine that he saw what he had come in search of. Through the fragmented curtain of falling snow, he made out the form of a perfect Christmas tree of feathered fir almost hidden in a grove of giant pines, and he went down into the ravine. In one hopeless instant of realization, he knew he had made a mistake. He stepped off solid footing into nothing.

He screamed one lost scream as the snow enveloped him and closed over his head. He began flailing to beat the suffocating substance of it from his nose and mouth. His fall ended, but he did not pay any attention to that. To his astonishment, he found that he could breathe. He cowered in the white darkness, coughing out the snow that had gotten into his throat and gulping lungfuls of air. When he was breathing regularly again, the terror began to ebb and he saw that his hands had beaten out a pocket in front of his face. He stood without daring to move and so disturb that fragile space of air that meant breath and life. The snow that had burned his nostrils and his lungs had also given him his first smell of death.

It was a long time before he felt the trickle of melting snow running down inside his collar and across his back. When it washed its way into his consciousness, he realized that he had been staring without comprehension at a patch of bare earth showing through the wall of snow in front of him. His eyes clung to the presence of dirt as if it were the only permanent thing in life.

He was thinking more clearly now. The dirt meant that he had fallen into a hole, and he tried to recall how far he had fallen. He remembered that it had not been far at all, and for an instant, he was reassured. Then the thought struck him that he may be upside down, and the terror returned and he began to sob. He surrendered to the crying until he could cry no more, and then his mind was clear again. Now, he knew that his fall had been a sliding one and that he had not rolled.

Tentatively, he moved his hand out to scrape the snow from around the patch of earth. His fingertips told him two things. The ground sloped out gradually, so he had to be standing right side up. Also, it was scarred with the deep grooves that a miner's pick makes. The feel of the grooves was familiar to him. In the other mountains, the desert mountains to the east of town, he and Tony had climbed into enough prospectors' holes scarred with the same kind of grooves.

In one hopeless instant of realization, he knew he had made a mistake. He stepped off solid footing into nothing.

All it would take to get out would be one sustained scramble. Unless he slipped. At the prospect of that, his courage faltered. He closed his eyes and heard himself reciting a Hail Mary. It was not a very good one, because the voice he heard was a whimper. He recited another and then another and heard his voice grow stronger.

When he opened his eyes again, he knew there was no choice for him. It was either stay in the hole and die without trying, or die trying to get out. Bringing his legs together slowly, he took in as much air as his lungs could hold, and lunged for the side of the hole. With hands and feet clawing at the earth behind the snow, he propelled himself upwards. He did not slip, but his lungs could not hold breath any longer. His mouth gaped open and the snow came in, and then in the next instant, his head had burst through into the air.

Vomiting the snow out of his throat, he went down on all fours and dug his way like a burrowing animal to the blurred outline of a pine with low hanging limbs. When he gained it, he reached up and his hands closed over the rough bark of an unyielding branch. He clung to the branch like a man drowning.

After a while, the trembling stopped and he realized that the snow on which his feet trailed was firm. He let himself down easily and stood upright. In disbelief, he shifted his weight from one foot to the other to feel the solidity beneath him. When he raised his eyes, he saw the ridge above him and the tracks he had made coming down into the ravine. The tracks were filling with new snow, but suddenly, the fact that it was snowing was a matter of no consequence. He had escaped from the hole that had almost been his grave, and he was alive. All that was needed now was to follow his own tracks home.

And then, two things met his eyes almost at the same instant. One was the brown wood handle of the hatchet peeping like a traitor out of the snow where it had been flung when he began to fall, and directly in front of him, the feathered little tree he had come down to cut. He stared at the tree in despair. All he wanted was to be free of his obligation and go home to warmth. But there was no escaping. He had come too far to go home empty handed. With bitterness in his heart, he picked up the hatchet and plowed his way to the tree and cut it down.

Afterwards, he could not remember much of the long trip home, except that the boughs of the tree on his shoulder kept

obscuring his vision and that he fell less often when he had descended from the mountain and gained the even ground of the fields.

He had planned to rest when he reached the safety of the thin line of poplars on the edge of town, but it did not seem worthwhile. By then, he had lost sensation in the hand that held the hatchet, he could not feel the tree trunk biting into his shoulder anymore, and home was only a few blocks away The lights had come on in the houses on the back streets, and snowflakes played in the glow from the streetlamps overhead. Muffled by closed doors and made soft by falling snow, the high clear voices of children singing carols reached out from a big house.

Main Street was deserted when he reached it. The storm had driven everyone inside. The only lights on his block came from the Columbo and, beyond that, the little hotel. He paused in front of the hotel, trying to straighten himself for the triumphant entry he had daydreamed about sometime in the hazed past. But to straighten up was impossible, so he merely pushed open the door and went inside. Light and warmth and the voices of his sisters, changing in an instant from tears to delight, flooded over him. And then something happened. It was as if the thin wire that had sustained him snapped like a violin string. The tree rolled from his shoulder and the hatchet fell from his hand.

Faces swam into his vision, were transfixed, and then slipped away He saw his father's face and his eyes wild with worry, Mizoo's long face framed by the collar of a heavy coat, the sheriff's fat face in a furry cap and earmuffs and his saying something about a search party, and his mother's face with eyes bigger and darker than he had ever seen and her mouth framing a question.

Pete heard his own voice. It came out in croaking he did not recognize. "It's a Christmas tree."

He tried to take a step. His father caught him when he fell. Pete felt the strong arms close around him and pick him up like a child. And because nothing further was required on his part, Pete leaned his face against his father's chest and went to sleep. ◁

The Basque Hotel, *the eighth book by Reno author Robert Laxalt, was recently published by the University of Nevada Press. The novel, 124 pages in hardcover is $17.95 and available at book stores or through the University of Nevada Press, Reno, NV 89557-0076; phone 702-784-6573 (add $2 shipping for orders made through the Press).*

LAXALT'S 'HOTEL'

Over the past three decades, Robert Laxalt's books have won him recognition around the world. *Sweet Promised Land*, first published in 1957 became a classic, dissected in college classrooms and translated into other languages. *A Man in the Wheatfield*, his 1964 allegorical novel, was selected by the American Library Association as one of six Notable Works of American Fiction published that year, sharing the honor with books by Ernest Hemingway and Saul Bellow. New editions of both of those Laxalt books were published by the University of Nevada Press in 1986 and 1987

His latest book, *The Basque Hotel*, set in Carson City during the 1930s, recreates a time and place the author remembers well. Sheepherders and town characters bring their daily dramas to the kitchen and spartan dining room of the Basque Hotel while Pete, preadolescent son of the hotel's immigrant owners, sees it all. Watching and questioning, Pete gradually begins to understand his world.

"It's not really autobiographical," said Laxalt, who recently became the first occupant of the Distinguished Nevada Author Chair at the University of Nevada, Reno. "Pete isn't me, although I suppose part of him is me, but not entirely. The story is drawn from people I knew and the setting I knew—but the events are invented. I knew these people. Then I created different situations to fit them."

The main idea of the book, Laxalt said, "is simply a boy's rites of passage."

The Basque Hotel is the middle volume, and first to be published, of a trilogy about Basque life in Europe and America, from the turn of the century until the present.

"A few years ago," Laxalt said, "I wanted to write a big novel about the Basques. So I started, and started again, and wrote hundreds of pages and thought I'd never finish it. Then I saw how the story was divided, naturally, into three parts, so I decided to tell it in three volumes."

Since *The Basque Hotel* went to press, Laxalt has almost completed another novel, *Child of the Holy Ghost*, set in the Basque Pyrenees during the early 1900s. It will be volume one of the trilogy. A third volume, almost half finished, will tell a modern story of a Basque American politician who has some things in common with the author's brother, former Nevada governor and U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt. —*Barbara Land*



The author at a book signing.

Photo: Lisa J. Tolda

THE GREAT NEVADA PICTURE HUNT 1989

BIG SHOTS

Cars, cowboys, and clowns proved to be winning subjects in our annual photo contest.

Photographers often find their best subjects in their own backyards. That was the case for Winnemucca photographer Lorraine Giurlani. She was driving on Winnemucca's east side when she came upon a sight that compelled her to return home. After grabbing her camera, wide-angle lens, and tripod, she quickly returned to the scene that had caught her eye—an old car framed by the city's light and a summer storm that hovered over a beautiful sunset.

Giurlani, who considers herself a serious amateur photographer, recalls, "I thought that the combination of all the elements would make a nice photo."

She was right. Her photo, "Winnemucca, Nevada," won first place in this year's Great Nevada Picture Hunt.

Nevada Art Director Brian Buckley, one of the judges in the magazine's annual photo contest, says Giurlani's photo was chosen because of its many levels of values and composition. "The photograph made statements about Nevada, good and bad. It showed man-made objects in decay, yet captured the renewal of nature in the background."

This year more than 200 photographers entered more than 1,200 slides and prints in the Great Nevada Picture Hunt. Buckley and fellow judges Karen Wesner and Patrick Kennedy, both Virginia City photographers, carefully examined them all.

'I really enjoy taking pictures,' says Farren with a laugh. 'If I knew what I was doing I'd be dangerous.'

Their choice for second place was Michelle Farren's "Looking Back," which featured another automobile, this time lovingly restored. Farren was at a Hot August Nights event at Reno's Rancho San Rafael when she photographed three girls with ponytails huddled next to a cherry-red '57 Chevy Farren admits to having no technical knowledge of photography although she's been shooting for several years, often taking her camera to fairs and local events.

"I really enjoy taking pictures, and if I knew what I was doing I'd be dangerous," she laughs.

A view of Reno's skyline during an electrical storm earned David Grippo of Carlin third place for his entry, "Nature's Neon." Judge Kennedy said the photo was well-executed. "I've tried to photograph electrical storms myself. It's risky and difficult. This is a spectacular shot."

Perseverance also paid off for Carole Sabatini of Whittier, California. After entering the Picture Hunt four years in a row, Sabatini won fourth place for her photo of Hoover Dam.

"That perspective of the dam caught my eye. I saw something different, and I shot it," Sabatini says. "I saw various textures, and I wanted to record it."

Jeanne Sharp-Howerton of Las Vegas won fifth place for the second time. She photographed "Tailgate Party," a typical ranching scene at chow time, during a late spring branding in central Nevada.

The three judges agreed that photographers should be entering more quality black-and-white photos in future Picture Hunts. Buckley thought that this year's contest had fewer recreational shots than last year's. Offering a broad hint to 1990 entrants, he added, "I'd like to see more photos of Nevadans having fun."

—Tamara Charland



1st Place: "Winnemucca, Nevada" by Lorraine Giurlani, Winnemucca.



2nd Place: "Looking Back" by Michelle Farren, Reno



9th Place: "Marsh Hawk" by Richard Stephens, Beatty



3rd Place: "Nature's Neon" by David Grippo, Carlin (above)





6th Place: "Thistle" by E.M.Wells, Carson City



Ghost Town: "Railcar and Trunk" by Len Sjosten, Petaluma, CA (above)

5th Place: "Tailgate Party" by Jeanne Sharp-Howerton, Las Vegas (left)



Urban, "Elvis Billboard," by Christopher Taylor Las Vegas



Rural: "Sack Racing" by Elna Johnson, McDermitt



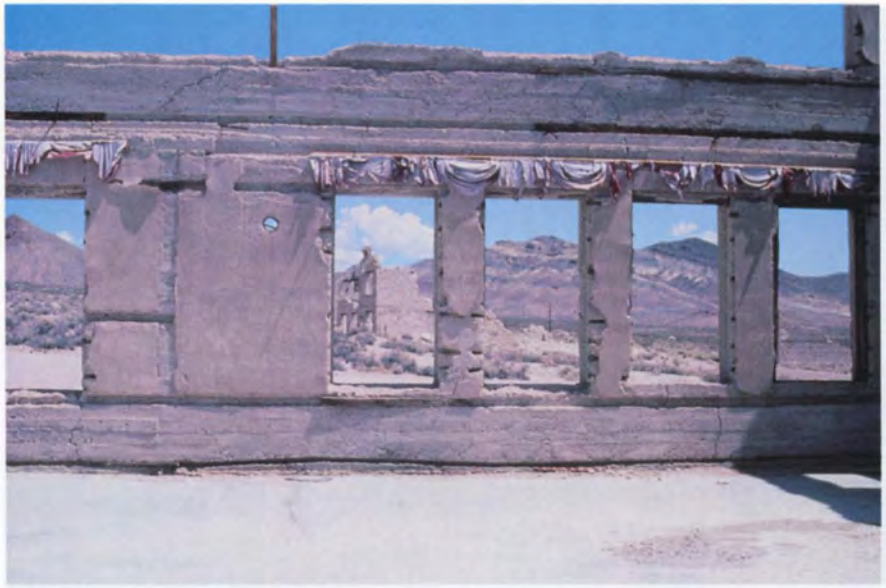
8th Place: "Washoe Sunrise" by Roy Herrick, Reno



4th Place: "Hoover Dam" by Carole Sabatini, Whittier, CA



Merit: "Blue Flax" by Kathy Burkes, Winnemucca



10th Place: "Curtins, Rhyolite" Virginia Powers, Cambridge, MA



Events: "Team Wild Bronc Ride" by Gayland Anderson, Reno



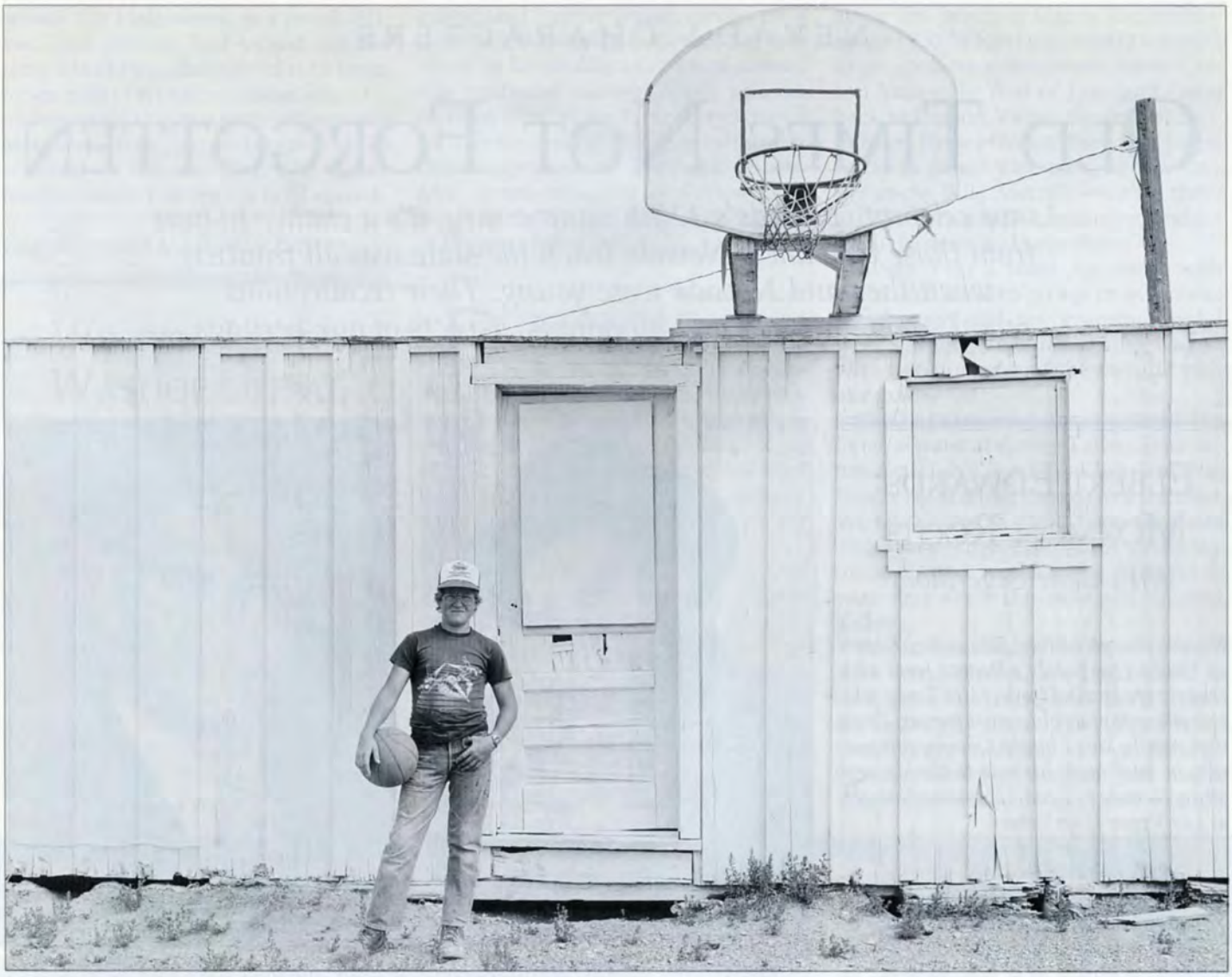


Urban People,"Clown" Shirley Frazer Minden



Ghost Town: "Cherry Creek" by Jack Ingram, Carson City (above)

Urban: "Landrum's" by Glenn Gierzycki, Reno



Rural People: "Lages, Nev." by John Tylczak, Carson City



Water· "Black Rock Desert" by Roy Herrick, Reno



Rural People: "The Roper"
by Robin Paine, Yerington

OLD TIMES NOT FORGOTTEN

As we celebrate Nevada's 125th anniversary, it's a chance to hear from those who knew Nevada when the state was all frontier, when they and Nevada were young Their recollections reveal some unusual, and humorous, aspects of our heritage.

ELBERT EDWARDS: MORMON ROOTS

With Gene Segerblom

Nevada educator Elbert Edwards was born in 1907 on his family's Panaca farm with the help of a local midwife, Eliza Terry, who was the wife of a polygamist farmer From that tightly knit Lincoln County community he later made his way to the University of Nevada in Reno and to a teaching job at Las Vegas High School.

In 1940 Edwards became superintendent of Boulder City schools, a position he held until he retired in 1963, and Elbert B. Edwards Elementary School in Las Vegas honors him for his many years of service to Nevada education. The history book he wrote, 200 Years in Nevada, *is widely used. Today at his modest Boulder City home, which is filled with family photos, Edwards and his wife Mary are busy writing a history of the Mormon Church in southern Nevada.*





In 1932 (left) Panaca native Elbert Edwards taught all of Las Vegas' seniors.

My grandparents were among the first Mormon migration called by the church to settle in Meadow Valley In 1862, when they moved from St. George to the valley, my father was four years old. On the way my Uncle Will was born in a dugout with a willow roof. He was the first white child born in Lincoln County

Life was rough for a farm boy during the 1910s in Panaca. My brothers and I had chores from 5 a.m. until sundown.

I got stuck milking the cows. My brother, carrying a .22 rifle, jumped a ditch, slipped, and shot himself in the hand. Mother said I would have to do the milking along with my other chores until my brother's hand healed. It never did!

It was a very rough, primitive economy in Panaca at that time. We were a family of six children—one of my brothers died of measles, and one drowned in the irrigation ditch. Without indoor plumbing, all water for the household had to come from the ditch.

Panaca was a strict Mormon community while the mining town of Pioche and the railroad town of Caliente had more Gentiles. My first association with Gentiles was at games.

Our Panaca team traveled to Pioche by horse and buggy while wealthy commercial establishments in Pioche provided their team players with Model Ts to descend on Panaca. Often their coach had a pack of cigarettes in his pocket, doling them out between innings—much to the chagrin of local Mormons. They could play on Sundays, and, of course, that was frowned on in Panaca.

In 1929, while I was doing my practice teaching at Reno High School, I had an offer to teach in Las Vegas. I hesitated as I needed one more credit to graduate. But it was a depression year and jobs were hard to come by, so I caught the next train for Las Vegas.

For nine years I taught all Las Vegas High School seniors American government. In 1938 I became deputy superintendent of public instruction for Clark, Lincoln, and Esmeralda counties and part of Nye. I was expected to visit all the district schools. And I did. Often the dirt roads were flooded or boulders had washed down, making passage difficult, but I made it.

At the time, a Nevada law prohibited the establishment of a high school within 50 miles of another county school. Goldfield had the Esmeralda County high school, so the mining camp of Silver Peak couldn't have one. The miners solved the problem by building one just far enough from Silver Peak to conform.

On my first visit there as deputy on November 1, 1938, I noticed residents gathered on street corners waiting for me. Farther down the street at the elementary school site a large wood-framed building was precariously perched on railroad ties. It was the high

Photos: Elbert Edwards Collection

school! On Halloween, as a prank, Silver Peak miners had jacked up the school building and moved it to town to see what I would do about it.

I reported the unscheduled move to Mildred Bray, superintendent of schools, in Carson City She never mentioned it. The high school stayed.

Gene Segerblom is a Boulder City writer

WINONA JAMES: WASHOE LIFE AT TAHOE

With Tom King

When whites began settling in Carson Valley in the 1850s, they encountered little opposition from the indigenous Washoe population, which was ill-prepared to resist encroachment. As farms, ranches, and towns were established in the valley, it became common for a Washoe family to attach itself to a ranch, living there during the winters and working seasonally at agricultural or domestic labor

Winona James was born in 1903 in a galesdangl (winter house) erected on a white man's property in Genoa. She was raised by her traditionalist grandparents, who continued seasonal living patterns that took them to Lake Tahoe every summer and into the Pine Nut Range in autumn. In this excerpt from her 1984 oral history, Mrs. James, who lives in Carson City, recalls life in Washoe camps at Lake Tahoe in the years before 1920.

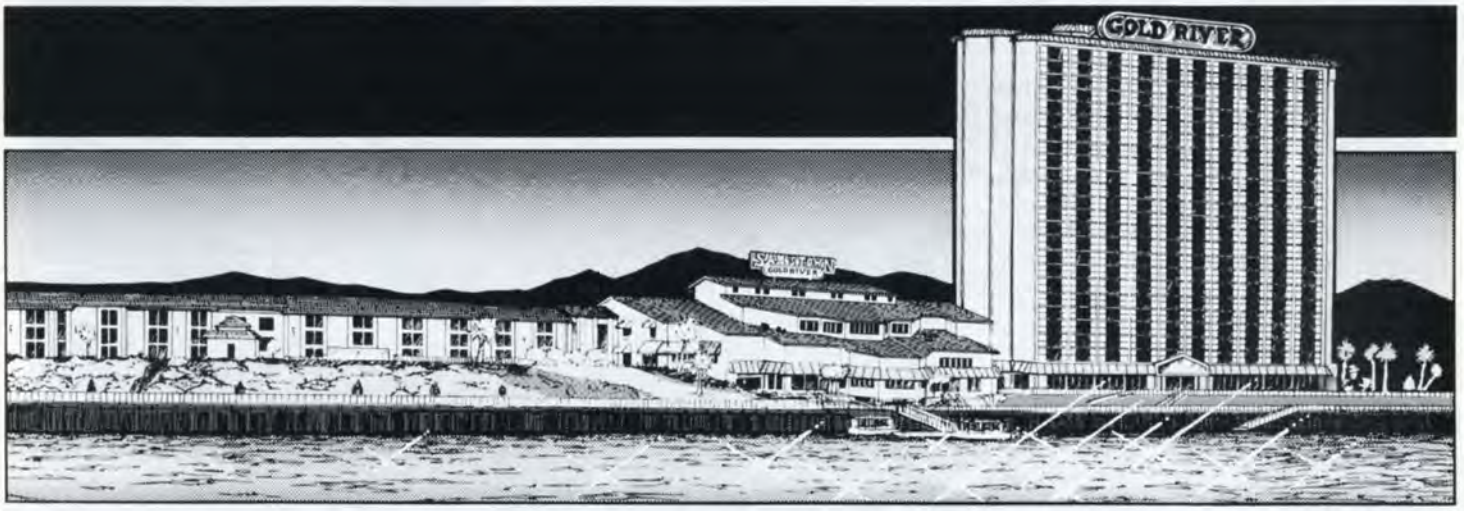
Dat So La Lee was my stepgrandmother. She married my grandfather, Charlie Kyser, Sr. She was a wonderful basket maker, and she was a nice lady I knew her pretty well. I never lived with her or anything, but I went to visit her once in a while. She was living in Carson City in a little cabin in back of Abe Cohn's. She worked for Abe Cohn.

My grandma, Maggie Merrill, also made baskets. When the steamer *Tahoe* came in, they used to sit out there by the pier under the pine trees and put their wares out and sell them as the tourists came by. Oh, Lake Tahoe was a beautiful place before it got commercialized! The Indians camped all over, like along the beaches. In fact, I have pictures of the Indian ladies gambling along the beach at Camp Richardson about 1920. When I was a child we used to go up there every year—leave Carson Valley the first of June and come back to Carson Valley the first of September. By September they had to get ready to go get pine nuts, and in June my uncle, Billy Merrill, went up there to Lake Tahoe to fish, and my grandma made baskets and sold them.

Every year I went up there with them. We used to go up in our horse and buggy, and my grandma and I would walk. We had a spring wagon with two horses, and they would pull our gear.

We had a permanent camp there. We lived always at Camp Tallac. First we lived at what's now called Jameson Beach, right along the edge of the lake. We always had a camp there for years and years. Then later on in years my uncle started working for Mrs. Baldwin, and she's the one who owned Tallac.

At Jameson Beach we lived in tents with wind breaks. We lived there to fish, and the men had their boats docked right there. They'd go from there every morning and go fishing. No permanent structures, just had a camp site, and every year you went to



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SAM'S TOWN
•GOLD RIVER•
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My uncle and the other men would sell fish to the tourists from San Francisco.

the same camp site. Oh, there'd be a whole mess of Indians there! I can't remember just how many, but we'd have a row of camps of people that come up there from Carson Valley, and they had their camps along the beach.

My uncle would troll with a rowboat and deep line fishing. He'd go out early in the morning and would fish till noon or so, and then he'd come in and rest and then go back out in the evening. He and the other men would sell fish to the tourists from San Francisco. They'd get wooden fruit crates like peaches used to come in, and they'd cut them down and make little square boxes to fit two fish or one fish or whatever amount of fish that people ordered. He'd make these little boxes, and clean the fish and put wet grass in the box and in the middle of the fish so that they'd keep until they got to San Francisco. Now you have to have everything refrigerated.

Most of the Indian women worked at the resort, the Grove. My grandmother didn't, because she always went fishing with my uncle. She would fish along with him. She'd have a troll, and he would row and troll at the same time. They went out fishing together every day When I was little, they'd put me in the boat, and I'd sleep.

Winona James' story was recorded by Tom King, director of the Oral History Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. The Oral History Program is open and available to the public.



Winona James (right) was raised by Maggie and Billy Merrill, who are shown above at Lake Tahoe. The Washoes would gather at the lake each summer to fish and camp on the beaches.



Chris Sheerin: Mines, Elko, and the News.

With Terry Hickson

Chris Sheerin, former editor and co-publisher of the Elko Daily Free Press, *can look back on life in Nevada's old mining camps and ahead to Elko's newest gold boom. Now 86, Sheerin was born in Virginia City, the son of an Irish miner and German school teacher and grew up in Tonopah with three brothers and two sisters.*

When he went to Reno to attend the University of Nevada, there were 20 professors, one for every 12 students. He graduated with the first journalism class in 1924. Later he served as a university regent and also as a member of the State Parks Commission.

When I was nine years old, I delivered papers for the *Tonopah Times*. Got up at 3 a.m. to fold them and delivered them by 6 a.m. Later I became a janitor for the *Tonopah Bonanza* newspaper. I once worked for the Tonopah Belmont silver mine. I went underground and was happy each day to see daylight when I came out of the shaft.

I came to Elko from Reno, where I had been a cub reporter on the *Nevada State Journal*, to accept a similar job on the *Elko Free Press*. There was a difference: E.M. Steninger, the publisher, and I composed the whole editorial staff. The paper was tri-weekly

My pay was $165 a month. But the dollar rolled further in those days. Room was $12 a month and board, with three meals a day $40.

I'd hit the justice court and visit the sheriff. We used scissors on the Reno papers to fill out the news. The mortician would call us if someone died. I'd go to the families and interview them.

The big change in the times is that the close personal touch is gone. Things move so rapidly now it's physically impossible to have this contact.

In 1926 Victory Highway, which is now Interstate 80, was just being grav-

Photos: Winona James Collection, UNR Special Collections (top), Oral History Program, UNR (bottom)

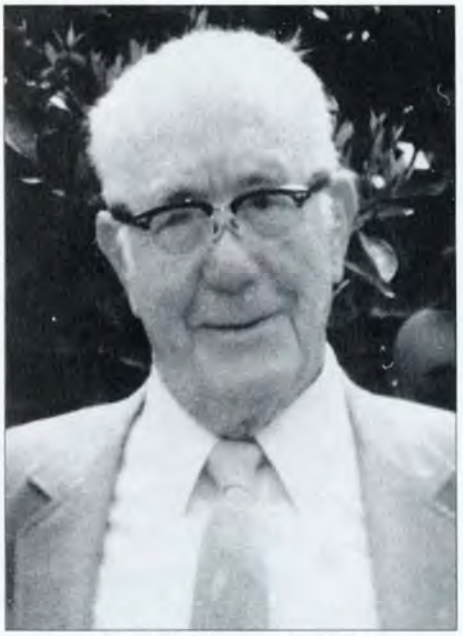
eled from Reno to Salt Lake City Monday's paper rarely come out without stories of accidents, many fatal, because drivers couldn't cope with the slippery gravel. Later there was deep concern about too much traffic on the highway Cars numbered 150 a day [Now traffic averages 7,000 vehicles daily.]

After the highway became a paved marvel with generous speed limits, I remember when "Snowy" Monroe set a record. He drove the 318 miles from Elko to his state senate office in Carson City in three hours, 15 minutes, door to door. Snowy believed speed never killed. Poor handling and drunken driving were the big causes of traffic accidents, in his opinion.

What might be called Elko's Fun Years began April 26, 1941, when Newt Crumley brought Ted Lewis and his orchestra to the lounge of his Commercial Hotel. This started a parade of the world's greatest entertainers to Elko, and, as it was to follow, to Reno and Las Vegas.

We never had a more colorful individual than Crumley. He was greatly responsible for bringing Bing Crosby to our city and persuaded him to become honorary mayor Bing later bought the Crumley ranch empire.





Elko newspaperman Chris Sheerin was in the university's first journalism class.

As a newsman, I recall, my greatest human interest story happened when a plane carrying 22 passengers crashed on the outskirts of Elko on a foggy hillside. Twenty-one died—only two-year-old Peter Link survived. He later became a New York banker.

Yes, times have changed. I recall when I was paying $26 a month for an Essex car. I was courting Evelyn [his petite wife of 54 years]. Her mother was afraid the car wouldn't start and I'd have to leave it in front of their house. What would the neighbors think? ◥

Terry Hickson is an Elko writer

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Photos: Chris Sheerin Collection



Mountain Morning

For Inga Spence of Carson City, photography is a full-time obsession. Often she goes from 7:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. taking any number of pictures that meet her fancy "I like almost any type of photography," Spence says of her work, "but with landscapes you get great depth of field." The above picture was taken while Inga and her husband Patrick, who is also a photographer, were voyaging into the Pine Forest Range northwest of Winnemucca. Speaking of her feelings on the shoot, Inga says, "As you're sitting there, your hands cold on the tripod, the sun with all the pinks, the blue sky—that was a very good experience." ◥



Read My Beak

When faced with danger, the screech owl isn't one to take flight easily Measuring only seven to 10 inches tall, the raptor is small enough to squeeze through a four-inch tree hole but big enough to hold off many intruders, including man. The owl can be found in dead tree cavities, abandoned flicker nests, old buildings, chimneys, and, as the above picture by Erwin and Peggy Bauer shows, natural rock breaks at the Great Basin National Park. According to the Nevada Department of Wildlife, it's possible to attract screech owls by hanging a hack box with a four-inch hole partway up a tree on its north or east side. The birds like a big supply of rodents, too.

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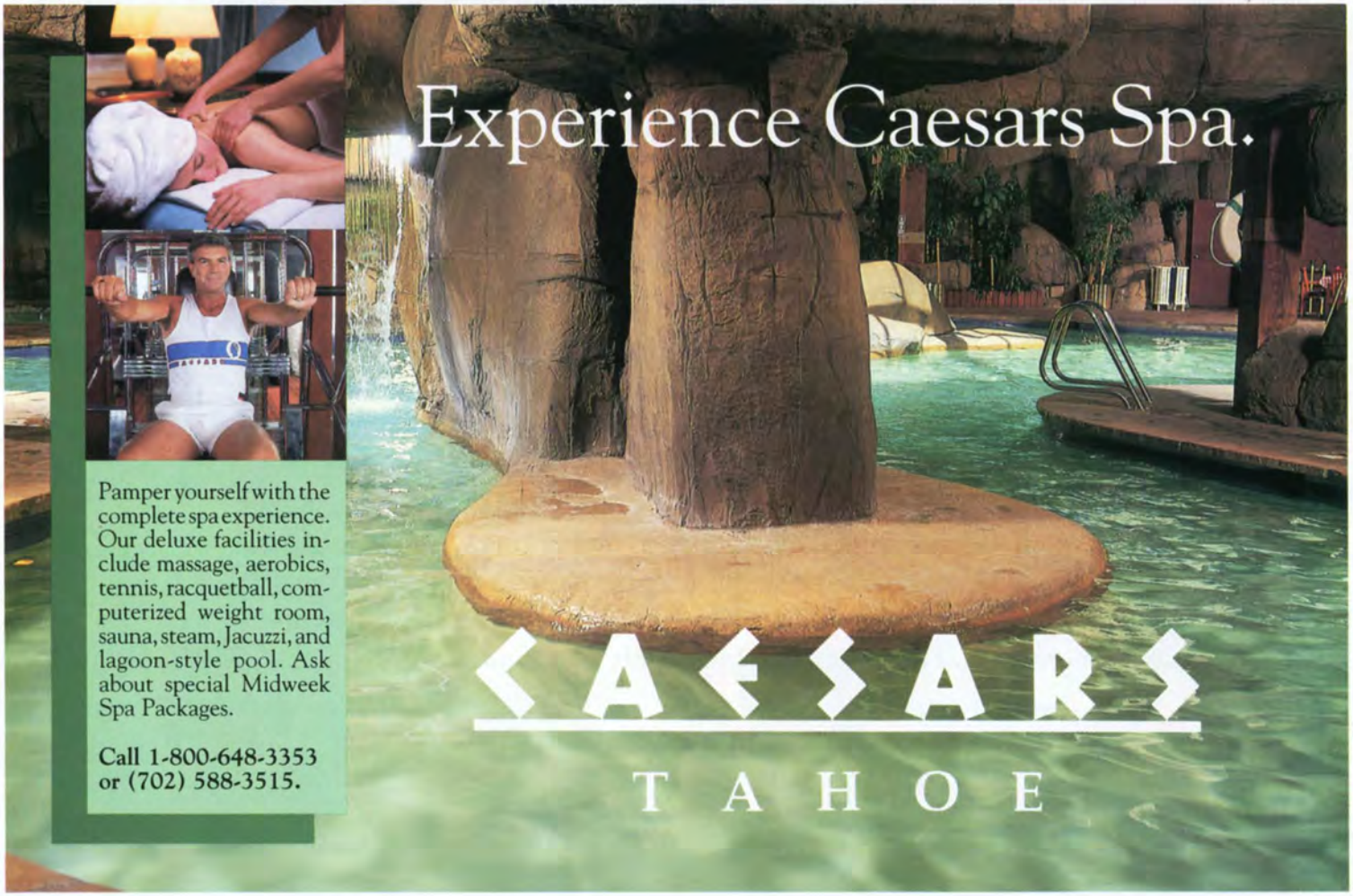
A new runway, a new air cargo park and a new charter/international arrivals terminal are all planned for construction within the next five years at no cost to Nevada taxpayers. So McCarran International Airport can continue to support the state's visitor industry, and the economic well being of all Nevada residents.

WHEN McCARRAN BUILDS FOR THE FUTURE — IT'S BUILDING FOR NEVADA.



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ADVENTURES IN PARADISE

Incline Villagers have to put up with distractions like Lake Tahoe, the beaches, and the slopes. But, hey, somebody's got to live there

By Colleen O'Brien

Marti Dunne-Covic of Incline Village remembers going to work one afternoon nine winters ago. For days snow had been accumulating at the rate of an inch every 20 minutes, and taking a step outside meant plunging into chest-high drifts. The storm had brought all activity in the Tahoe Basin to a standstill.

But her boss at the Hyatt called and pleaded for help. He needed Dunne-Covic, a cocktail waitress, to help handle the storm refugees who were crowding the hotel. So she took to the streets.

"I had to get to my job, so I bundled up and snow-shoed out," Dunne-Covic remembers. "Two guys in a pickup took pity on me, maybe because I was the only other moving thing on the landscape. They motioned me with their thumbs to the back of the covered truck."

After enduring a cramped ride down the mountain, Dunne-Covic fell unceremoniously into a pile of deep brown slush when the driver let down the tailgate. Undaunted, she trudged off toward the Hyatt, visible only by her canary-yellow snow suit.

"I saw large, noisy snowplows and prayed that they would see this 'thing' that was me," says Dunne-Covic.

Snow-crusted, freezing, and exhausted, she finally limped through the doors of the Hyatt casino, one eye squinting and her red nose protruding from layers of scarves and ski caps. Customers and her fellow employees burst into applause.

"After a hot shower and steaming coffee, I was up on the casino floor,



Incline's private beaches glisten in the sun while ski runs await the first snows.

Photo: Cathleen Allison





Diamond Peak at Ski Incline (top) and writer Mary Plotkin at the beach.

false eyelashes glued on, high heels intact, and cocktail tray in tow," Dunne-Covic says. "No one could have known that this slender, perky waitress was the former 200-pound Snowshoe Thompson, a.k.a. the Abominable Snowman, trudging through the casino 20 minutes earlier."

During a debate over recreational fees, a woman stood up and declared, 'I don't think anyone who isn't a millionaire should even live here.'

Other people living in other places might wonder why Dunne-Covic risked life and limb to get to work, but she is clear about her motives.

"People still remember that storm and ask me why I walked through that blizzard. I tell them, 'Because I love my job, and I love where I live!' It's the price we pay to live in paradise."

Ah, paradise. From the moment the Crystal Bay Development Company set pencil to paper almost 30 years ago, Incline was planned to be an alpine Shangri-La. You can almost hear the prophesies spoken over the drawing boards: Incline Village shall have two golf courses. Incline Village shall have the most primo beach at Tahoe. Incline Village shall have no McDonald's.

It's true. You won't find a single fast-food restaurant on Tahoe Boulevard or any of Incline's meandering streets that wend their way through forests of aspen and Jeffrey and ponderosa pine. A sushi bar and French restaurant, yes, but no Pizza Hut or Long John Silver's. Incline has a reputation to maintain.

A young community, only 29 years old, Incline has been called the wealthiest town in Nevada. For a community with only 9,000 people, it has more than its share of multi-million-dollar estates and sprawling second-home chalets.

And, at times, it has a certain upper-crust attitude. During a debate over recreational fees at a meeting of the Incline Village General Improvement District (IVGID) a few years ago, a

Photo: Jay Aldrich (top) Cathleen Allison (bottom)

woman dressed in ritzy casual stood up and declared, "I don't think anyone who isn't a millionaire should even live here."

That someone could breath such a statement and maintain a straight face is one reason why some see Incline Village with its collective nose in the air. It inspires wits like former resident Stephen Ball, who calls the town "Decline." Writer Gil Ralston, who founded a college in Incline, says he wouldn't be paid to live there and calls Incline a "snooty place, the Beverly Hills of the Sierra." But the majority who live, work, and occasionally trudge through the snow when nothing else is moving aren't bothered much by millionaires' opinions, or anyone else's. As Dunne-Covic says, the price is worth it to live in paradise.

For those who can afford to spend their summers in leisure, life in Incline is a three-month idyll of cloudless days and the tangy smell of sun-warmed pine needles. Such people can golf, laze at the beach, swim in the pool, play tennis or bocci ball, ride the bike paths, hike the woods, or go boating on the lake—along with an influx of tourists that swells the population to about at 20,000.

"We go crazy from Fourth of July through Labor Day," says Stanley's Restaurant owner Ginnie Parsons. "And then we struggle through the winter. But it's a tourist town."

Parsons recalls the close-knit atmosphere when she first moved to Incline. "A group called the Fire Sirens got on the phone when the fire whistles blew, called all the women in town, and arrived on the scene with coffee and donuts to feed the volunteers. We raised money for the first fire engine. We knew everyone who lived here. I miss that."

'I revel in the quiet and serenity and the privilege of breathing this air. And I'm thrilled when winter comes roaring in.'





The expansive home of Kern and Sally Schumacher (top) and Snowfest sledders.

Photos: Cathleen Allison

Mildred Hancock, whose house has stood for 30 years on private Debra Lane, a short, pleasant street that lies between Lakeshore Boulevard and the lake, also remembers the early days. "Oh, I loved old Incline," she says. "We lived on this street by ourselves for a long time. But progress does go on. I'm one who believes it should. You can't stop it."

The town now has more than 140 retail stores and at least two dozen bars. The original bar, built in 1963, thrives. It is on its 13th owner and is called the Testerosa, revamped and modernized but still a hangout of long-timers. There are fancy bars, too, like Spatz, an upper yuppie place with a good view and pricey drinks, and restaurants like Stanley's, which has been run by Ginnie Parsons and her family a record-breaking 18 years.

> The tram operated until 1896, when the lumberjacks woke up one morning and saw they'd cut down the last tree the day before.

In Incline, businesses come and go, often from one season to the next. When new proprietors discover how a blizzard can affect the tourist trade, they're stunned.

The common wisdom of survivors in the Incline business community is that flatlanders don't drive up the mountain if the forecast is snow They want to ski in it, but they don't want to drive in it, so it has to *have* snowed, not *be* snowing.

The snow makes little difference to budget-minded locals who make the 30-mile drive to Reno to go shopping. Others, motivated by dread of the Mount Rose Highway—13 miles of hairpin curves—stay in Incline and find classy clothes at the second-hand stores run by charities, pay the freight of higher-cost groceries, and figure they save gas and add years to their lives by shopping in town.

Whatever their means, Inclinites appreciate the town's many intangibles. Here is how Mary Plotkin puts it:

"I love our little town and the people in it, the exchange of pleasantries at the post office, the friendliness in the local stores. I love the sound of the wind sighing through the trees. I love walking along the lake shore, water lapping at my feet. I revel in the quiet and serenity and the privilege of breathing this air. And I'm thrilled when winter comes roaring in."

Plotkin, a writer, sees Incline as an escape from the metropolitan morass:

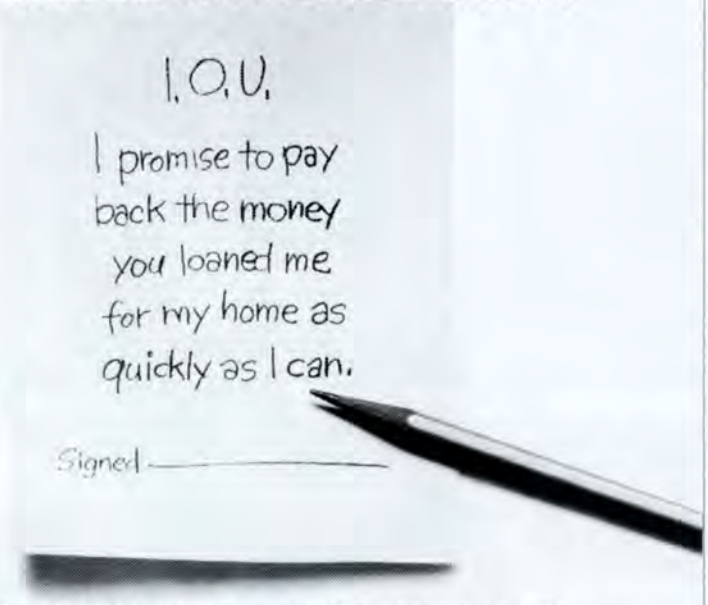
"I just visited in L.A. where our daughter lives—where we moved from. You can't see the sky, and the water tastes terrible, and there are so many people I got claustrophobia. I've only been gone from there 20 months! I think I hurt my daughter's feelings, but I couldn't wait to get home."

Incline is indeed a nice place. It was designed to be.

In 1960, a real-estate investor from Oklahoma named Arthur Wood formed the Crystal Bay Development Company, picked up 9,000 acres on Tahoe's North Shore for a mere $25 million, and designed a community for 10,000 people.

Little has been altered in the layout of Wood's original map. Residential

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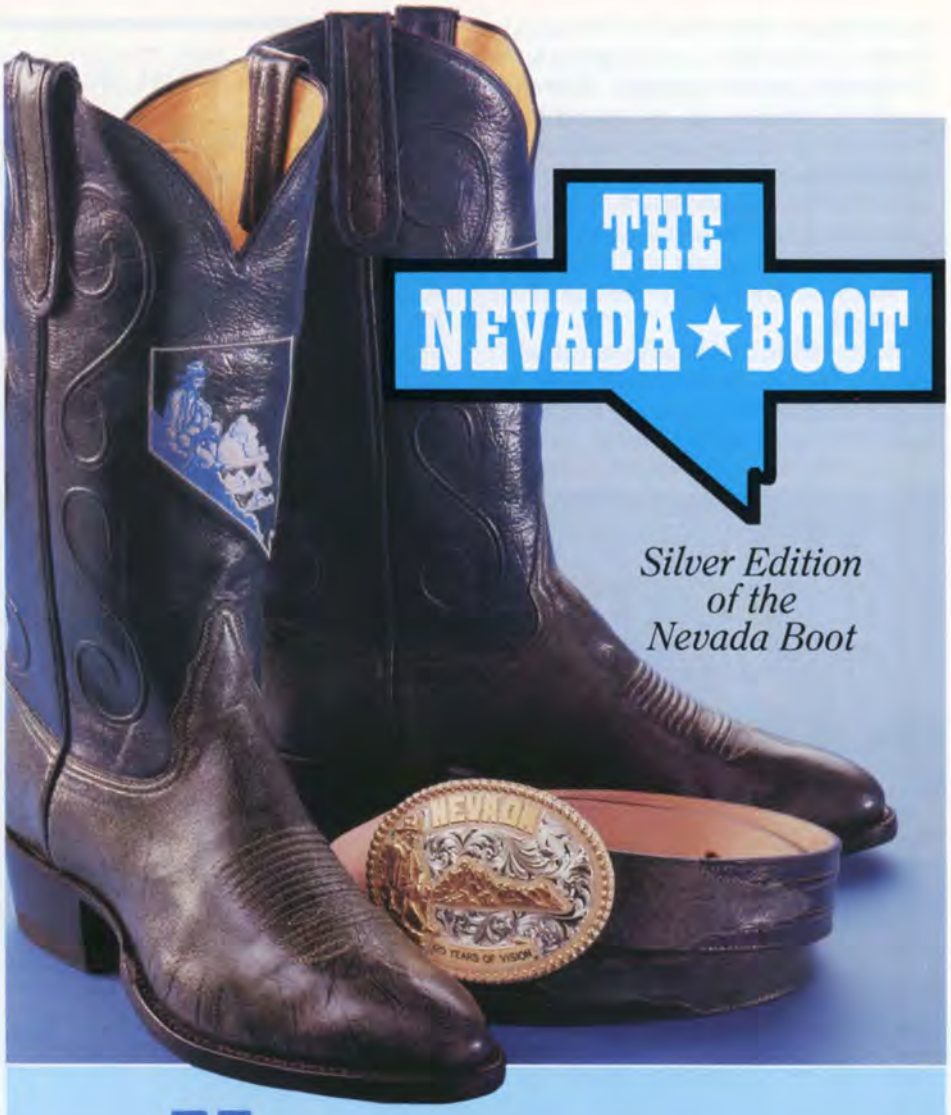
streets twist and curve up the heavily forested mountainsides, making for lovely vistas, cozy cul-de-sac neighborhoods, and a worst-case scenario for firefighters. Down closer to the lake, the five commercial areas are barred from growing outside their zones, a rule that isolates them from each other and makes Incline a town without a center Business people sometimes worry that tourists won't find them.

The community has strict rules about cutting down trees, which are all second-growth timber as a result of the lumber boom of a century ago. If a tree grows where your deck is going to sit, the builder must construct the deck around the tree. Also, a rumor persists that clotheslines are illegal.

One hundred and fifty years ago, the beaches of Incline were sacred land to the Washoe Indians, who inhabited much of the surrounding Sierra and nearby desert valleys. Tahoe was their summer camp—their Sag Harbor, Brighton Beach, and Monte Carlo, where they fished and swam and gambled. They called the basin Da Ow A Ga, which meant "edge of the lake." For short they called it Da Ow, from which Tahoe is believed to have originated.

One hundred years ago, Incline had about 450 residents and a post office. Lumbermen and railroaders made camp on the curve of land south of Crystal Bay to clearcut the virgin forests and ship the logs to Virginia City to shore up the Comstock mines. An ingenious pulley-tram system, called the Great Incline of the Sierra, had been built in 1878 to carry logs up from the beach to a water-driven flume that plunged down the other side of the Carson Range to Lakeview in Washoe Valley. It was in continuous operation until 1896, when the lumberjacks woke up one morning and saw they'd cut down the last tree the day before. They moved on. In 1898, the federal government closed the post office for lack of patrons, and by the turn of the century only ghosts drifted through the stumps and debris called Incline.

And not much happened for half a century. Left to herself Mother Nature reclothed her barren mountains. A few people built cabins and summer estates on the isolated North Shore. In 1938, a San Francisco real estate tycoon, "Captain" George Whittell (his title was dubious but his money was



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not), bought more than 14,000 acres between Crystal Bay and Zephyr Cove. He built a stone mansion five miles south of Incline and, as legend has it, threw wild parties with nude chorus girls leaping from rock to rock. He is said to have gambled heavily and populated his preserve with lions, tigers, and an elephant.

Miles of lake shore remained untouched.

In the 1950s, a front of sand called Ski Beach, between what is now the Hyatt's Hugo's Rotisserie Restaurant and Incline Creek, was a summer trailer park run by Jim and Angela Mollhagen. It's difficult to imagine a trailer park there today, but Angela, who now lives in Reno, says, "It was heaven. In the winter, the deer and bear visited us. We watched the beavers on Incline Creek. It was a way of life that will never be again."

> 'I waded waist-deep in snow to get to the store for food for the kids. I was born in the Bay Area, so this was roughing it.'

The winter of 1951-52 found the Mollhagens on the beach in their trailer buried under record-breaking snows—more than 50 feet at higher elevations by the time the season ended. "There was so much snow you could barely move," Angela recalls. "And I was pregnant. In February I was flown out by seaplane. It was the only way to get to Reno."

By northern standards Incline's winters are not very harsh. Still, for the many Southern Californians who summer here, they are cause enough to retreat back to the land of fruits and nuts and moderate temperatures. Incline's average snowfall is a little under 18 feet, and it can snow any time between mid-September and the Fourth of July

Bill Brannon, a 21-year resident, says, "Our second winter in Incline, 1970 or '71, I waded waist-deep in snow to get to the store for food for the kids. I was born in the Bay Area, so this was roughing it. We've got it good now. Back then the county only had enough plows to do every other street."

Incline is called the "banana belt" of the basin because it gets the most sun—the U.S. Weather Service records an average of more than 300 days a year—and the least snow on the lake. Moisture blowing in from the Pacific is dumped first on the Sierra crest above the West Shore. At Incline, a winter storm may deposit three feet in your driveway, but by noon, the temperature on your deck is pushing 40.

Often winter settles in overnight, and you awake to a hushed, snow-mantled world. Then you hear the beep-beep-beep of the snowplows carving five-foot berms in front of your driveway For year-round residents, whether well-to-do or working-their-buns-off, part of the cachet of living in Incline is putting up with the winters.

Another is putting up with IVGID.

Incline Village is a general improvement district of Washoe County, not an incorporated town. The five elected members of IVGID's board of trustees are entrusted to maintain the recreation areas, trash pick-up, sewer lines, and water mains. Aside from these



What to Do in Town

Attractions in Incline Village include everything that cosmopolitan, sophisticated, city-bred folk could want:

Ruins: vestiges of the lumber flumes from a century ago.

Literate Retreat: a well-stocked library, a branch of Washoe County Library, with a special collection of Nevada lore.

Sierra Nevada College: the only private, four-year liberal arts college in the state.

Great Skiing: Diamond Peak at Ski Incline, the recently expanded ski area above town, has 355 acres, 1,840 vertical feet, and some of the best skier's views of the lake and basin. Mount Rose and Slide Mountain ski areas are only about 10 miles away, toward Reno.

Golf: The Incline Championship Course, an 18-hole, 7,120-yard, 72-par challenge, was designed by Robert Trent Jones and completed in 1964. It is, along with the Executive Course (3,440 yards, par 58), open to the public, although green fees are steep.

Ponderosa Ranch: a re-creation of the Cartwrights' TV *Bonanza* spread with family-oriented attractions like breakfast rides, Hossburgers, and Cartwright memorabilia.

Dining: more than 40 restaurants.

Shopping: more than 140 retail stores.

Gambling: a major hotel-casino, the Hyatt Lake Tahoe.

Lodging: Incline has the Hyatt, the Inn at Incline, and the Haus Bavaria bed and breakfast; nearby Crystal Bay has the Cal-Neva Lodge, Tahoe Biltmore, and Crystal Bay Motel; and California's North Shore towns have numerous motels. Also, Incline has many condo rentals; for room information and referrals, write or call the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitor and Convention Bureau, 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 702-832-1606 in Nevada or 800-GO-TAHOE outside Nevada.

Historic Homes of the Future: unique examples of architecture in tune with the surroundings (well, mostly; a few are outrageously out of place and may someday be tourist stops like San Simeon).

Accessibility: Incline is 35 miles up the mountain from Reno, 25 from Carson City

Elevation Variation: When you drive to Reno, the Mount Rose Highway begins in Incline at 6,240 feet, rises to 8,900 feet at the summit, and descends to 4,600 feet at U.S. 395. Mount Rose itself is 10,778 feet.

Information: Stop at the Information Center, which is shared by the visitor and convention bureau and the chamber of commerce, on the highway near the town's south end for brochures and advice.

More Information: Contact either the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitor and Convention Bureau (see Lodging, above) or the Incline Village/Crystal Bay Chamber of Commerce, 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451, 702-831-4440 in Nevada or 800-GO-TAHOE outside Nevada.—*Colleen O'Brien*

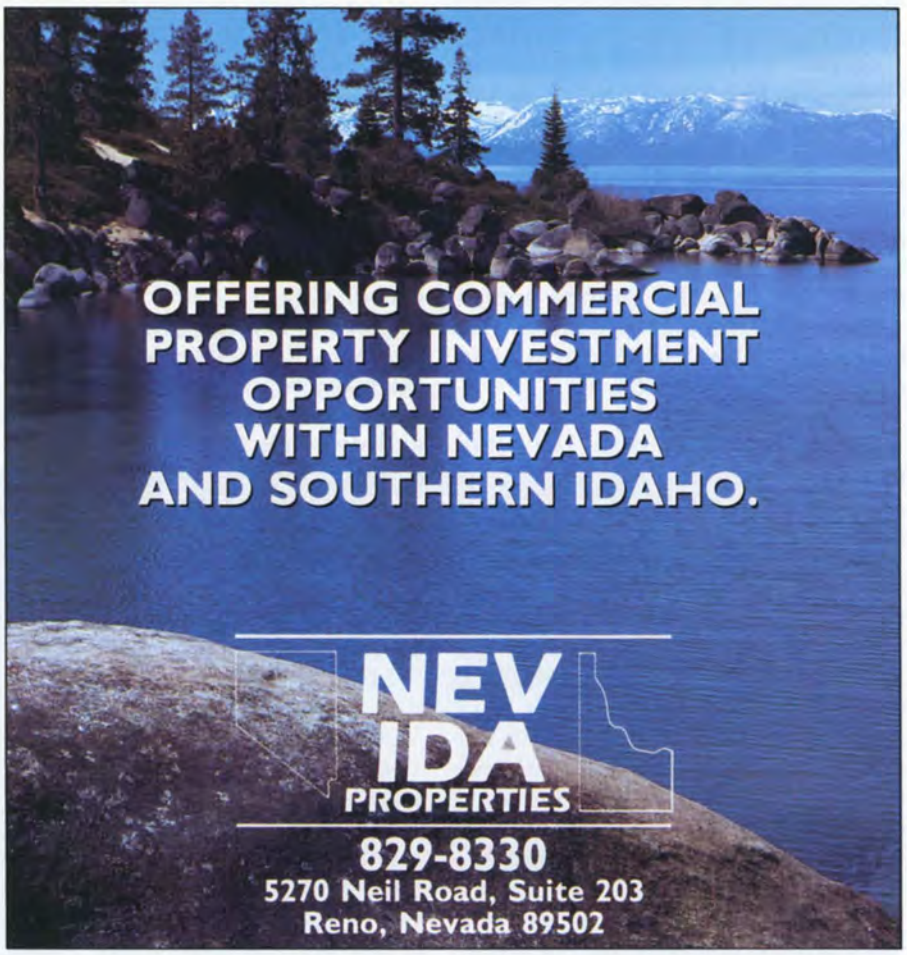
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official duties, the board gives everyone in town something to complain about, a near necessity in a place that is otherwise perfect.

It is partly the griping—in open town meetings, in a newspaper willing

Incline Village and Reno-Tahoe Ski Resorts



to print all non-libelous letters, and at the post office, where everyone goes to claim their mail and elected officials are accessible—that makes Incline fun.

Some locals say the village has too many chiefs. Trustee Bobbie Gang points out, "People who move here are very sophisticated. Many of them have wide experience in community activities and a strong tendency toward opinion. It's why we have so many outspoken people."

The no-holds-barred atmosphere makes Incline a kind of laboratory of democracy in action. Over the three decades of its existence, no issue has escaped argument: incorporating the community, making Incline a county independent from Washoe County, building a hospital, expanding the ski area, running the golf courses, planning a community center, placing welcoming signs at either end of State Route 28 through town.

The letters to the editor in the *North Lake Tahoe Bonanza* newspaper would turn editors from more sedate towns green with envy. Hardly an op-ed page goes by without a letter on an IVGID decision or an attack on a trustee, on the newspaper itself, on rusted cars in

vacant lots, on snow removal, or on slow service at the post office.

Because there is no house-to-house mail delivery—a bone that is chewed on contentiously among residents from time to time—most of the town stops by the post office during the day to pick up their mail and, by design or default, to meet and chat with one another. If you have business to conduct at the window, there's time to learn someone's life story Intimate friendships are made while waiting in line at the P.O.

> The letters to the editor in the local paper would turn editors from more sedate towns green with envy.

Next year, in 1990, Incline Village will celebrate the beginning of its fourth decade in its present incarnation. A movement is afoot to establish a living-history museum before the town gets any older, and there is no doubt the idea will work, albeit with the controversy common to Incline projects—debate will be endless, annoying, often gossipy But a museum will get built, and it will give this young community the chance to keep track of its unravelings as few towns have had the wit, or the foresight, to do.

Incline is, after all, no accident but a planned and wanted child. The manner in which it matures is serious business, and the town takes it so, as people must when faced with planned perfection. If it were a human child, Incline would be heading toward Harvard about now But since Harvard is quite a ways off, there must be another alternative. Thus enters Sierra Nevada College, one of only two private liberal arts institutions in Nevada, which has a vision of becoming the Stanford of the Sierra.

In paradise, what else would you expect?

Colleen O'Brien, a free-lance writer and editor lives in Incline Village, a.k.a. paradise, and writes about it whenever she can. "For such a new town," she says, "the stories are endless."

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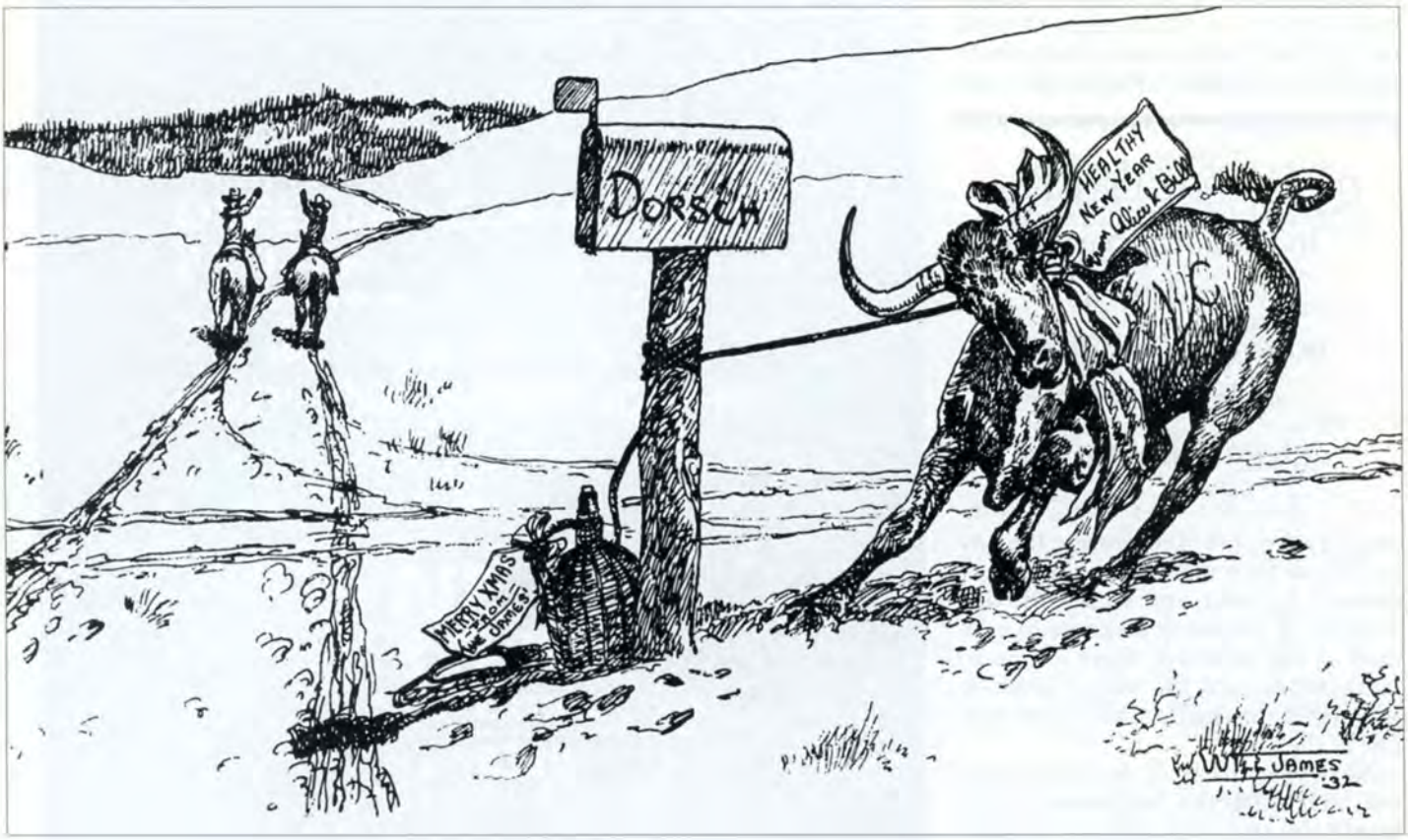
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- The photographic images of the late Nevada photographer **Gus Bundy;**
- Announcement of Nevada '90 photo contest winners by **Howard Hickson** of Northeastern Nevada Museum;
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WILL JAMES

Classic cowboy Christmas greetings.



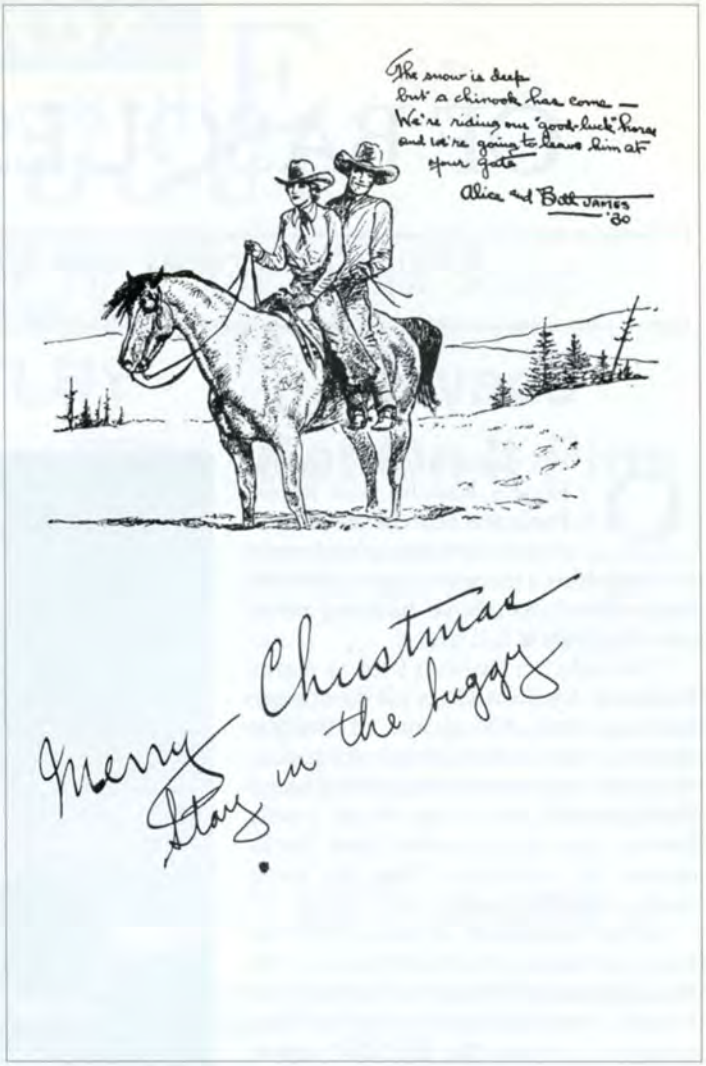
Will James and his wife Alice.

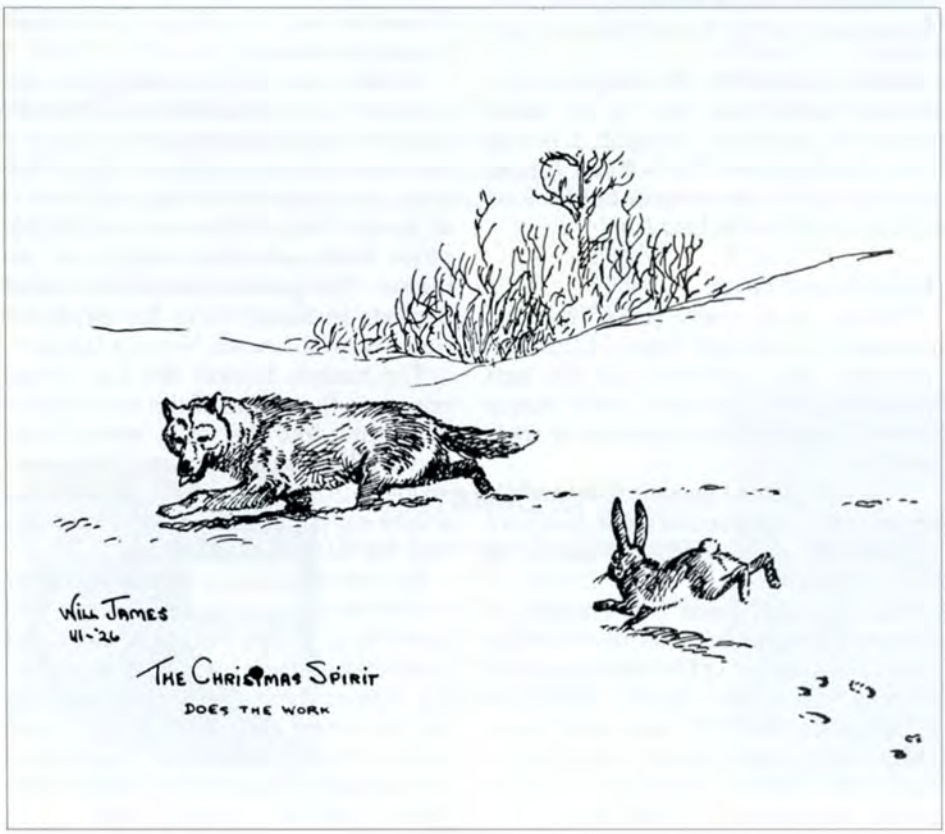
Among Western artists, Will James stands out like a fleck of gold in a pile of mica. While there are many who can draw a cowboy, a horse, or a roundup, few can portray range life as James did. As a man who was first a cowboy, then later an artist and writer, James knew ropes, saddles, and horses from the inside out. When you look at his art or read *Smoky*, his famous book that was written in Nevada and later made into a movie on three different occasions, you experience the West as it really was, and sometimes still is.

While James succeeded in the art and literary worlds, there was another side of him that the public wasn't so aware of: A man who was called Bill by his friends, a man who was close to his wife Alice and who sent sketches of ranch life as cards at Christmas time to friends and family

Charles Dorsch, James' nephew and a Carson City resident, here shares a few of those previously unpublished Christmas cards with his fellow *Nevada* readers. According to Dorsch, his Aunt Alice sent them every year from their Montana ranch, and like most of James' art they were pictures of himself with the typical "111" signature. The "111" referred to a pact that James made with his two closest Reno friends, Fred Conradt (Alice's brother) and Elmer Freel: Whoever first owned a ranch would invite the other two to live and work there. Will James even-







tually became that owner.

Because Dorsch's family moved from Reno to California when he was just five years old, he remembers little about his famous uncle except his persistent sketching. Of the things he does know about James, much comes from his Cousin Jack, who worked at the James' ranch. Offering a bit of insight into the artist, Jack hinted that it was a good thing James pursued his drawing so avidly "Bill wasn't that great of a cowboy," he said. "He use to get kicked off quite a few times." —*Cliff Glover*

Born in Quebec, James crossed the border into the U.S. as a young man after spending time in jail for a barroom scape. He had always wanted to be an American cowboy, so his brush with the law just hasten the move. Later when James spent time in the Nevada State Prison for cattle rustling, his drawing talents likewise were hastened, since there were few other ways to spend his idle days. As a successful author and artist, he sent his and Alice's greetings to friends, with a personal touch (above and left).

Art: Charles Dorsch Collection

OF BASQUES AND BIRDS

Reno gets a striking new sculpture while Las Vegans say, 'Look, up in the aerie!'

On an isolated desert knoll at Reno's Rancho San Rafael Park, the abstract outline of a man carrying a lamb over his shoulder emerges from a 22-foot-high monolith. Above him, a bronze disc suggests a full moon.

"Solitude," a five-ton bronze statue financed by hundreds of European Basques and Americans of Basque descent, was dedicated last August as the National Monument to the Basque Sheepherder, honoring those lonely heroes who have herded their flocks across the American West for more than a hundred years.

At the dedication, at least 2,000 visitors—including representatives from the Basque provinces of Spain and France—crowded into the park. They swarmed around the $350,000 statue, squinting into the sunlight, aiming their cameras, and exchanging first impressions. Comments ranged from "Perfect!" to "Puzzling."

One skeptical Nevada-born Basque, who didn't want her name used, found the statue "too modern" at first glance.

"Maybe I'm old-fashioned," she said, "but I don't think this will appeal to ordinary people who don't know anything about art."

Miren Artiach disagreed. "I like traditional art, too," said the visitor from Boise, Idaho, "but I think this design is just right for our monument. If it looked like a man you could recognize, it would seem like a monument to one particular sheepherder. This statue represents *all* sheepherders."

"Americans have more traditional tastes in art," said Tomas Uribetxeberria, visiting minister of culture for the Basque province of Vizcaya. Speaking through an interpreter, he compared this latest work by sculptor Nestor Basterretxea to earlier pieces by the same artist. "Nestor's new sculpture is not nearly so abstract as some we have in Europe," he said.



Statue and sculptor Nestor Basterretxea.

The monument to the Basque sheepherder has become part of the landscape of northern Nevada. Crowds have disappeared. The solitary figure, like the men it represents, stands alone in the desert. —*Barbara Land*

Birds About Town

When four peregrine falcons checked into the Las Vegas Hilton last summer, they not only got the best views in town. They also got a chance to help improve the fortunes of their species.

The peregrine falcon is the world's fastest bird. This remarkable bird can fly up to 200 mph as it dives to scoop its prey out of the air.

But it hasn't been fast enough to escape man and his chemicals. There once were about 1,000 breeding pairs of peregrine falcons in the continental U.S., but due to DDT and other pesticides, the number of pairs dropped to fewer than 50 before the bird was put on the endangered species list.

Today, because of breeding and release programs, there are about 350 breeding pairs in North America—not enough to put them off the endangered species list, but a hopeful sign.

An innovative release took place last July when, amid much media fanfare, the Nevada Department of Wildlife set up a special suite for four young peregrines on top of the Hilton. The fledglings' new home, called a hack box, had a special video hookup so that hotel guests could watch the action on in-house TV By the middle of August, the birds about town were well on their way to stardom.

"People are seeing them all over," says Bob Turner, the supervising wildlife biologist. "All four are successfully fledged. They are cruising the city and spending their nights anywhere they want. Sometimes they go back to the Hilton to eat. It's kind of like their home base now."

Turner notes that the peregrines are expensive, from $1,200 to $1,700 each, and that it's not easy to get the birds for an urban release program. One of the main peregrine breeding programs is at Santa Cruz, California, and it provides birds only for wilderness releases. "We get our birds from Steve Baptiste in Reno," says Turner, referring to a well-known Nevada falconer.

The reason behind the Las Vegas release is that some of the main falcon predators, like the great horned owl and golden eagle, are virtually nonexistent in urban areas. The city also has a tasty supply of pigeons and starlings that the falcons can feast on.

It is the department's hope that after two or three years a pair of falcons will come back to the Hilton to nest and raise a few of their own offspring without human help. "But only they can decide where they want to go," says Turner. "If we get one pair to nest there permanently, then we'll call the program a success."—*Cliff Glover*

Photo: Marilyn Newton/Reno Gazette-Journal

NEVADA GENERAL STORE CATALOGUE

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Dazzle friends and acquaintances with a handsome, rainbow-colored enamel pin reading, "Nevada, Bet On It." Looks great on lapels, ties, or Western hats. #NPIN $3.00

Lapis pendant in the shape of the state of Nevada on an 18" sterling silver chain. The lapis is mined in the high desert mountains of western Nevada. #CCM9 $15.00

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#NNM13	Nevada Pioneers, wagon train	$27.95
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#NNM16	Set of 7 historical series	$175.00

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#NNM8	Set of 7 miners and prospectors	$225.00



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Your first cup of coffee brings you pleasant memories, or dreams, when you view the outline of Nevada and the logo. The mug holds 11 ounces and comes in blue. #SSM $5.00



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Great for beer, lemonade, or just plain water. These large steins hold 32 ounces and are imprinted with the outline of the state and NEVADA logo. #SSG $8.50

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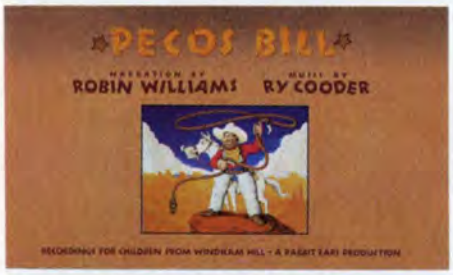


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Popular with both ladies and gents, NEVADA T-shirts are known for their fine look and Nevada-blue color. These T-shirts are made of high quality 50/50 cotton/poly, embossed with the NEVADA logo, and come in sizes S, M, L, and XL.

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Show the world you're a member in good standing! Imprinted on the shirts is a jackalope along with the words "Junior Member of Nevada Jackalope Society" The white T shirts are 50/50 cotton/poly. State size: XS, S, M, or L.
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The only thing cuter and more cuddly than a jackalope is a kid in a cowboy shirt. The white T-shirts are 50/50 cotton/poly. State size: XS, S, M, or L. #CHILD 1 $7.00

PRINTS & POSTERS



Snake Poster

In this now famous wall poster, photographer Gordon Wiltsie discovers two rattlesnakes that seem to be saying what we all feel:
"I LOVE NEVADA."
Full color, 12" x 30" #5POST $7.95

Scenic Posters

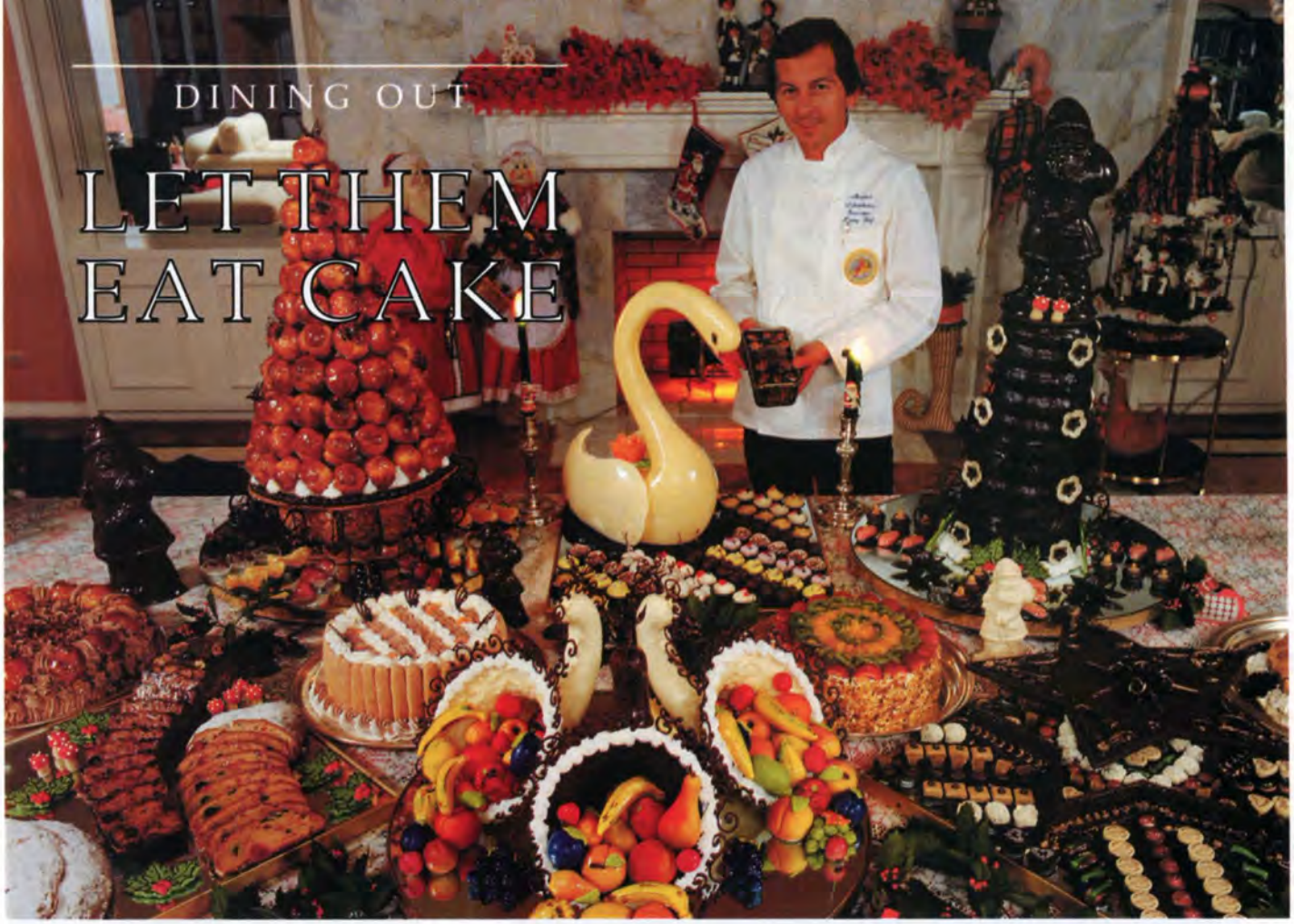
Famous photographer David Muench has captured the essence of Nevada's scenic beauty with these two wonderful color photographs made into posters. Each poster measures 18" x 24" and is lithographed on fine quality coated stock. Order Elephant Rock, #2POST; or Lake Tahoe Snow, #3POST for only $5.50 each, or the set #4POST for only $8.00.



Historic Posters

These award-winning duotone posters show Nevada as it really was. The posters are large (24" x 28") in size, with appropriate quotations. They fondly recall these scenes: Lonely prospector, #6POST $5.25; Boozy burros go bar hopping in Las Vegas, #7POST $5.25; Girls basketball team, #8POST $5.25; Cowboys at home on the range, #9POST $5.25; Set of four historic posters, #10POST $16.00

LET THEM EAT CAKE



Pastry maestro Manfred Schmidhuber surveys his desserts at Caesars Palace.

Three Nevada chefs show why it is the season to be stuffing before and during dessert.

By Connie Emerson

It may be true that there's no place like home during the holidays. But what if Mom's tired of cranking out gargantuan feasts year after year? Or you just can't make it back to the old home town?

Well, one thing's sure. You don't have to suffer, since the chefs in Nevada's hotel-casinos go out of their way to make the season gastronomically bright. They cook up foods that evoke memories from the past and prepare fantasy dishes we've never tasted before. They even create gourmet entrees from leftovers.

Gustav Mauler, executive chef at the new Mirage in Las Vegas, likes to prepare Christmas dishes that people can't easily make in their own kitchens. "It's hard to fix a goose at home," he says, "so the person who never has a chance to eat goose will be able to. And sometimes one person likes a holiday dish that the rest of the family doesn't. By eating out, everyone can have what they want."

When the Sage Room of Harvey's at Tahoe gets bedecked with garlands and red bows, Executive Chef Norbert Koblitz starts cooking the traditional holidays, we prepare foods that we don't serve at other times and try to make everything look more festive."

Although his holiday menu has exotic entrees like salmon poached in champagne, the hotel's food and beverage people report that traditional roast tom turkey is the forks-down favorite, with baked ham coming in second. In fact, Harvey's restaurant guests go through 400 to 500 large-size turkeys during the season.

Le Moulin, the Reno Peppermill's continental dinner house, presents a Christmas Celebration dinner from 4 to 10 p.m. each December 25. Although Chef d'cuisine Frank Kuhn has yet to reveal the 1989 menu, it's expected to be as ambitious as last year's.

The 1988 Christmas feast started with breast of duck Montpellar appetizer, followed by cream of acorn squash soup. Next came a salad of assorted Napa Valley lettuces, then an intermezzo of high-bush cranberry and brandy sorbet. The entrees included roasted Napa Valley pheasant filled with an apple and chestnut favorites—ham and turkey, pumpkin and mince pie. But Koblitz makes them special with touches like plum and apple dressing with the turkey and a holiday garnish of a poached apple filled with orange-cranberry relish on a green lettuce leaf.

The Sage Room chef prepares some unusual dishes, too, like his curried pumpkin soup, a creamy blend of vegetables, apple, and seasonings. Koblitz who was born in West Germany and served his apprenticeship in Black Forest restaurants, says, "At the

Photo: Caesars Palace

dressing. For dessert, diners had to choose between an old-fashioned English plum pudding with cinnamon cream sauce and a Scottish wild-berry trifle with Chantilly cream.

A tip to people who enjoy eating wild game such as caribou, elk, wild turkey, and venison: Between Thanksgiving and Christmas it's more plentiful at Le Moulin than at other times of the year. Kuhn and his staff compliment the game with sauces, jellies, and relishes made from wild lingonberries, cranberries, and currants.

Throughout the holiday season, the Peppermill also serves the traditional turkey in its restaurants. This means that Chef Kuhn, who began his culinary training at vocational school when he was 17 and attended the Culinary Institute of America in New York, has leftovers to deal with. One of his most imaginative creations, called New England Turkey Torte, has received rave reviews.

Visions of sugarplums may not necessarily dance in our heads, but for most of us, visions of dessert tables brimming with picture-pretty sweets help make the Yuletide merry. At Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, such tables are the province of Manfred Schmidhuber, the hotel's executive pastry chef. Schmidhuber began his training with a three-year apprenticeship at Conditorei Strasser in his home town of Salzburg, Austria. The apprenticeship was part of a business school program for pastry chefs that included courses in chocolate, praline making, and other pastry specialties.

The award-winning pastry chef learned his lessons well, as evidenced by his holiday dessert table. It's laden with such delicacies as fruit and whipped cream cake, Stollen, Grand Marnier mousse cake, fruit cake, chocolate candy boxes filled with chocolates and petits fours, marzipan fruits in white chocolate cornucopias.

Schmidhuber's holiday creations include traditional European desserts like the French Croquembouche, a tower of puffs filled with Bavarian cream and coated with a carmelized sugar syrup, and the cylindrical Baumkuchen, a chocolate- and rum-flavored dessert topped with a chocolate Santa Claus.

"Holiday baking in Austria is different than in America," Schmidhuber says. "They also have gingerbread houses and chocolate Santa Clauses, but pastry shops there sell more cakes—like birthday cakes—and put

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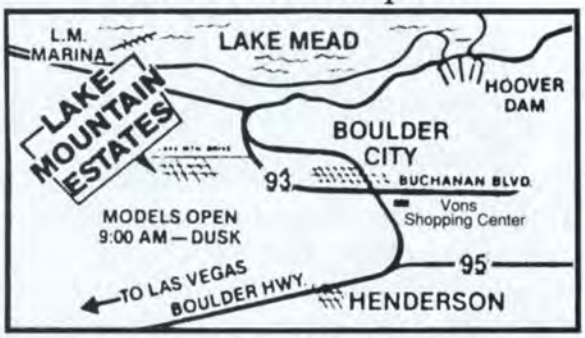
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'Merry Christmas' on them.

"Most people do their own little cookies and fruit cakes," he adds. "They come to the pastry shop mainly for yule logs, cakes, gingerbread houses, and chocolate Santa Clauses. They [the bakeries] also make Baumkuchen, which requires a machine."

Not only do the dessert tables at Caesars look like illustrations out of holiday cookbooks; the dining rooms' decor also incorporates giant gingerbread houses with white- and dark-chocolate reindeer Other festive touches, such as Toga Teddy wearing a wreath around his head and appearances by Santa Claus and groups of carolers, have come to be part of the season's celebration.

As enticing as eating out may seem, Mom may decide, after all, to cook a holiday feast. If so, she and the kitchen help might want to try the following recipes supplied by Chefs Koblitz, Kuhn, and Schmidhuber:

CURRIED PUMPKIN SOUP

From Executive Chef Norbert Koblitz, Harvey's Sage Room

2 apples, peeled and sliced
1 onion, sliced
4 oz. whole butter
1 pinch cayenne pepper
1/2 teaspoon white pepper
2 tablespoons curry powder
1 large baked potato, peeled and diced
1 lb. pumpkin, peeled and shredded
2 quarts chicken stock
1 pint heavy cream
6 egg yolks
salt to taste

Saute apples and onions in butter. Do not brown. Add cayenne pepper, white pepper and curry powder. Saute for one minute. Add diced potato, pumpkin, and chicken stock. Simmer for approximately one hour until potato and pumpkin are soft. Puree with Food Mill. Strain through colander to remove lumps (Writer's note: You can use a blender instead of the food mill and colander). Return soup to pot and bring back to a boil. Mix egg yolks and cream; add to soup. Remove from heat. Do not bring back to a boil. Adjust seasoning. Serve topped with Chutney Croutons. Makes 16 cups.

CHUTNEY CROUTONS

8 slices toast
8 oz. mango chutney
1 egg yolk

Remove excess liquid from mango. Chop fine. Mix with egg yolk. Spread

on toast. Bake until mixture sets. Refrigerate. Cut into cubes.

NEW ENGLAND TURKEY TORTE
From Chef d'cuisine Frank Kuhn, Peppermill's Le Moulin

1 tablespoon unsalted butter
3/4 cup walnut halves
1-1/4 tablespoons white all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon chopped shallots
1/2 cup white wine
1-1/2 cup cream
1-3/4 cup chopped fresh spinach
1/2 cup cooked wild rice
1 whole egg
2 egg yolks
2 tablespoons hazelnut liqueur
salt and pepper to taste

Place whole butter into saute pan and allow to brown lightly and get foamy. Add walnuts and saute for one additional moment. Add flour to make a roux and combine thoroughly Add chopped shallots and saute; add wine and allow to thicken. Add cream and continue stirring until sauce thickens. Fold in spinach, rice; cook briefly Remove from heat and fold in eggs, egg yolks, and liqueur. Season to taste. Cool.

1 9"-round puff pastry, 1/4" thick



Chef Frank Kuhn of the Peppermill.

1 11"-round puff pastry, 1/4" thick
2 cups turkey meat, cooked and thinly sliced
16 slices smoked cheddar cheese
2 large carrots, peeled and thinly sliced, blanched
2 large leeks, 6" long; washed, blanched
1-1/2 cup sweet potato puree
salt, fresh chopped basil, fresh ground nutmeg, 20 mesh black pepper

To assemble torte, place smaller pastry in 9" deep-dish pie pan. Begin with a thin layer of turkey meat and place cheddar slices on top. Season lightly with all of the seasonings. Layer spinach mix, turkey, cheese, seasonings, spinach mix, turkey Season well. Alternate slices of carrot and leek completely around torte. Spread sweet potato mixture over vegetables with spatula as if you were icing a cake. Brush edges of pastry with egg and milk wash and place larger piece of pastry on top of sweet potato, sealing edges well. Cut a 3/4" hole in the center and make decorative marks with the back of a paring knife. Brush with egg wash. Brown in 450 degree F. oven. Place foil over the top and lower temperature to 350 degrees. Bake until temperature inside is 150 degrees, approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes. Allow torte to rest at room temperature for 1/2 hour before serving. Serve with sauce.

SAUCE

1 tablespoon chopped shallots
1 teaspoon cognac
3/4 cup cream
1/2 cup turkey gravy
2 tablespoons sherry

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Photo: Peppermill Hotel/Casino

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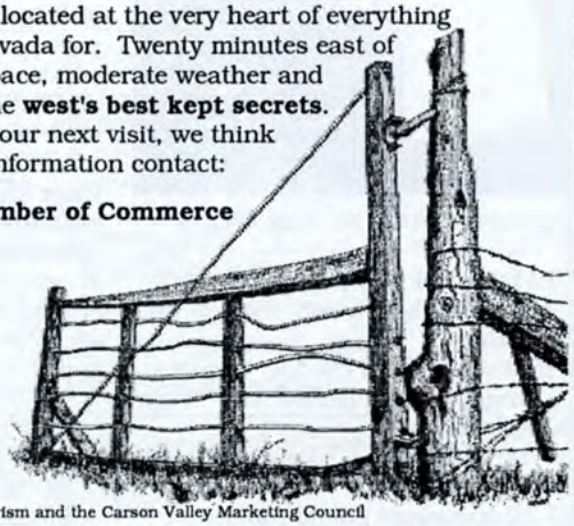
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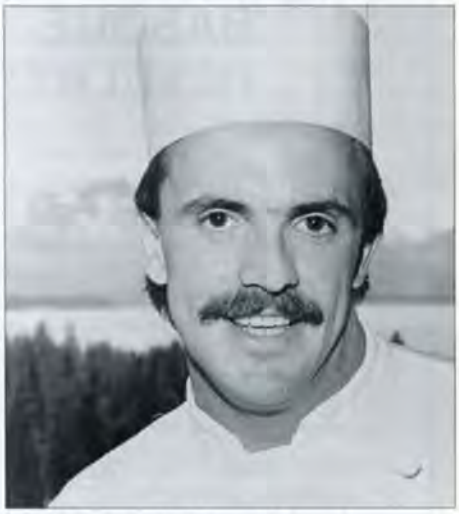
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1-1/2 tablespoons parsley chives and thyme combined
1-1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
Flame shallots in cognac, add cream and reduce. Add gravy, sherry herb mix and mustard.

FRUIT CAKE
From Executive Pastry Chef Manfred Schmidhuber, Caesars Palace

2 oz. diced candied lemon rind
2 oz. diced candied orange rind
2.5 lbs. candied red cherries
2.5 lbs. candied green cherries
2.5 lbs. golden raisins
5 lbs. diced mixed candied fruits
1 cup Meyers rum
1 cup whiskey
2.5 lbs. granulated sugar
2.5 lbs. unsalted butter, room temperature
20 large eggs
2.5 lbs. bread flour
2.5 lbs. chopped walnuts
1 cup apricot jelly or apricot glaze
Additional nuts and candied fruits for decoration

Soak fruits for two days in mixture of rum and whiskey Cream butter and sugar. Add eggs in small amounts, mixing after each addition. Add bread flour and mix until well blended. Mix in fruits and nuts. Line 12 2-lb. loaf pans with waxed paper (or grease and flour the pans). Fill pans to the top and bake at 375 degrees F. for 50 minutes. Lower oven setting to 250 degrees F. and bake for an additional 60 minutes. Cool. Decorate with nuts and candied fruits and glaze with melted apricot jelly or apricot glaze. Remove from pan when set. To store, wrap in clean cloth soaked with whiskey Wrap aluminum foil around cloth-covered loaf. Store in refrigerator Keeps 2-3 months. Makes 12 loaves.



Chef Norbert Koblitz of Harvey's.

Photo: Harvey's Hotel /Casino

WINTER RETREATS
Continued from page 18

Wildhorse is so remote that, as resident Betty Corbari says, "you can snowmobile 100 miles in any direction."

"But," says banker Ted Redman of Elko, "you have to understand that you don't go ice fishing in a howling blizzard or when it's 40 degrees below You choose nice, sunny days when the temperature climbs to about 20 above."

After you've chosen your sunny day, Redman says, you put on a snowmobile suit, boots, warm hat, and gloves. Then you drill a hole (anything bigger than eight inches in diameter is illegal) with an ice auger, bait your hook, and start catching trout.

If you heard that ice fishing on Wildhorse isn't what it used to be, that was last year's report. The reservoir was cleaned out in 1988 because it had been overwhelmed by trash fish. It was restocked a year ago, mostly with rainbows, which are said to have grown to 14 inches or more in length.

What you should use for bait depends on whom you talk to. Redman uses corn or worms. Archie Corbari swears by a three-pronged lure called the Swedish Pimple, while Betty Corbari prefers marshmallows or nightcrawlers. And although you can sit alone on a campstool or in a snowmobile while you fish, Corbari says most people think it's more fun when you get some friends together and "have a tent, a lunch, a thermos of coffee, and a little snort."



Wildhorse ice angler roping a trout.

There are state park and reservation campgrounds on the reservoir, but in winter you'll probably want to headquarter at the Corbaris' Wildhorse Ranch & Resort, a general store-bar-restaurant with 28 motel units and 34 full hookups for RVs. The bar consists of a counter along part of the north wall of the building. The shelves in the general store section contain everything from Pampers and peanut butter to fishing tackle and lots of beer.

The restaurant, whose blue and white ruffled curtains and checkered tablecloths offer a homey touch, is the sort of place where you can linger over a bowl of homemade soup and swap stories with the locals. At night, the tablecloths are cleared off, and resort guests—as well as anyone who happens to drop by—sit around playing cards or telling fish stories.

Of course, if some of those Wildhorse fish stories are true, there's no need to worry about what to eat, because you can catch your limit of five fish in 10 minutes.

Connie Emerson is a Reno writer whose travel articles appear in major newspapers around the U.S. as well as in Nevada Magazine.



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Photo: June Stone

SKIING THE CHARLESTON

Las Vegans' favorite mountain puts Nordic skiers high above the desert.

Story and Photos by Robert Bellman, Jr.

As an avid ski-mountaineer transplanted to the low, sunny desert of southern Nevada five years ago, I wondered whether I would ever see snow again. Then winter arrived, and with great relief I discovered I could find snow and other skiers on Mount Charleston in the nearby Spring Mountains.

A 40-mile drive from Las Vegas, 11,912-foot Mount Charleston rises high enough to overcome the rain-shadow effect that causes Nevada's dry climate. In winter, the range has a downy blanket of snow and good skiing conditions above 8,000 feet and sometimes even lower.

During my initial explorations I found that good ski-touring trails were not easily seen from the road. Generally, one cannot simply park by the roadside and blissfully launch off through crystalline meadows and forest. There are too many steep canyons, with sharp, dolomite-limestone crags and thorny bushes. And, especially for the uninitiated, those canyons require a certain caution since some of those steep cliffs project abruptly from the landscape. I learned that experienced Charleston skiers never head down an unfamiliar slope whose base is not clearly visible. At best you could be forced to retrace your steps back up the mountain. At worst you may find yourself airborne without a parachute.

I also learned that Mount Charleston winters are rather unpredictable, but



Charleston is snow country in winter

it's an unpredictability that shows character, the kind that makes it a challenge not only for the alpine ski resort at the head of Lee Canyon but also for us cross-country skiers who choose the quieter slopes.

This quirkiness takes many forms. One ski season can bring bone-chilling cold but little snow. The next winter may be wetter but warmer, causing the snow to melt before it forms a skiable base. Good skiing may start as early as November or as late as January The season's end is hard to anticipate. I've seen it come with the warm winds of March, while other years I've skied on corn snow through April.

But Mount Charleston has definite high points when the snow is right—the easy drive from Vegas, varied terrain, excellent desert views, and a choice of restaurants where you can put up your feet afterwards.

My friends and I have found that the Spring Mountains' best Nordic areas usually have one or more of the following characteristics: high elevation, northern exposure, moderate tree cover, minimal ground vegetation, and a level-to-moderate topography. If you look for those qualities, the skiing will be as good as it can be.

For example, at high elevations the temperature is cooler, thus preserving the snow pack. North-facing slopes tend to be more shaded, and the snow there is deeper. In fact, in spring you sometimes can glide down corn snow on the shady side of a valley and see wildflowers sprouting on the sunny, snowless, south-facing slope.

Open areas such as meadows have the best snow bases for skiing. Thick stands of trees mean less snow on the ground, as do areas of heavy brush.

Charleston's snow is fluffy-dry, making a skiable base hard to develop on some steep areas. There, your skis are likely to sink right through it. A more dangerous problem—because there is little cohesion between snow and ground—is the threat of avalanches on the steeper slopes.

On Charleston's safer trails and

Gliding on trails 6,000 feet higher than Las Vegas, skiers find views of the desert (above) and Mummy Mountain (right), which from the right angle resembles an Egyptian mummy in profile.



meadows you'll find skiers who gravitate to cross-country's three basic styles: touring, mountaineering, and racing. Most people start out with touring equipment, which uses three-pin bindings and moderately narrow skis. Mountaineering skis are somewhat wider, though still narrower than downhill skis, and use a binding that lets you keep your heel clamped to the ski or free to rotate from your toe. Racers use skis that are incredibly narrow, boots that could double for ballet slippers, and bindings that are, well, little more substantial than velcro. Racers also must wear the obligatory Lycra jumpsuits and spend hours waxing, and re-waxing, their skis.

Most of the skiing takes place at 8,000 feet and higher. Because of the altitude it's best to take it easy if you're not used to it; cross-country skiing can be strenuous enough without overextending yourself. Don't forget to take along a hat, sunscreen, and sunglasses for protection against the sun's ultraviolet rays and the painful burns that can result from overexposure.

As a bonus at the end of the day, the apres-ski scene can be quite civilized. There's Lee Canyon Ski Area and two good spots in Kyle Canyon—the lodge at the top of the canyon and the hotel at the bottom—where you can join friends around a fire, enjoy food and refreshments, and recuperate.

Following are three established cross-country ski tours you can try on Charleston. Each has varying degrees of difficulty and time. For information on routes and snow conditions, you can check first with the U.S. Forest Service, 550 East Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89104; phone 702-388-6255.

- **Scout Canyon** is an enjoyable route where you'll meet numerous other Nordic skiers on weekends. Unfortunately, you may also encounter snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles, but try not to let their noisy and smelly carousing disturb you.

On weekdays this trail will be virtually empty, as are most areas on Charleston. Except for the top portion, which breaks out onto a sunny southern exposure, this route meets all the requirements for good snow conditions.

To reach Scout Canyon, drive up Lee Canyon on State Route 156 until you pass a small meadow just north of the Lee Forest Service Station. This meadow is a popular snow-play area—you can't miss it. The highway will next curve to the right; look for a gravel road on the right side, immediately as the highway curves back to the left. Drive up this gravel road a few hundred feet to a plowed parking area at the start of the route—and it's time to put on your skis.

You'll find a thrilling downhill run just before you enter Macks Canyon.



The snow-covered road takes you through a forested slope on the south side of Scout Canyon. The grade is uniform and the going easy After about a mile the road makes a hairpin turn at an aspen grove. This is a peaceful area to stop for a rest and a snack. The route continues winding its way up the mountain to reach the exposed ridge line. Here you are rewarded with unobstructed views of Mummy Mountain and the ridge crest leading to Mount Charleston. Mummy Mountain is particularly splendid when the contrast of its many limestone crags is enhanced by a light dusting of snow

The final uphill portion turns west and follows, slightly below the ridge line, to the end of the road at the head of the canyon overlooking McWilliams Campground.

To return, simply follow the road back. The round trip usually takes less than four hours, most of the time spent climbing. You will probably be able to glide back to your car without stopping. In fact, you may have to watch your speed—the winding road often hides upward-trudging skiers until the last moment.

For variety, the trip can be done in reverse, starting from McWilliams Campground. Or you can start at Old Mill Picnic Area, from where you can intersect the road at the aspen grove and avoid the lower, more traveled portion.

• **Macks Canyon's** ski season is short because it begins at a lower elevation. But a trip to Macks Canyon is well worth the wait for enough snow

Drive up Lee Canyon until, about 14 miles from U.S. 95 and a mile before the Deer Creek Highway, you see a "chains" sign near a parking area. When parking, position your vehicle so it can't be blocked by other cars.

The route traverses north along a gentle slope covered with piñons and junipers. Here you can enjoy views of the Sheep and Nellis ranges. You may have to share the initial portion with snowmobiles, but they tend to turn around after a mile. Just try to ignore them.

After about one and a half miles the route turns sharply upward to cross a small ridge. After following the twisty path for about two miles, you'll find a thrilling downhill run just before you enter Macks Canyon proper. There you can admire the precipitous limestone walls and stop for lunch beneath a tall ponderosa pine.

The roads ends about five miles from

the parking area, but you can turn around any time you wish. To travel the 10 miles in and out again will take between four and eight hours, depending on your skiing abilities.

Given enough snow and winter survival skills, Macks Canyon offers the potential for an overnight ski excursion beginning at the Old Mill Picnic Area. A great deal of snow is required to make this trip a success, rather than an epic. Check with experts first, and take a few along.

• **Bristlecone Trail** is a pleasant high-altitude route that begins at the top of Lee Canyon Road at the alpine ski area. If the downhillers have filled the parking lots, you may have to park at one of the lower lots and walk up to the trailhead. Blackjack, the resident dog at Lee Canyon Ski Area, may decide to join you. He likes to chase sticks and snowballs.

The trail is winding. If you have walked it in the summertime, you will have a better chance of keeping on the right path.

Above the parking lot, the trail follows a small ridge and then enters a forested canyon. The canyon is especially beautiful when fresh snow drapes from the tree branches and small streamers drift lightly in the air. The going is easier if you stay near the bottom of the canyon on the south side of the creek, generally following the summer trail. Follow the north fork of the creek to climb out of the canyon, heading for a pinnacled ridge overlooking McWilliams Campground.

From there you can either retrace your steps (easier) or bravely head down the steep slopes through thick powder to McWilliams Campground (harder). If you are careful, you can end up in the parking lot, avoiding a walk along the road to return to your vehicle. The Bristlecone Trail tour is a short one, often lasting only a few hours, but the skiing is very challenging.

• **And Remember:** If you decide to take an unfamiliar route, use extreme caution. As mentioned earlier, the Spring Mountains have innumerable bands of steep cliffs—and from the edge it's a long way down.

Finally, if you plan to ski in untraveled areas, check with the forest rangers based on the mountain. Always avoid skiing alone and let someone know where you are going. ◥

Robert Bellman, Jr is a Las Vegas engineer and outdoor writer-photographer

SKI TRAILS AND SLOPES



This view reveals Lee's alpine ski area.

Cross-country ski gear, while not plentiful in Las Vegas, can be found at sports-equipment stores such as McGhies Ski Chalet (702-732-7222) or Edelweiss Ski and Sport (702-871-7999). Both places rent packages with boots, skies, poles, and gators for about $10. They will also direct you to the best skiing areas. If you're a rookie, McGhies can link you up with Bob Schaumburg, who gives private lessons through the store. Schaumburg, who has taught cross-country skiing since 1974, also teaches one-day classes though the continuing education program at UNLV

An important contact is the U.S. Forest Service. The service is reworking its cross-country ski maps, so if you want more than just phone details (702-388-6255), it's best to drop in at the U.S.F.S. office at 550 East Charleston Boulevard. Even if you know Charleston, it's a good idea to check on ski conditions. Some areas are dangerously prone to avalanches.

For those who would rather sit in a chairlift than huff their way up a hillside, there's also downhill skiing at Lee Canyon Ski Area. The weekend ski mecca has three chairlifts and a snow-making machine that works overtime in the evening to keep the runs in powder, not ice. Lee Canyon also has good ski instruction as well as night skiing; phone 702-872-5462.

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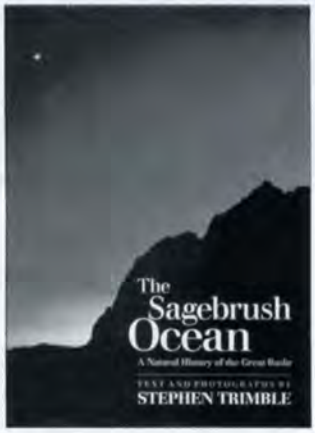
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HOLIDAY READING

There's a Nevada book for everyone on your list
By Barbara Land









Cookies don't last and Cadillacs are expensive. Books, however, may be the biggest bargain on your Christmas gift list, especially if they're about Nevada or written by Nevada authors. And giving books is a great way to send a taste of the Silver State to faraway friends and relatives.

The 1989 crop of Nevada works has plenty of variety, ranging from big picture books to short stories and essays, from chilling suspense to quiet reflections. The Nevada connection turns up in several practical guides and a bouquet of paperback romances just right for tucking into Christmas stockings.

Here are a few of the past year's most popular Nevada titles.

•

The Basque Hotel, by Robert Laxalt, University of Nevada Press, Reno and Las Vegas, $17.95.

Brand new from Nevada's own literary laureate (see page 26), here's a short, gentle novel about a boy growing up in Carson City during the 1930s, when the Nevada capital was still a country town. Pete, a young adolescent whose background is not unlike the author's, learns about life from the sheepherders and town characters who visit the Basque Hotel run by his immigrant parents.

Pete suffers the taunts of schoolmates who call his parents "bootleggers" an epithet that leaves him angry and confused—because they were serving wine and whiskey at a time when Prohibition made liquor illegal. So he believes his real friends are the slightly disreputable inmates of the hotel, heroes like the cowboy Mizoo and the prospector Mickey McCluskey. Then Pete's family moves from the hotel to a house on the fashionable side of town, and we see his world gradually widen.

> In *Keno Runner* you meet a six-foot Venus and a prizefighter with supernatural powers.

For true Nevadans, and new Nevadans, Laxalt books are always welcome gifts.

•

Vegas: Live and In Person, by Jefferson Graham, Abbeville Press, New York, $39.95.

Even nonreaders will pick up this big, glossy book to look at the hundreds of color photographs of showgirls and celebrities, but *Vegas* is more than a picture book. The author, a Los Angeles resident who writes for *USA Today*, has done solid research into the history of Las Vegas from the beginning, "when there were no dice or cards, no hotels or neon signs. Just the Anasazi Indians and a lot of sandy earth."

The story really gets rolling when the author introduces Bugsy Siegel, the city's "unofficial founding father." Through the atomic era, Graham traces the city's progress to the present. Entertainers, casino workers, and ordinary Las Vegans give their views.

If your Uncle Clyde in Cleveland is still bragging about those shows he saw in Las Vegas, send him a copy of this book. He'll thank you forever.

•

The Sagebrush Ocean: A Natural History of the Great Basin, text and photographs by Stephen Trimble, University of Nevada Press, $34.95.

For the environmentalist or nature lover on your list, here's a coffee table book with a scholarly approach and plenty of color photographs of mountains, lakes, flowers, trees and desert scrub. Trimble, a Salt Lake City writer and photographer, mixes personal experiences with his natural history of the Great Basin, an ocean of sagebrush from the Sierra to the Rockies, from the Snake River plain to the Mojave Desert. The publisher calls it "biogeography."

•

Keno Runner by David Kranes, University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City, $17.95.

Definitely not a routine thriller,

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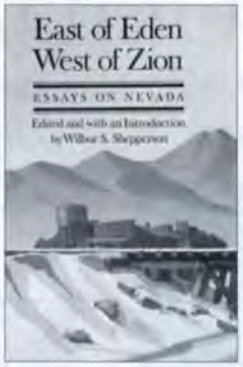
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The Killing Game, by Marilyn Henderson, St. Martins Press, New York, $17.95.

For the avid mystery fan who simply can't stop reading until the case is solved, Henderson provides sleepless nights. Her latest novel, published early this year, is a suspenseful excursion into the mind of a serial killer.

Set in Los Angeles, a background the Reno author knows well, the story unfolds as Jeanne Donovan, assistant to an enigmatic film director, learns about a baffling series of murders in her neighborhood. All the victims are young women—like herself. Is she the next target?

Give this book to the whodunnit expert who raved about *If I Should Die* and *By Reason Of*, two Henderson hardcover novels now published in paperback.

•

East of Eden, West of Zion: Essays on Nevada, edited and with an introduction by Wilbur Shepperson, University of Nevada Press, cloth $22.95; paperback $15.95.

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Anthropologist William Douglass recalls his grandfather's watch; historian Russell Elliott examines our mining heritage; novelists William Kittredge, Robert Laxalt, and John Irsfeld offer their insights.

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•

The Diamond Throne, by David Eddings, Del Rey Books, New York, $18.95.

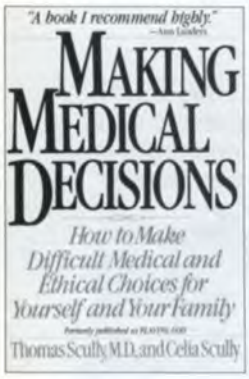
With this adventure of Sparhawk, a courageous Pandion knight who must release his queen from an evil spell, Carson City's wizard of fantasy begins a new three-volume saga, *The Elenium*. Eddings fans around the world—now reading his works in Swedish, German, and Japanese—are currently waiting for *The Ruby Knight*, due in 1990.

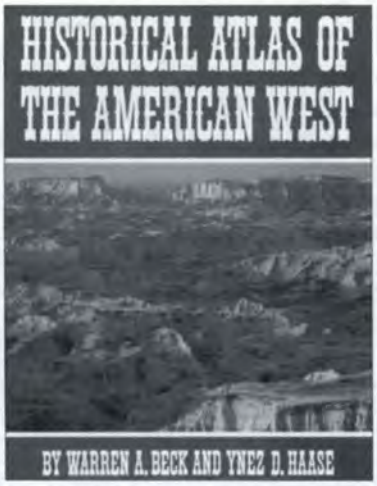
For the friend who rereads Tolkien's *The Hobbit* each year, or for the nephew who offered to lend you his five-volume paperback set of Eddings' *Belgariad*, this hardcover book is a festive gift.

•

The Jeweled Darkness, by Virginia Coffman, Severn House, London, $18.95.

Reno's queen of historical romances, whose titles fill a whole column of







"Books in Print," is at the top of her form in this brand-new page-turner about a 19th century actress. The British hardcover edition is available now in some Nevada bookstores. An American paperback is in the works for 1990.

•

The Best of the West 2, short stories edited and introduced by James Thomas and Denise Thomas, Gibbs Smith, Salt Lake City, $10.95 paperback.

Contemporary stories by 17 writers, including Louise Erdrich, William Kittredge, Ann Cummins, and Reno-born David Horgan, show life as it is in the West of the 1980s.

Selected from popular periodicals like *Esquire, The New Yorker* and *The Atlantic Monthly* as well as small literary quarterlies, these stories can be read during lunch breaks.

It's a perfect gift for a busy executive who never has enough time to finish a novel.

•

Get Up and Go: A Guide for the Mature Traveler, by Gene and Adele Malott, Gateway Books, San Francisco, $10.95 paperback.

Travelers in the grandparent generation can save all sorts of money with helpful hints from this book. The Reno-based authors answer questions about health and safety, too. Your globe-trotting grandmother will love it.

•

Making Medical Decisions, by Thomas Scully, M.D. and Celia Scully, Simon and Schuster - Fireside Books, New York, $9.95 paperback.

Formerly published in hardcover as *Playing God*, this comprehensive guide by a Reno physician and his wife offers sympathetic and practical advice to all who face difficult ethical and medical choices.

•

Historical Atlas of the American West, by Warren A. Beck and Ynez D. Haase, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Oklahoma, $29.95.

Western history buffs who reach for a handful of maps whenever they come across a reference to stagecoach routes will love this historical atlas. In 78 maps and accompanying text blocks, the authors present the history of the West from prehistoric times until now.

Beck, a professor of history at California State University at Fullerton, and Inez D. Haase, a professional cartographer living in Fillmore, California, trace the routes of explorers and the treks of Indian tribes. They pinpoint gold and silver discoveries in Tonopah, Goldfield, and Virginia City and recall the Ghost Dance religion that spread from Nevada's Paiutes to other tribes across the country To settle an argument about Civil War battles, just reach for this volume.

•

For something more romantic than practical, how about a paperback romance? New titles by Nevada novelists are selling across the country, priced as low as $3.50. Ask for the latest by Jo Ann Wendt, Emily Hendrickson, Elane Osborn, Carol Luce, or Sandra Lee Smith. There are also the history-oriented books of Nevada Publications in the western and Nevada sections. And watch for book signings—you just might meet the author in your local bookstore.

Barbara Land, a Reno author and reporter, reviews books for the Reno Gazette-Journal.



YESTERDAY

Lynn Creek Ski Derby



After everyone in our mining camp showed off his skill with the slats, I burst the bubble of an old soap-and-beans tale.

By John L. Hansen

I wonder who came up with the idea that soap was a physic. I suppose it was someone who ate something he couldn't believe was spoiled and wound up with a first-class case of the trots. Then, still refusing to believe the truth, he hatched up the theory that dishes still soapy with Fels Naptha were the cause of his discomfort. Since he probably cooked the bad food and his partner did the dishes, one can see how he was prone to lay his misfortune onto his partner.

Until the following events took place, I, too, was a confirmed believer that soap was the cause of 99 percent of all intestinal discomforts, and not the sour beans that had been set at the back of the stove to await the next meal.

It was midwinter at Lynn Creek, in Eureka County, and we had plenty of snow, which gave everyone a sense of well-being, as there would be lots of water come spring. We Lynn Crickers regarded water next to gold in value, as it held the destiny of any future prosperity. Without it the people of Lynn would have to pull up stakes for the year and go elsewhere in search of the necessities needed to hold together body and soul. So it should be understandable why the heavy snow brought about the merriment so obvious in the camp.

Skis were not uncommon in the district, but it was seldom they were dragged forth, waxed, and used. Because of this no one became expert in their use—that is, no one thought of them as a science, but solely as means of wallowing over snow that was belly deep without them. Nevertheless, everyone I knew got a thrill out of speeding down a snow-covered hill while hoping that one ski or the other didn't connect with an exposed boulder or sagebrush that would send one airborne for the next 40 or 50 yards.

Since there was a certain thrill to skiing, and there was little else to use up the restless energy of the camp's males, it was suggested that we all get together for a ski derby

This would be a contest where each would have a chance to prove how agile, how brave, and how expert he was at handling the slats. The skier who was best, providing there was not a near second, would become the camp hero for a couple of days until every-

one had gotten tired of talking about it.

The day of the shebang was perfect, and everyone set about packing the fresh snow on the slope to a glassy hardness that only the brave—and those with lots of guts—attempted to ride without the aid of a strong pole to brake their speed.

Little by little as the morning wore on, many became expert enough to make the run and remain upright. Then we decided to build a ramp that would prove who knew not only how to ski but also how to ski jump.

Soon there was erected a makeshift ramp, and to my surprise some made it, although no jumper sailed more than 20 feet. It was then that I demonstrated my brilliance by suggesting the design of the ramp was all wrong—that for us to become really airborne it would need some renovating, such as making it higher, with more snow, and not only flattening the descent but also making it an inclined departure, which would add to one's upward thrust, thus extending the jump.

Everyone agreed to my engineering strategy and set about accomplishing it. In the meantime, I returned to our shack to put the finishing touches to a big pot of beans that I had been cooking since the night before. (Due to the elevation of the camp, the beans didn't cook as quickly as they would at lower elevations.) I set about dicing the precooked venison, which I dumped into the kettle along with onions, hot sauce, and chili powder.

From this point on I will have to give precise detail as to what happened.

Anyone who has been around long enough to have seen the culinary arts evolve remembers the old kitchen range with its warming oven suspended by bric-a-brac over its cooking surface. This warming oven was a means of reinforcing the stovepipe on its way up and beyond the roof and also served as a catch-all for the cook, who found it a handy place to lay his smoldering Bull Durham, or PA cigarette, as well as numerous other items, such as the brown bar of Fels Naptha soap, since the dishpan was always set on the stove-top where it would remain warm while the dishes were washed.

Now the first thing I did at the stove was to remove the lid from the pot to see how things were cooking. On seeing all was well, I set the big lid on the warming-oven door where it belonged. After adding the last ingredient, I replaced the lid, added more



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wood to the stove, and returned to the gala event on the hill.

I arrived at the crest where everyone was congregated in time to hear the pros and cons about whose obligation it was to make the maiden voyage over

Ernest was a moving picture of an expert ski jumper. Then his flight took on the appearance of a plane doing barrel loops.

the new snow-made precipice with its leading edge aimed heavenward. Several argued that it was my duty, seeing how it was built on my suggestion. I assured them that since I didn't have anything to do with its construction physically, I didn't feel obligated to do the honors.

After a lot of haranguing and insults about my courage, brother Ernest said he would be the first to make the trip. I slid down near the jumping-off place, as I wanted to see how it was done in case I was forced to do it to protect my honor as an engineer of ski jumps.

I think now that Ernest actually believed he could negotiate the trip into the sky and back to earth, for as I watched his express-train approach to oblivion, I thought I detected an air of confidence spread across his whiskered face.

As he whizzed by me he crouched, and as he left the ramp he straightened up, adding to his upward thrust. It was beautiful. He was a moving picture of an expert ski jumper with his arms held outward and his body leaning forward in perfect gracefulness. Then, as if some unseen obstacle had crossed his path and tripped him, his flight aloft took on the appearance of a plane doing barrel loops.

I don't know whether he hit the snow farther down the slope head first, bottom first, or feet first, but there was a sickening boom when he did, and the powdered snow shot upward like dust from a blast, engulfing him for the next number of seconds.

I thought for sure he'd be dead, as did several of the others who immedi-

ately made their way to the hill's bottom to assist in what was certain to be a sad ending to a happy day We arrived at the spot where he had disappeared and were in the act of searching through the snow for his body when, 20 yards below us, he arose while digging the caked snow from his ears and beard.

His first words upon completion of the snow removal were to call me everything but the builder of ski jumps. But no matter what he called me, I was happy just to see him alive, and not one of his bitter words could have changed that.

Upon Ernest's living through the ordeal, everyone returned to the project to correct the jump's design flaws. Since it was almost noon, I returned to the shack to finish preparing the dinner, although I felt somewhat abashed for receiving the entire blame for the near-accident.

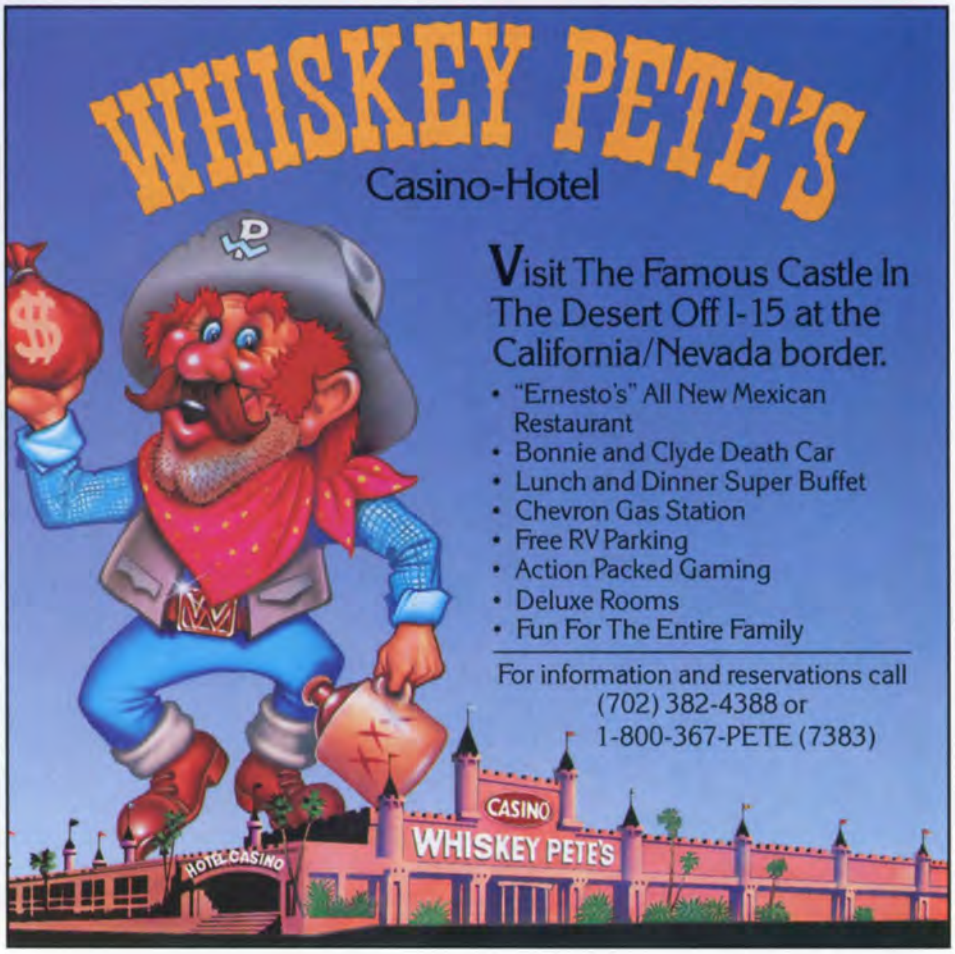
I finished setting the table and called to the guys on the hill to "COME AND GET IT" as I returned to the kettle bubbling on the stove. I lifted the lid and set it on the warming-oven door.

It was then that I saw the half-dissolved bar of Fels Naptha bouncing around on top of the beans. My first thought was to throw the whole mess out, but since the guys were all on their way down the slope, there was no time to fix another meal. But I wondered how the soap got into the pot, later assuming I had set the hot lid on top of it, and it somehow fastened itself to the lid well enough to get back to the beans unseen. Since there was little time to make a decision concerning the soapy chili, and I was still burning a bit from the insults hurled at me because of the ski jump incident, I decided to settle the score by giving them all a first-class bellyache.

In an abrupt switch from their earlier opinion of my judgment, all of them congratulated me on my ability at building a hell of a good pot of chili. At the time I felt guilty for letting them eat it, seeing as how they were so complimentary of my cooking, but all I could do at that point was to feel sorry for them. I didn't know it at the time, but my grief for them was wasted, for there wasn't one case of diarrhea, not a single bellyache amongst them, and they slicked the pot clean.

John L. Hansen, a retired miner lives in Middleton, Idaho. His family prospected and mined in Nevada from Pioche northward.





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Continued from page 23

view in 1982, "I felt that for a reasonable amount of investment, the property could be rehabilitated and restored." McCorkle had a reputation for improving difficult properties, and he was attracted to the quiet ambiance of Boulder City and its hotel. He bought the place, and while his restoration of the hotel in 1980 and 1981 became the symbol of Boulder City's historic renewal, ruin lurked in the heart of the project.

"I wasn't thorough enough in my inspection," McCorkle admitted. "The hotel was all under code. As the work on the restoration progressed, and as inspections were made by the city, all kinds of surprises came up."

To McCorkle's dismay, while people were willing to visit the hotel, few were willing to stay There was little income and the renovation costs were staggering. However earnestly McCorkle wanted to restore the Boulder Dam Hotel, the business still had to make money, and it wasn't. On October 22, 1981, less than two years after he bought it, McCorkle put the hotel up for sale. But no one wanted it and he



Current manager Kathy Poindexter

eventually lost it in foreclosure.

In 1982 the Boulder Dam Hotel was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ironically, the next year the hotel was closed and condemned after a ferocious summer storm ripped shingles from the roof and leaking rain water sent large sections of the ceiling inside crashing down.

There's always been someone willing to take over, someone who can see into the heart of the Boulder Dam Hotel.

For the next six years, another succession of owners—including a pair of Iranians whose ownership lasted less than a month—failed to make the hotel work.

It appeared the Boulder Dam Hotel had died at last.

But there's always been someone willing to take over, someone who can see into the heart of the Boulder Dam Hotel and who is willing to love it again, not always successfully, perhaps, but sincerely This time it's Kathy Poindexter, general manager of the hotel since January 1989.

Red-headed, affable, and energetic, Mrs. Poindexter is the kind of person you meet for the first time, but feel you've known all your life. She seems a sure match for the Boulder Dam Hotel. She was raised in the hotel and bar business in Idaho, and she owns the popular Corner Bar in Mesquite and a couple of clubs in Salt Lake City.

When associates asked if she'd like to move to Boulder City to run the hotel, Kathy came down to visit the place and do a little research on it. "My first impression," she says, "was 'Gee, this is beautiful, but I wondered what made us think we could make a success of it when no one else ever has. Las Vegas is just down the hill where all the action is, and here they roll the sidewalks up at nine o'clock. You can sit in that lobby all evening sometimes and not see a car drive down Arizona Street, and promoting something like this is challenging."

It didn't take her long, however, to fall under the spell, and when she talks about the hotel now, a familiar, obsessive gleam lights her eye.

"From the time I walked in here," she says, "I loved it despite the problems I saw. There's some kind of charisma that draws you here. It's unexplainable, but it's wonderful whatever it is. Once you get here, you don't want

Photo: Bill Harbour

to leave, and when I leave, I miss it."

Despite its tug on her heart, her approach to operation of the hotel is pragmatic.

"There's a lot of people who prefer not to stay in casinos," Poindexter notes, "and this is the perfect place for them. They want to gamble for an hour or two in Las Vegas, or maybe at Gold Strike Inn or Railroad Pass, and then they want to leave it. They come home to the Boulder Dam Hotel, and in that sense, the place is very easy to market."

The hotel has become a popular meal stop for tour lines offering trips from Vegas out to the dam. When they've finished their lunch, tourists get a cozy tour of the hotel, trooping down hallways where historic photographs of Hoover Dam and Boulder City line the walls, and where brass plaques on the door describe the famous guests who stayed there.

But the key to basic success at the hotel is to attract locals, a fact of life in Boulder City that no one in the hotel's history except Harry Won seems to have understood. Boulder City demands a certain convention be followed in business matters, or you just won't make it there.

For her part, Mrs. Poindexter has lured local civic and social organizations back to the hotel, and these people bring their relatives and friends. Dozens of weddings are performed there, and couples once again come to spend their honeymoons and anniversaries. In the future, Mrs. Poindexter plans to add banquet and convention space in the basement and even more aggressive marketing for the booming local tourist trade.

But she particularly wants a hotel museum.

"I'd love to have a suite decorated the way it was in the '30s, with the original furnishings, and dining room china, and photographs of the way it used to be."

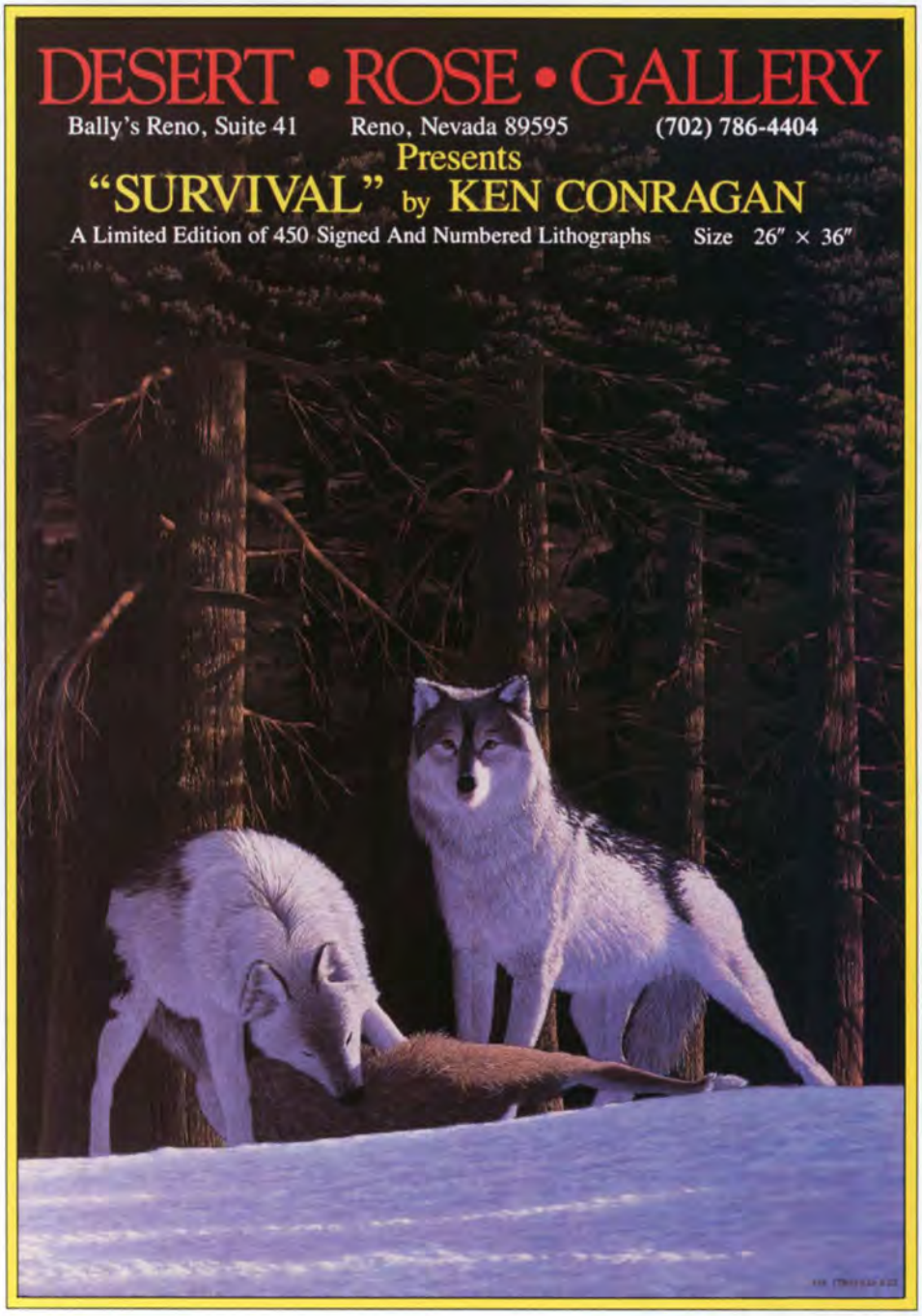
That might suit the hotel: a shrine to itself.

But in the end there remains the unassailable mystery of the Boulder Dam Hotel. It is Susan Simmons, Cliff McCorkle's assistant manager, who alone has laid her finger on that mystery

"You develop a love-hate relationship with the Boulder Dam Hotel," she says. "You have a love affair. It seems to envelop you with its charm, and everything about it. You get so involved your judgment is clouded, and you say, 'This place has to work because I love it.' Sometimes I got the feeling that the hotel was happiest when there were no customers in the rooms, after the restaurant closed, and the fireplace was going, and the hotel was just there and quiet. I don't know if the Boulder Dam Hotel doesn't just want to sit there and be left alone."

'You develop a love-hate relationship with the hotel. It seems to envelop you with its charm, and everything about it.'

Dennis McBride is author of Boulder City· In the Beginning, *a history of his home town. For more information on the hotel, contact the Boulder Dam Hotel, 1305 Arizona St., Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-293-1808.*

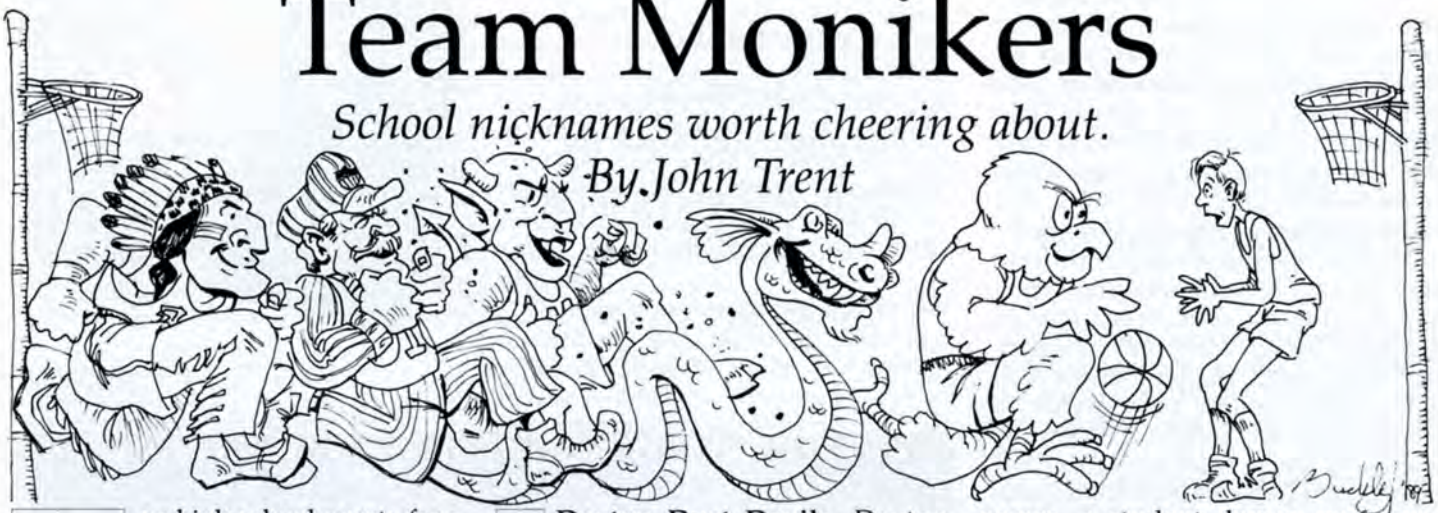


10 GREAT

Team Monikers

School nicknames worth cheering about.

By John Trent



For high-school sports fans, there is no better place for team nicknames than Nevada. Just consider the following 10 well-named teams you can root for this basketball season, when schools large and small work themselves into a frenzy over roundball each weekend.

1 **Gabbs Tarantulas.** Nicknames don't get any better than this. A cursory national survey yields just four other high schools in the Union with the same nickname (two in Arizona, one each in New Mexico and Texas). Established in the 1940s, the mining town of Gabbs is one of the state's younger communities, but its teams got the best moniker.

2 **Sparks and Carlin Railroaders.** History buffs will tell you this cognomen is a natural since both Sparks and Carlin are railroad towns. Sparks is still called the Rail City by many. Carlin High has been known to produce as many railroad conductors as graduates. Sparks' school fight song fits that heritage. At the end of the song, cheering students sing, "Sparks Railroaders, Ahhh-wooooo-wooo!"

3 **Fallon Greenwave.** You've heard of amber waves of grain. Well, how about green waves? Fallon, surrounded by farmland, is known for its green fields and products like Heart of Gold cantaloupes. The side of the Fallon team bus proudly displays a scowling, pug-nosed Greenwave, warning opponents far and wide that this school's students aren't greenhorns.

4 **Dayton Dust Devils.** Dayton may have the only nickname in the state that refers to a local weather phenomenon. Says one rival coach, "You come in there in the winter, and you're lucky if your bus doesn't get blown off the road sometimes." Oldtimers recall that Dayton once had a nickname that reflected the town's agricultural roots: the Haymakers.

5 **Lincoln Lynx.** Sounds like the old Mercury car model, doesn't it? Actually, bobcats (that's the nickname up in Ely, by the way) are pretty prevalent in Lincoln County In past seasons, cheerleaders at Panaca's high school have painted paw prints on their cheeks for big games.

6 **Lowry Buckaroos.** He's a real bronco, buster, and the embodiment of his school's nickname. We speak of Jon Echave, a junior at Lowry High in Winnemucca. Echave is one of the top high school rodeo competitors in the country as well as a football and basketball star. This is the land that rodeo has remembered, for years and years and years.

7 **Boulder City Eagles.** The handle for teams in this former government town is partially derived from the national symbol, the eagle, and has an inherent message for all its young athletes. "We want them to soar beyond their highest expectations," Boulder City athletic director Chuck Stuart is fond of saying.

8 **Owyhee Braves.** At the start of Owyhee High School's basketball games, a student dancer performs under a spotlight in traditional Indian dress. Then the team, pumped up, races onto the floor.

Eighty percent of Owyhee students are Native American. "Our nickname gives all the kids at our school extra pride," says Gwen Thacker, an English teacher who has taught Owyhee students for 22 years. "Our nickname shows that we're the real thing. A Brave isn't just a mascot. For this school, it's a living representation."

9 **Lovelock and Lund Mustangs.** When Lovelock football coach Keith Savage phoned in his games to the newspaper last season, his team's appellation helped him describe player Bruce Meissner, who led all Class A schools in rushing. "He's a real thoroughbred," Savage would say, "a real Mustang."

10 **Hawthorne Serpents.** The students of Mineral County High School take their nickname from the seldom seen but legendary serpent of nearby Walker Lake. At pre-game assemblies they've been known to rock the place with the chant, "S-E-R-P-E-N-T-S!" This season a student will dress as a sea-monster mascot, and visiting teams need only see the giant serpent on the school gym wall to know these Serpents won't take a dive. ◻

John Trent covers high school sports at the Reno Gazette-Journal *and previously wrote for the* Las Vegas Review-Journal. *He is a graduate of Reno High and UNR, both of which have canine-inspired nicknames: Huskies and Wolf Pack.*

Illustration: Brian Buckley

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Cover Photo: New Year's Eve in Las Vegas. Photo by Las Vegas News Bureau

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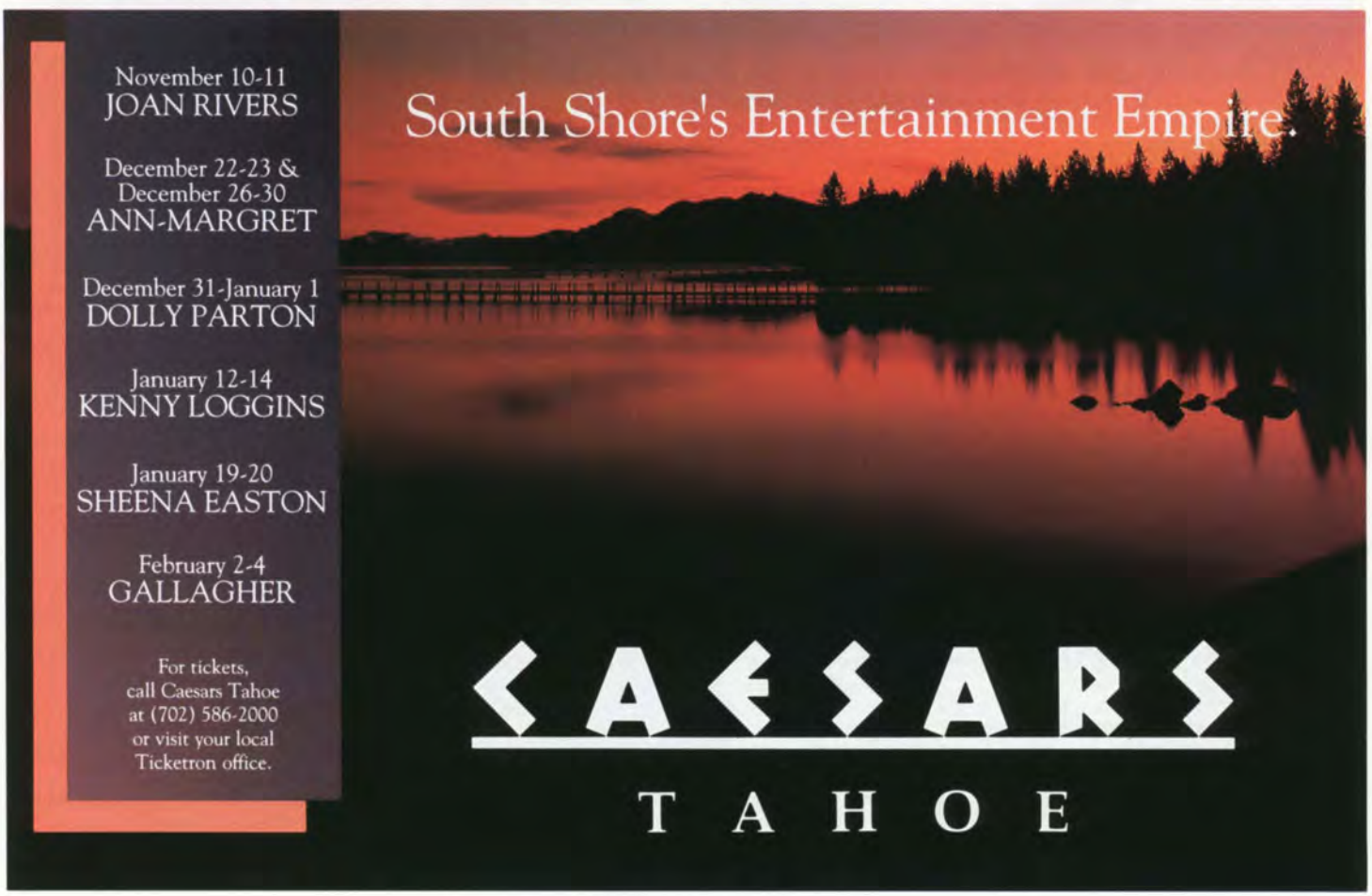
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Nevada Events: A Traveler's Guide is produced by **Nevada Magazine**. **Events Editor:** Melissa Cronin Loomis. **Managing Editor:** David Moore. **Art Director:** Brian Buckley. **Production Editor:** Tamara Charland. **Publisher:** Kirk Whisler. **Business Manager:** Ann Henderson. **Circulation Manager:** Gary Cook. **Advertising Manager:** Patty Noll. **Commission on Tourism Chairman:** Governor Bob Miller. **Commission on Tourism Acting Executive Director:** Rich Moreno. **Nevada Events** (ISSN08962588) is published bimonthly by the State of Nevada at 1800 Hwy. 50 East, Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89710-0005; (702) 687-5416. Copyright © 1989 by State of Nevada. All rights reserved. Reproduction of editorial content without written permission is prohibited. **Nevada Events** is included in each issue of **Nevada Magazine**. Subscription rates for the magazine are $11.90 for six issues (one year), U.S.; $16.90 Foreign. Please allow six weeks for delivery. Submissions: Color slides and 5x7 or 8x10 color prints are needed for events. **Nevada Events** assumes no responsibility for damage or loss of submitted material. A stamped, self-addressed envelope must accompany submissions.



TRAVEL PLANNER

GETAWAY HOT LINES

Here's where to call or write for vacation tips.

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

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

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



STATEWIDE INFORMATION

Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 687-3636 or 1-800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada

TOLL-FREE HOT LINES

Carson City Convention and Visitor's Center: 800-634-8700 outside Nevada

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

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

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

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 800-AT-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.

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

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

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

LAS VEGAS AREA

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

Boulder City Events Hot Line: 293-0137

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

R E N O AREA

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; 882-1565

Carson City Convention and Visitor's Center: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; 883-7442, or 800-634-8700 outside Nevada

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

LAKE TAHOE

Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 831-4440

Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitor and Convention Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; 832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE outside Nevada

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

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

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

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

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

RURAL AREAS

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

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

Beatty C of C: Box 946, Beatty, NV 89003; 553-2424

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

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

Dayton C of C: Box 408, Dayton, NV 89403; 246-0525

Elko C of C: 1601 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; 738-7135
Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 738-4091, or 1-800-248-ELKO outside Nevada
Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720
Eureka County C of C: Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 237-5484
Fernley C of C: Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; 575-4459
Gabbs, City of: Box 86, Gabbs, NV 89409; 285-2671
Goldfield C of C: Box 225, Goldfield, NV 89013; 485-9957
Great Basin C of C: Baker, NV 89311; 234-7302
Jackpot Visitors Information: Box 508, Jackpot, NV 89825; 755-2321, 800-821-3935 in Nevada, 800-821-1103 outside Nevada
Lincoln County C of C: Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 726-3129
Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 273-7213
McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421
Mason Valley C of C: Box 327 Yerington, NV 89447; 463-3721
Mesquite C of C: Box 8, Mesquite, NV 89024; 346-5123 weekday afternoons
Mineral County C of C: Box 1635, Hawthorne, NV 89415; 945-5896
Pahrump Valley C of C: Box 42, Pahrump, NV 89041; 727-5800
Pioche C of C: Box 51, Pioche, NV 89043; 962-5544 (office hours: 11am-3pm Mon.-Sat.)
Tonopah C of C: Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 482-3859
Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 752-3540
Wendover USA Visitors/Convention Bureau: Box 2468, Wendover, NV 89883; 664-3414
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 289-8877
Winnemucca C of C: 48 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-2225
Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 623-5071

STATE AND NATIONAL PARKS

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

MORE CAMPING AND HIKING

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

FISHING AND HUNTING

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

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THE NEVADA CALENDAR

Las Vegas



Thousands of revelers jam Fremont Street in Las Vegas for the New Year's Eve fireworks.

Photo: Lee McDonald

HOT LINES

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

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

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

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

UNLV Basketball: 11/15 National Invitational Tournament v. Loyola Marymount; 12/23 Nike Classic: UNLV v. Iowa/Michigan v. Seton Hall; 12/26 v. Long Beach State; 12/30 v. Arkansas; 1/3 v. Cal State Fullerton; 1/18 v. UC Irvine; 1/25 v. UC Santa Barbara, Thomas and Mack Center, 739-FANS

UNLV Concerts: music and dance, 739-3101

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

EVENTS

November

"Crooked River," thru 11/5, original play by Red Shuttleworth, University Theatre, Black Box Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

"I'm Not Rappaport," thru 11/5, Herb Gardner's comedy, Actors Repertory Theatre, 647-SHOW

"Dracula," thru 11/5, Las Vegas Little Theatre, 383-0021

Ansel Adams: A Museum of Fine Arts Portfolio, thru 11/26, from the Museum of Fine Arts, Museum of New Mexico, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Alternatives to the Silverprint, thru 11/26, a photographic exhibition of works by 10 contemporary artists, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Roberto Duran Training, 10/25-11/30, WBC middleweight champ Roberto Duran trains in the Atrium area of the Tropicana Hotel, free to the public, 739-2222

Desert Treasure: Nevada's Mining and Minerals, 10/30-11/30, Clark County Heritage Museum's new exhibit hall opens with a changing display on Nevada's mining heritage, featuring mineral samples and historic documents; cosponsored by the Nevada Department of Minerals and Nevada Publications, Inc., Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

Four Sacred Mountains Art Exhibit, 11/1-30, color, form, and abstraction in contemporary Indian art, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Hanover Band Concert, 11/2, late classical; band duplicates Beethoven's own practices with regard to pitch, tempo, and dynamics, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

National Finals Rodeo Art Auction Exhibit, 11/2-30, all artwork that will be auctioned off on 12/2 at the Golden Nugget will be exhibited, Las Vegas Art Museum, 647-3675

The Young Ambassadors, 11/3, musical revue, 8pm, Cashman Field Theatre, 386-6211

Las Vegas Indian Days, 11/3-5, seventh annual, Native American entertainment with fancy and traditional dancers, arts and crafts festival, Indian foods, Southwestern Indian and landscape photographs exhibit, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Lorenzi



The author's crew gets cookin' at the state cook-off. This year's is December 16-17

The Big Chili

By Earl Hawkes

Are you aware of the peril facing chili? I am saddened to say that this Western American food classic will soon be added to the list of endangered meals because it is being destroyed by an increasingly popular phenomenon—the chili cook-off.

My knowledge comes from the inside—I was a contestant recently in the Annual Nevada State Chili Cook-Off, sponsored by Circus Circus in Las Vegas. At this event I experienced firsthand the terrible things people are doing to chili.

I took my knowledge of good chili, my special ingredients, and my capable support staff, consisting of my wife Violet and Jim and Denise Mulcahy, to the competition. My original intention was to either prove to the world that I make the best chili or find out who does and steal their recipe.

Upon arriving, all entrants were told their recipes would be judged in such areas as color, consistency of texture, aroma, and aftertaste. This sort of judging process might work in a quiche cook-off, but I have always felt that the only way to judge chili was quite simple: The best is so hot you can barely stand it—but so good, you eat it anyway!

The first hour at Circus Circus was set aside for preparation and setup. Here the support teams did their work. Vegetables and meat were sliced, booths were set up, and stoves assembled. I was suspicious when I learned that an entire hour was allowed for these tasks. After all, it should only take about 15 minutes to chop some onions and green chilis and connect my propane cylinder to my stove.

It became clear why an hour was allotted. Some of the contestants had brought ornate, prefabricated western-format booths to serve as shrines for their culinary efforts. It seemed that an entire town was erected in about 45 minutes, reminiscent of Nevada's boom-town mining days. The remainder of the time was used by the support teams to carefully mince the meat and vegetables into perfectly uniform, extraordinarily small pieces. Some of the competitors even used magnifying glasses to perform this task.

At our booth my support team quickly cut up one onion, three peppers, and a few pounds of beef. I set up the stove, and then we all relaxed over some refreshments while awaiting the next phase.

I was basking in confidence at this point. I knew that microscopic pieces of onion or a booth made to look like an Old West jail had nothing to do with good chili.

A three-hour cooking period was next. I needed only 30 minutes to get my concoction steaming, so I spent some time observing my competitors. My spying netted me some suspicious glances, hiding of ingredients, and blatantly misleading responses to my questions.

I was disappointed, but I still knew my chili would be the best. My confidence was unshaken because my father taught me years ago that there is only one way to make chili. These other folks were spending too much time adding strange ingredients like chocolate, rattlesnake meat, buffalo lip, and eel grass to their pots. I could hardly wait for the judging.

Finally a bowl of chili was obtained from each vessel for the judges. These alleged experts tasted the samples and applied numerical ratings. Spectators were then encouraged to taste from all the booths. This tasting period was a learning experience for the novice attendee. The usual reaction was, "How can so many concoctions look, smell, and taste different, yet be called by the same name?"

I became worried about the judging process when I considered that there were 180 contestants. After all, how could you expect any person to taste that much chili (180 spoonfuls), much less rate it? Somehow the judges did it, and the results were announced over the public address system.

But wait! How could this be? I was not in the top group! It had to be a fix, or all the judges must have taken ill before getting to my chili. I sat in a state of total dejection as my support team tried to revive my spirits with the tequila we brought for the victory celebration.

I can say now that my battered ego has finally recovered. Presently my main concern is that somehow real chili must survive for future generations. In pursuit of that goal, I plan on entering next year's cook-off. If you'd like to taste a bit of history still preserved, be sure to stop by for a sample.

I just hope my booth won't look like an Old West jail—I'm trying to resist the urge.

Earl Hawkes is the director of general services for Clark County. Photographer Donald L. Woods is the county's purchasing and contracts administrator

Photo: Donald L. Woods

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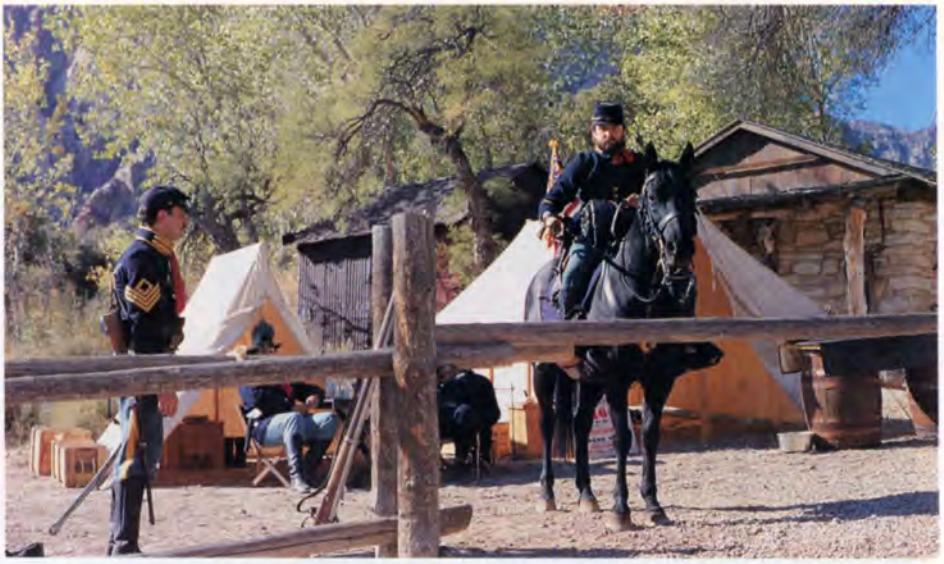
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Spring Mountain Ranch offers "living history" programs like the one above, set in the 1860s.

Park, 486-5205

Doll Show, 11/4-5, Hacienda, 877-2200

Photography Exhibit, 11/4-1/3, photos of the American Southwest by Laura Gilpin, Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Nevada Symphonic Wind Ensemble, 11/5, 2pm, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

Concert, 11/5, featuring 80 professional trombonists, 2pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Chamber Music Southwest Concert, 11/7 virtuosic classics for horn and trombone performed by Lynn Arnold and James Huntzinger, 7:30pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Sharing the Colorado River Lecture, 11/7 Wright Hall, UNLV 739-3401

General Tire Las Vegas Classic Golf Tournament, 11/9-12, Senior PGA Tour stop, pro-am format for two days, then professionals play for $270,000 purse, Desert Inn Golf Club, 733-4653

"Really Rosie," 11/9-19, The Rainbow Company, children's theater, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Indian Crafts Festival, 11/10-12, craft booths with live demonstrations of jewelry making, pottery, and basketry, dancing and food booths, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Art Exhibit, 11/10-12/9, paintings and drawings by Jean Giguet, Bill Leaf, and Roy Purcell, Museum of Natural History, UNLV 739-3381

A Soldier's Life, 11/11, meet at the tour trail entrance for this living history program set in the 1860s, discussion will include field conditions, clothing, weapons, and a drill of the Civil War period, 9-11am, Spring Mountain Ranch, 875-4141

Stacey Freeman Invitational Gymnastics Meet, 11/13-17 southern Nevada gymnasts compete, Stewart-Mojave Sports Center, 386-6563

Las Vegas: From Trails to Rails Lecture, 11/14, Wright Hall, UNLV 739-3401

Vienna Boys Choir, 11/16, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Western Fair, 11/17-18, 10am-5pm, Colorado River Pioneers Historical Society, Bullhead City Chamber of Commerce, 602-754-3891

"Chekhov—A Night of Comedy?" 11/17-18, presented in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Anton Chekhov; Dr. Herman Van Betten will narrate "The Harmfulness of Tobacco" and "Wedding," New West Stage Company, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 876-NWSC

Early Music Consort, 11/19, concert of Renaissance music played on authentic early musical instruments, 1pm, Winchester Community Center, 455-7340

Las Vegas Symphony Concert, 11/19, 2pm, Ham Hall, UNLV, 739-3420

John Barth: A Reading and Discussion, 11/21, Wright Hall, UNLV 739-3401

Las Vegas Gold Show, 11/23-27 Tropicana, 739-2222

Bullhead/Laughlin Rodeo, 11/24-25, 2pm, sixth annual, rodeo grounds, Bullhead City, 602-754-3891

Craft Festival, 11/24-26, Cashman Field, 386-7100

Opening of Karneval (Mardi Gras), 11/25, dancing and costumes, $5, 7pm, Las Vegas Piepen KG of Nevada, Union Plaza Hotel, 451-2220

Annual Christmas Tree Lighting, 11/25, official city tree is lit, hot chocolate, Christmas carols, 6pm, Frank Crowe Park, Boulder City, 293-2034

Desert Survival Program, 11/25, meet at the visitor center for slide show and discussion on surviving in the desert, 1pm, Valley of Fire State Park, 397-2088

Verdi Requiem, 11/26, 3pm, Southern Nevada Musical Arts Society, Ham Hall, UNLV 451-6672

Common Clay: Learning Outside the System Lecture, 11/28, Ham Fine Arts, UNLV 739-3401

Casinos of Latin America Lecture, 11/30, Ham Fine Arts, UNLV 739-3401

Santa's Helper Parade, 11/30, 6pm, downtown Boulder City, 293-2034

Sunset Symphony Concert, 11/30, 7pm, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

"Love's Labour's Lost," 11/30-12/3 and 12/6-10, University Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

December

Downtown Hoedown, 12/1, National Finals Rodeo kick-off hoedown, free to public, 6-8:30pm, Fremont Street, 382-6397

"The Musical Comedy Murders of 1940," 12/1-3 and 12/7-9, Clark County Community

Photo: Spring Mountain Ranch State Park

College Theatre, CCCC, North Las Vegas, 644-PLAY

"The Little Match Girl," 12/1-3 and 12/8-10, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Art Exhibit, 12/1-31, paintings by Shirley Thurman of Overton, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Valley of Fire Art Show, 12/1-31, Boulder City Art Guild art show at Valley of Fire Visitors Center, 294-2138

National Finals Rodeo Auction, 12/2, fourth annual, largest art auction in the nation features original western and wildlife paintings and sculptures, and collector's pieces, Golden Nugget, 647-3675

Christmas Parade, 12/2, 10am Christmas parade led by Mr. and Mrs. Claus, pictures taken with Santa after parade, downtown Boulder City, 293-2034

Doodlebug Bazaar, 12/2, Christmas arts and crafts sale, Recreation Center, Boulder City, 293-4485

Las Vegas Rugby Challenge, 12/2-3, with 32 teams from across the country, Las Vegas Rugby Football Club, Sam Boyd Silver Bowl, 368-1167

Quad Rugby Tournament, 12/2-3, the City of Las Vegas Adaptive Outreach Program hosts this tournament for quadriplegics, Dula Senior Complex, 386-6297

Rodeo Days at Caesars Palace, 12/2-9, rodeo champions will receive silver and gold buckles after each performance during the NFR at 11pm nightly in the Caesars Palace Olympiad Race and Sports Book, also there will be display of Go-round buckles, world-champion saddles, solid-gold, diamond-studded, world-champion buckles and rodeo paraphernalia, music by K.T Oslin, western dance nightly, Caesars Palace, 731-7324

National Finals Rodeo, 12/2-10, pro rodeo's biggest event, top 15 cowboys in seven events compete for the title of world champion, Thomas and Mack Center, UNLV Las Vegas, 739-3900

Museum Exhibits, 12/2-1/7 David Arnold photographs and juried exhibition of three-dimensional art by the Desert Sculptors Assn., Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, 486-5205

Makita Pro Baseball Arm Wrestling Championships, 12/3, baseball's top sluggers compete in arm wrestling championships, Imperial Palace, 794-3286

Violetta's Daughters Lecture, 12/4, Ham Fine Arts, UNLV 739-3401

Leonard v. Duran Fight, 12/7 The Mirage, 791-0700

New York Vocal Arts Ensemble, 12/7 7:30pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show, 12/7-10, held in conjunction with NFR, Cashman Field, 871-7945

Chamber Music in the Chambers, 12/8, free chamber music concert by the Serenata String Quartet, Clark County Commission Chambers, 455-7340

St. Jude's Nite of Stars, 12/8, celebrity fundraiser for St. Jude's Ranch for Children in Boulder City, Las Vegas Hilton, 293-3131

Alabama Concerts, 12/8-9, country music, Aladdin Theatre for the Performing Arts, 736-0420

Parade of Lights, 12/9, holiday-decorated boats parade single file on Lake Mead, Las Vegas Boat Owners Assn., Lake Mead Marina, 293-1530

Henderson Children's Christmas Parade, 12/9, 2pm, downtown Henderson, 565-8951



PREVIEW



Let There Be Lights

When Christmas comes to Nevada, one of the most spectacular celebrations is the Lake Mead Boat Owners Association's annual Parade of Lights. This year's event will be held on Saturday, December 9, with an alternate date of December 10 set in case of windy weather. The parade forms at Lake Mead Marina, with up to 50 decorated and lighted vessels expected, and departs at 6 p.m. The flotilla will proceed past Pyramid Point and south along Boulder Beach to Hemenway Harbor before returning to the marina.

Atlatl Rock Archaeological Hike, 12/9, meet at the Atlatl Rock Picnic Area for a half-mile walk through a site that the Indians used frequently in the Valley of Fire, discussion of petroglyphs and the habitats of ancient man in the park will be presented by a park ranger, 11am, Valley of Fire State Park, 397-2088

"Messiah," 12/10, performed by Las Vegas Symphony, 2pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3420

World Championship of Blackjack, 12/10-13, tournament that determines the best blackjack player in the world, Aladdin, 736-0233

19th Annual Sport of Kings, 12/11-12, opening reception, seminars on thoroughbred racing, the achievements of the finest riders, trainers, breeders, and owners of thoroughbred race horses will be recognized during an awards banquet with ESPN's Chris Lincoln as master of ceremonies, show will be taped before a live audience for broadcast on ESPN cable network 12/16 at 9pm, Caesars Palace, 731-7777

Diplomacy in Peace and War: Protecting the National Interest Lecture, 12/12, Wright Hall, UNLV, 739-3401

"The Nutcracker," 12/14-29, Nevada Dance Theatre, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3838

Lighting of Luminaria, 12/15, Southwestern tradition of luminaria lights around the community's gazebo park; Christmas carols by local church groups, hot chocolate, and cookies, 6:30pm, Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 293-2034

An Irish Christmas, the Irish Chieftains, 12/15, traditional Irish music, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Mayan Photograph Exhibit, 12/15, Museum of Natural History, UNLV 739-3381

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Photo: Gene Hertzog

Old-Fashioned Christmas Party, 12/16, buffet and Christmas entertainment in the Clark County Heritage Museum's historic houses, cosponsored by the Preservation Assn. of Clark County, reservations required, Henderson, 455-7955

Las Vegas Gamble-Aires Holiday Concert, 12/16, 80-member barbershop group, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Parade of Lights, 12/16, at dusk, Lake Mohave Resort, 602-754-3245

14th Annual Nevada State Championship Chili Cook-Off, 12/16-17, draws approx. 200 entries, $3,500 for winner, who represents Nevada in the 1990 World Championship Chili Cook-Off; accompanying Country Music Contest with $1,000 prize, Circus Circus, 734-0410

Expo Press, 12/16-17 collector car auction, Cashman Field, 386-7100

Holiday Family Pops Concert, 12/17 2pm, Las Vegas Symphony, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3420

10th Annual Messiah Sing-In, 12/17 free performance of Messiah with the Musical Arts Chorus and Orchestra, audience is invited to sing along, 3pm, Clark County Community College, North Las Vegas, 451-6672

Las Vegas Studio Orchestra String Section Holiday Concert, 12/18, 7:30pm, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Holiday FunFare For Kids, 12/18-21, four afternoons of performances, crafts, workshops, and games for kids ages 7-12, 1-5:30pm, preregistration required, Winchester Community Center, 455-7340

"Winnie the Pooh," 12/21-23 and 12/27-31, The Rainbow Company, children's theatre, Charleston Heights Arts Center, 386-6383

1989 Holiday Prep Basketball Classic, 12/26-29, high school basketball teams from all over the country compete, campus gymnasium, UNLV 477-0183

January

Art Exhibit, 1/2-31, paintings by art teacher Clint Brill of Overton, Lost City Museum, Overton, 397-2193

Gospel Concert, 1/6, local gospel choirs, 8pm, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Heritage Quilt Competition and Exhibit, 1/6-2/4, open competition; related programs, demonstrations, and workshops throughout the month, Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 455-7955

10th Annual Las Vegas Invitational Wheelchair Basketball Tourney, 1/13-14, disabled basketball players from the western region assemble for this two-day contest, Baker Park Community School, 386-6297

Eastman Brass Concert, 1/16, 7:30pm, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3801

Gilbert and Sullivan Performance, 1/21-22, theatre production costumed, staged, and choreographed with the Musical Arts Singers, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 451-6672

Oberlin Dance Company, 1/22, modern dance, 8pm, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Las Vegas Symphony Concert, 1/23, Ham Hall, 8pm, 739-3420

Balletmet, 1/25, combines theatre, music, and dance, directed by John McFall, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3081

"Les Liaisons Dangereuses," 1/25-2/11, Actors Repertory Theatre, 647-SHOW

"I'm Not Rappaport," 1/26-28 and 1/30-2/3, play by Herb Gardner, New West Stage Company, Charleston Heights Arts Center,



K.T Oslin (above) and Clint Black appear at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas December 2-9.

FUN & GAMES

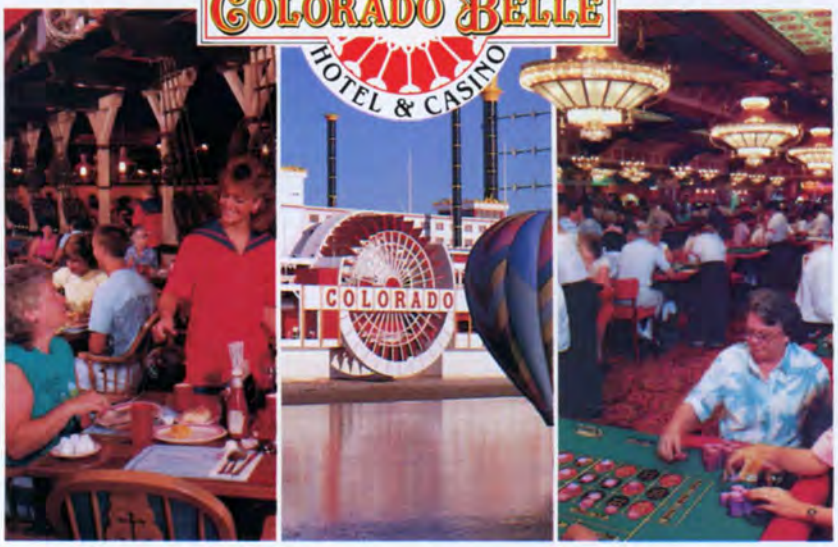
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PREVIEW

Double Your New Year's

By Stephen Allen

Las Vegas believes in New Year's Eve so much that every December 31st it has two of them—one at 9 p.m. for the folks watching TV on the East Coast and another at 12 p.m. for the locals.

You'd think the early celebration might cool the anticipation of the clock striking 12, but Las Vegans' thirst for celebration runs high, so by midnight they are primed and ready to go again. Thousands of people jam onto a four-block area of Fremont Street in front of the Union Plaza, where they dance and carouse all night long in addition to seeing a fireworks display. Fremont Street is the West Coast version of Times Square. Nowhere in Los Angeles or San Francisco will you find a celebration equal to it.

One year the police declared that the only New Year's celebration would be the early one, and that it would be business as usual on Fremont Street at midnight. Ha! Instead the revelers decided it would be New Year's as usual—and that's the way it's been ever since.

Las Vegas on New Year's Eve is a sellout town, so if you are planning to be there, make reservations at least a month or two in advance. Nearly all of the hotels have special rates for the New Year's period, which means that you have to sign up for at least three or four nights, but it will be worth it.

Take Bally's, for example. Since it is the only Las Vegas hotel with two major showrooms, it has the most New Year's parties. Usually the Grand Ballroom has a special New Year's Eve performance that includes a gourmet dinner, champagne, noisemakers, and a superstar on the magnitude of Frank Sinatra. The price tag? About $200 a person.

It's generally less expensive in Bally's Celebrity Room, but you still get a gourmet dinner, champagne, and first-class entertainment. Then there is the Goldwyn Ballroom that had Randy Travis performing last year for a cocktails and champagne party. Finally the Ziegfeld Theatre offers a gourmet dinner and special performance of "Jubilee!" for around $100 a person.

Generally, this is the arrangement at most of the major hotels, such as Caesars Palace, the Las Vegas Hilton, Tropicana, and Riviera.



The clock strikes 12—twice.

If you are on a budget, you will find New Year's parties all over town at prices much lower than those quoted above—or you can join the noisy crowd in front of the Union Plaza.

Getting tickets to New Year's shows is simple. The hotels usually set up tables or booths right in the lobby so you can buy tickets for whatever show you want as you check in—or even earlier if you wish.

On Fremont Street, the fun usually begins around 8 p.m., and by midnight there may be as many as 30,000 people on the four-block stretch.

Beyond Fremont Street, there is more entertainment in Las Vegas on this one night than there is in any other city in the world. The superstars may include Sinatra, Bill Cosby, Sammy Davis, Dean Martin, Diana Ross, Wayne Newton, Bobby Vinton, Kenny Rogers—you name it. All of the hotel production shows like "Lido de Paris" and "Folies Bergere" have special shows.

A final word of wisdom: In Las Vegas alcohol is sold 24 hours a day, so it can be a dangerous place to drive on New Year's Eve.

The ideal solution is not to bring a car, or if you do, make sure you have a designated driver. Some people who are planning a night of reveling and hopping from one place to another hire a limo. It is not expensive if you are sharing the fare, and limos are easy to find in Las Vegas.

Oh yeah, one more thing:
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Stephen Allen is a writer with the Las Vegas News Bureau and author of the book Fun in Las Vegas, *published by Fodors Travel Guides.*

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

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Musical Theatre Production, 1/27 Department of Dance Arts of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas presents an original musical theatre production, 2pm, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV 739-3801

Men's A.A. Invitational Volleyball Tournament, 1/27 athletes from the entire Las Vegas area are invited to play, Stewart-Mojave Sports Center, 386-6563

Las Vegas Studio Orchestra Concert, 1/28, Reed Whipple Cultural Center, 386-6211

Las Vegas Symphony Orchestra Concert, 1/29, Ham Hall, UNLV 739-3420

Tropicana Invitational Indoor Archery Championships, 1/30-31, Tropicana, 739-2222



The National Finals Rodeo is December 2-10.

COMING EVENTS

Amarillo Slim's Super Bowl of Poker, 2/1-15, Las Vegas, 731-7777

Hoover Dam Square Dance Festival, 3/2-3, Boulder City, 293-4918

Henderson Industrial Days, 4/21-29, Henderson, 565-8951

Boulder City Spring Jamboree, 5/5-6, 293-2034

River Days, 5/12, Laughlin, 298-2214

Elks Helldorado Days, 5/18-27 Las Vegas, 795-3500

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

SHOWGUIDE

Aladdin, 736-0240: Alabama, 12/8-9; "Abracadabra," magic, comedy, and dance, indf. (dark Tues.)

Bally's, 739-4567: *Celebrity Room:* Dean Martin and the Golddiggers, 11/2-8; Tom Jones, 11/9-15; Al Jarreau, 11/16-18; Barbara Mandrell, 11/23-12/2; Frank Sinatra, 12/26-31; *Ziegfeld Theatre:* "Jubilee!" indf. (dark Wed.); "Catch a Rising Star," comedy/variety club, indf.

Photo: K.J. Beauer

Barbary Coast, 737-7111: Irish Showband, thru 11/30; Freddy Fender, 12/1-9
Bourbon Street, 737-7200: New Orleans Jazz, indf.
Caesars Palace, 731-7333: Joan Rivers, 11/1-6; Julio Iglesias, 11/8-13; George Burns, 11/15-20; The Judds/Carl Perkins, 11/26-12/1; K.T. Oslin/Clint Black, 12/2-9; Pointer Sisters, 12/27-1/1; Jay Leno, 1/3-8; Dionne Warwick, 1/10-15
California Hotel, 385-1222: Entertainment TBA
Circus Circus, 734-0410: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight
Continental, 737-5555: "Sex Over 40," indf.
Desert Inn, 733-4566: Smothers Brothers/Jim Stafford/Ronn Lucas, 11/1-8; Ray Stevens/Louise Mandrell, 11/9-25; Roy Clark, 11/30-12/2; Rich Little, 12/7-9
Dunes, 737-4741: The Comedy Store, indf., featuring five comedians weekly; Earl Turner/In the Mood, 8/29-10/23
El Rancho, 796-2222: Entertainment TBA
Fitzgeralds, 382-6111: Nightly entertainment
Flamingo Hilton, 733-3333: "City Lites," stage spectacular, indf. (dark Sun.)
Four Queens, 385-4011: Platters, thru 11/5; Frank Sinatra, Jr., 11/7-26; Doug Kershaw, 11/28-12/10; Monday Night Jazz, indf., starring Paul Horn, 11/6; Jimmy McGriff and Hank Crawford, 11/13; Richie Cole, 11/20; Marlena Shaw, 11/27; Harold Land, 12/4; Calvin "Eagleye" Shields Big Band, 12/11; Terry Gibbs, 12/18; Gus Mancuso Christmas Special, 12/25
Gold Coast, 367-7111: Sorta Dixie Jazz Band, indf. (dark Tues.); Smith Brothers, thru 11/19
Golden Nugget, 386-8100: Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, 11/30-12/11; Yakov Smirnoff, 11/9-13 and 11/16-20
Gold Strike, Boulder City, 293-5000: Entertainment TBA
Gold Strike, Jean, 477-5000: Sister Sister, thru 11/5; Topaz, 11/7-12/3; Peggy Sparks, 12/5-1/5
Hacienda, 739-8911: Redd Roxx with Slappy White, Prince Spencer, and Bernie Allen, indf. (dark Mon.); "Fire and Ice," indf., (dark Mon.)
Holiday, 369-5222: Rocky Senne's "Keep Smilin' America," revue, starring Dick Contino thru 1/6
Imperial Palace, 794-3261: "Legends in Concert," indf. (dark Sun.)
Landmark, 733-1128: Melinda, the First Lady of Magic, and her Follies Revue, indf. (dark Sun.)
Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5755: Engelbert Humperdinck/Dick Capri, thru 11/12
Marina, 739-1500: Entertainment TBA
Maxim, 731-4300: "Playboy's Girls of Rock and Roll," indf. (dark Mon.)
Nevada Landing, Jean, 387-5000: Yester Year, thru 11/5; Sister Sister, 11/7-12/3; Edge, 12/5-1/5
Palace Station, 367-2411: Entertainment TBA
Peppermill Resort, Mesquite: 346-5232: Entertainment TBA
Riviera, 794-9301: Paul Anka, 11/2-5; Liza Minnelli, 11/30-12/3; "Splash," production show, indf. (closed 12/17-25); "Crazy Girls: Fastasie de Paris," revue, indf. (closed 11/27-12/28); "An Evening at La Cage," revue, indf. (dark Tues. closed 12/10-28; "An Evening at the Improv," comedians, indf.
Sahara, 737-2424: "Boy-lesque," indf. (dark Wed.); "Bottoms Up '89," indf. (dark Wed.)
Sam Boyd's Fremont, 385-3232: Nightly entertainment
Sam's Town, 456-7777: Nightly entertainment
Sands, 733-5453: Sid and Marty Krofft present "Comedy Kings," indf. (dark Mon.)
Stardust, 732-6325: "Lido de Paris," starring Bobby Berosini and his orangutans, indf. (dark Tues.)
Tropicana, 739-2411: "Folies Bergere," indf. (dark Thurs.)
Union Plaza, 386-2444: "Nudes on Ice," international ice skating champions, indf. (dark Mon.)
Vegas World, 382-2000: "Hallelujah Las Vegas!" magical, musical revue starring Karen Nelson Bell, indf. (dark Thurs.); "Memories of Elvis" starring Tom Carlile, indf. (dark Thurs.); "Reflections of Sinatra" starring Duke Hazlett, indf. (dark Thurs.)
Westward Ho, 731-2900: Pat Indelicato and Wildflower, indf.
Whiskey Pete's, on I-15 near the California-Nevada border, 382-4388: Live entertainment

Laughlin

Colorado Belle, 298-4000: Big Tiny Little, 11/1-18; Winchester Cathedral, 11/20-12/16; Big Band Bash, with jitterbug contest every Sun.
Del Webb's Nevada Club, 298-2512: Hoyt Henry and the Dixie Jazz Kings, indf. Mon.-Fri.
Edgewater, 298-2453
Harrah's Del Rio, 298-4600: David St. David, 10/31-11/11; Cleveland, 11/14-12/3; Rainbow, 12/3-1/14
Ramada Express, 298-4200: Entertainment TBA
Regency, 298-2439: Piano bar

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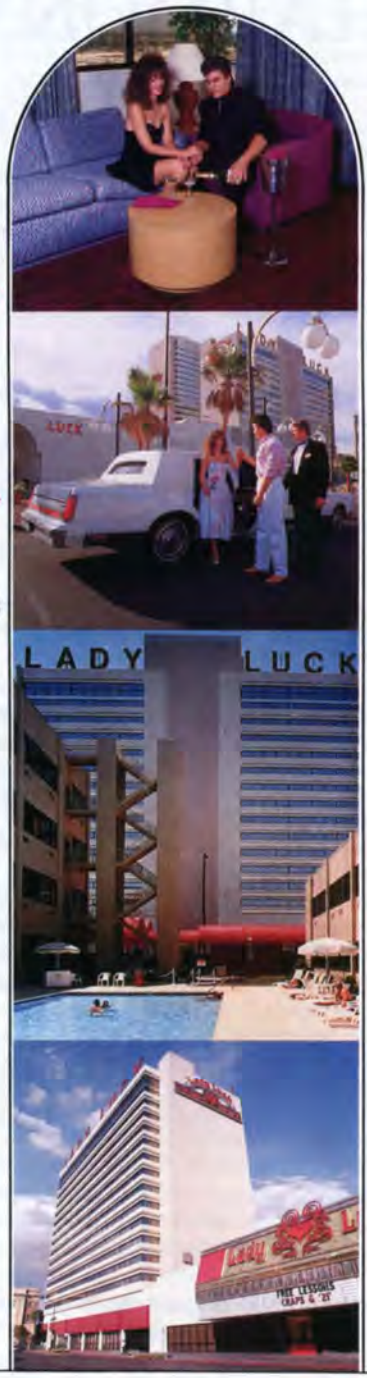
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A SPECIAL HARMONY

By Jackie Brett



Larry Gatlin and his brothers will be in Las Vegas during the NFR in December

Flawless vocal harmony is a trademark of the Gatlin Brothers. But the new harmony that Larry, Steve, and Rudy are enjoying most is within each of them. The brothers became drug- and alcohol-free a few years ago, and they say the change has brought them peace of mind.

"We're at a point in our lives," Larry says, "that we don't do anything we don't want to."

They've put their lives in order both personally and professionally even though they haven't experienced the high of a number-one hit recently.

"Sure would help to have a big hit. We've had some Top 5 records the last few years," Larry says, adding philosophically "Nobody stays on top forever."

The Gatlins' popularity has hardly waned, however "They're working more now than they ever were before in their career," says their publicist and friend, Kathy Gangwisch. They're doing about 200 dates a year.

In concert the brothers display a wealth of wit and charm. Larry the leader and songwriter, has developed a flare for singing and talking to the audience since he made his rather non-flamboyant debut at the Aladdin more than 10 years ago.

When the Gatlins appear at the Golden Nugget in November and December, they'll be doing their special Christmas show. The first half features their regular hit songs—like "Broken Lady," "All the Gold in California," and other hits—while the second half is filled with holiday music. Those who saw the show last year couldn't praise it enough.

On stage the brothers are known for their *a cappella* singing and pure sound. Now it seems they're that pure in life, too.

"We don't go around many places where there is drinking," Larry admits.

What they feed on is work which is their music. Still, Larry says, "it's a lot of physical and psychological wear and tear. It's a spiritual commitment, too. Every time you go on stage you must prepare for the audience." Larry admits that such stress contributed to the breakdown he had in the mid-'80s. But the boys are moving ahead now with a clean slate.

Larry is open about his drug and alcohol addiction and fulfills a myriad of speaking engagements, primarily for high school kids. Word has it he's a fine public speaker, but he doesn't allow press coverage of *those* gigs.

Their recent album, "Larry Gatlin & The Gatlin Brothers: Live at 8 p.m.," was recorded at Harrah's Tahoe. "We did it there because Reno and Tahoe are one of the few places that uses strings," Larry says.

The three Gatlins divide the business work between them in order to keep their group more self-contained. Steve coordinates the bookings and financial interests. Rudy takes care of special projects like their annual golf tournaments. Larry does all the songwriting.

One of the things the brothers like most about playing Las Vegas, which they've been doing for the past decade, is the time it gives them to golf. The sport is a bit of a passion for them.

Golf is also one of the rare areas where the brothers aren't in complete harmony. It seems Steve and Rudy are one up on Larry in an important category—they've each made a hole-in-one, and Larry hasn't. But maybe the next time on the course he'll have that perfect hit.

The Gatlins will be at the Golden Nugget November 30-December 4, and December 7-11.

Riverside Resort, 298-2535: Entertainment TBA
Sam's Town Gold River, 298-2242: Live entertainment nightly

MUSEUMS

Boulder City

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

Henderson

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

Las Vegas

American Museum of Historical Documents: 10-6 Mon.-Wed., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 10-6 Sat., 12-5 Sun., 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., privately owned, 731-0785
Discovery, The Children's Museum: For information call 382-3445
Guinness World of Records Museum: 2780 S. Las Vegas Blvd., due to open in winter 1989, 734-0552
Imperial Palace Auto Collection: 9:30am-11:30pm daily, 794-3174
Las Vegas Art Museum: 10-3 Tues.-Sat., noon-3 Sun., Lorenzi Park, 3333 W Washington Ave., 647-4300
Las Vegas Museum of Natural History: includes the Wildlife World Art Museum, 9-6 Sun.-Thurs., 9-9 Fri.-Sat. Memorial Day-Labor Day (during winter 9-6 Fri.-Sat.), 3700 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 739-7280
Liberace Museum: 10-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society: 11:30-4:30 Mon.-Tues., 8:30-4:30 Wed.-Sun., Lorenzi Park, 486-5205
Old Las Vegas Fort: 8-2 Sat. and Mon. and noon-3 Sun., Las Vegas Blvd. N. at Washington (entrance from Cashman Field parking lot B only), 382-7198
Ripley's Believe It or Not!: 9am-midnight Sun.-Thurs., 9am-1am Fri.-Sat., Four Queens Hotel, 385-4011
UNLV Museum of Natural History: 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-5 Sat., UNLV 739-3381

North Las Vegas

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

Overton

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

ART GALLERIES

Boulder City

Boulder City Art Guild and Gallery: 1495 Nevada Hwy., noon-4 daily, local artists featured, 293-2138
Brent Thomson Art and Framing: 1672 Nevada Hwy., 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., contemporary Southwest, 293-4652
Burk Gal'ry: 1229 Arizona, 10-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., 11-4 Sun., western themes and polages, 293-4514

Henderson

Studio West: 2708 N. Green Valley Pkwy., 9-5:30 Mon.-Sat., paintings, etchings, limited-edition prints, posters, 458-2535



UNLV Department of Dance Arts dancers.

Las Vegas

Addi Galleries International: 3000 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas Hilton, 9-11 daily, Miro, Chagall, Leroy Neiman, Ting, Red Skelton, 369-2787
Allied Arts Gallery: 3710 S. Maryland Pkwy., 9-5 Mon.-Fri., contemporary work by Nevada artists, 731-5419
American Museum of Historical Documents: 3601 W. Sahara Ave., Promenade Suite, 7:30-5 Mon.-Fri., 364-1000
Art Affair: 3871 S. Valley View Blvd., Suite 9, 9-9 Mon.-Fri., oils, limited-edition prints, serigraphs, etchings, watercolors, paper sculpture, 368-7888
Art and Gift Shop: 600 Jackson Ave. inside the New Town Tavern and Casino, 5-9 Tues.-Sat. or by appointment, prints and sculpture by contemporary black artists, gifts, souvenirs, 648-4949
Art Exchange: 4440 Maryland Pkwy., Suite 211, noon-6pm Tues.-Sat., framing, bronzes, original lithographs, serigraphs, etchings, 796-0030
Art Gallery Dunes Hotel: Dunes Hotel, 9-3 and 4-midnight daily, Marte Groth and Mike Grillo original oils, pastels, portraits, 737-4059
Canterbury Arts: 2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite A-9, 11-5 Mon.-Fri., original graphics and limited-edition prints, 384-9640
Charleston Heights Arts Center: 800 S. Brush St., 1-9 Mon. and Thurs., 10-9 Tues.-Wed., 10-6 Fri., 1-5 Sat.-Sun., fine arts in all media, 386-6383
Circle Gallery Ltd.: Bally's Shopping Arcade, 9am-11pm daily, lithographs, serigraphs, oils, and animation art, 734-0000
Clark County Library District Galleries: includes Clark County, Green Valley, Spring Valley, Sunrise, and West Las Vegas libraries, all galleries feature two- and three-dimensional fine-arts pieces; for schedule, location, and hours call 435-0919
Crystal Swan: 2800 W. Sahara, 9-6 Mon.-Sat., local artists on consignment, 364-0962
Debora Spanover Fine Arts: 3351 S. Highland Dr., 10-4 Mon.-Fri., by appointment on weekends, original paintings, serigraphs, litho-

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graphs, sculptures, animation art and posters, 731-2411

Demos Gallery: 4225 S. Eastern Ave., No. 6, 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-5 Sat., limited- and open-edition graphics, oils, antique prints, poster art, framing, 796-5400

Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery: UNLV, 4505 S. Maryland Pkwy., 8-5 Mon.-Fri. (occasional extended hours per exhibit), exhibitions feature the work of nationally prominent artists, 739-3893

Downtown Art and Gift Gallery: 321 Las Vegas Blvd. S., by appointment only, oils and acrylics, 384-3884

Elk Dreamer Gallery: 2230 Paradise Rd., 10-6 Mon.-Sat. and by appointment, western paintings, bronzes, woodcarving, wildlife art, Indian art and jewelry, 735-4104

Frame Corner and Gallery: 4950 W. Charleston Blvd., 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., decorator poster art, 870-4062

Gallery Gallery: 1812 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., Sat.-Sun. by appointment, commissioned portraits, murals, bronzes, sculptures, 386-2787

Gallery of History: 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 10-6 Mon.-Wed., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 10-6 Sat., 12-5 Sun., historical documents framed as art, 731-0785

Habitat: 4300 Meadows Ln., 10-9 Mon.-Fri., 10-6 Sat., 11-5 Sun., Southwestern prints, watercolors, 878-2434

Habitat: 4020 Maryland Pkwy., Suite J, 10-6 Mon.-Sat., southwestern and country artwork, original oils, drawings, etchings, lithographs, 734-2434

Herigstad's Gallery: 2290 E. Flamingo Rd., 10-6 Mon.-Sat., limited-edition prints, posters, 733-7366

Las Vegas Art Museum: 3333 W. Washington Ave., 10-3 Tues.-Sat., 12-3 Sun., youth, Nevada, and guest artist displays, 647-4300

Las Vegas Artists Cooperative: 850 S. Rancho Rd., Ranch Town and Country Mall, 11-4 Mon.-Sat., 200 local artists, 877-0761

Markus Galleries: 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Suite 309, 10-6 Mon.-Wed. and Sat., 10-9 Thurs.-Fri., 12-5 Sun., contemporary art by area artists, Austine Wood polages, 737-7307

Mary Lou's: 1563 N. Decatur, 9-6 Mon.-Sat., Southwest Indian art and pottery, 648-7478

Minotaur Fine Arts Ltd.: 3200 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 9:30-6 Mon.-Wed., 9:30-9 Thurs.-Fri., 9:30-6 Sat., 12-5 Sun., oils, etchings, drawings, lithographs, 737-1400

Nevada Frames and Gallery: 3061 Sheridan, 10-5 Mon.-Sat., variety of artwork, 876-6734

Nevada Institute for Contemporary Art: Donna Beam Fine Art Gallery, UNLV, contemporary art, hours vary, call 739-3751

Portfolio Ink Gallery: 2350 S. Jones Blvd., 12-6 Mon.-Fri., Sat. by appointment, limited-edition serigraphs and lithographs, custom framing, 876-3587

Reed Whipple Cultural Center: 821 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 1-9 Mon. and Thurs., 10-9 Tues. and Wed., 10-6 Fri., 1-5 Sat. and Sun., fine arts in all media, 386-6211

Ryan Galleries: 3661 S. Maryland Pkwy., 10-5 Mon.-Fri., serigraphs and oils, 734-0650

Sandor Art Studio/Gallery: 3390 Oneida Way, 9-6 daily, western and Indian subjects, European old masters, 732-4808

Sturman Fine Arts: 101 Convention Center Dr., private collection open for viewing to major collectors, private dealers, and universities by appointment only, 734-2787

Sunset Art Emporium: 1588 E. Flamingo Rd., 369-9200, and 5785 W. Tropicana, 368-7809, 10-5 Mon.-Sat., contemporary art, Southwest art, custom framing

Torres Gallery and Frame Shop: 6140 W. Tropicana Ave., C-3, 9-5 Mon.-Thurs., 10-5 Fri.-Sat., original and limited-edition prints, 364-1998

Winged Horse Gallery: 6380 S. Eastern Ave., 10-5 Mon.-Sat., contemporary ceramic, wood and bronze sculpture, paintings, 798-0778

CASINO NOTES

•With yet a new twist to the buffet idea, the **Tropicana** offers a no-wait lunch complete with showgirls. Served daily in the Tiffany Theatre, the buffet includes a special presentation of the "Folies Bergere" that includes its history, sets, and costumes. Buffet patrons who bring cameras can have their pictures taken with a "Folies Bergere" showgirl.

•The Hilton Nevada Corporation has brought a touch of the Irish to Las Vegas with **O'Sheas**, a new 30,000 square foot casino located next to the Flamingo Hilton. Besides importing fabrics and furnishings from Ireland to create an authentic atmosphere, the casino has also imported some of its staff from the island of the leprechaun.

•This January the **Rio Suite Hotel and Casino** will open with 430 suites and a full-service casino. All suites have refrigerators, remote-control 20-inch color TVs, and safes.

•According to the 1989 Guinness Book of World Records, the world's largest slot machine resides at the **Four Queens**. The monster machine is nine feet eight inches high, 18 feet long, and 8 feet 10 inches wide. Six people can play it simultaneously for a $300,000 jackpot.

•New **Dunes** owner Masao Nagaku will add a bit of Japanese nightlife to Las Vegas when the Top of the Dunes undergoes a complete transformation as part of the hotel's overall face-lift. The new Top will become a Japanese-style *Karaoke*, where patrons provide their own entertainment. Customers select hits from the '50s, '60s, and '80s, then actually sing the words as they flash on a video screen. The background music mirrors the original arrangement—except for the words.

•**Harrah's Del Rio** in Laughlin celebrated its first year in business last August with free champagne and cake. The hotel-casino looks forward to opening another 492 rooms and a 500-plus covered parking garage in the near future.

•Sports lovers can now break out of the pack with state-of-the-art betting systems at **Caesars Palace.** The casino's Olympiad Race and Sports Book has shorter betting lines with Autotote, the same system currently used at racetracks and off-track betting parlors. "I foresee no long lines this upcoming football season," says Sports Director Lou D'Amico. "There will be less chance of getting shut out from a winning wager."

TOURNAMENTS

November

Slots, 10/30-11/1 and 11/6-8, Binion's Horseshoe, 382-1600

Slots, 10/31-11/3, Sands, 733-5285

Slots, 11/5-8, Caesars Palace, 731-7777

Slots, 11/5-8, Sahara, 737-2713

Slots, 11/7-10, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111

World Cup of Thoroughbred Handicapping, 11/8-11, Caesars Palace, 731-7777

Slots, 11/8-12 and 11/15-19, Westward Ho, 731-2900

Keno, 11/17-19, Harrah's Del Rio, Laughlin, 298-4600

Slots, 11/19-21, Flamingo Hilton, 733-3117

Slots, 11/19-24, Tropicana, 739-2222

Blackjack/Craps, 11/26-29 and 1/14-17 Lady Luck Casino, 477-3000

Craps, 11/26-29, Lady Luck Casino, 477-3000

Slots, 11/27-30, Holiday Casino/Holiday Inn, 369-5000

December

Slots, 12/1-3, Aladdin, 736-0233

Video Poker, 12/1-3, Lady Luck Casino, 477-3000

Blackjack, 12/1-5, Tropicana, 739-2222

Slots, 12/8-9, Hacienda, 739-8911

World Championship of Blackjack, 12/10-13, Aladdin, 736-0233

Gin Rummy, 12/10-14, Sands, 733-5542

Slots, 12/10-14 and 1/21-24, Lady Luck Casino, 477-3000

Slots, 12/14-15 and 12/16-17 Riviera, 794-9424

Poker, 12/14-22, Las Vegas Hilton, 732-5111

Blackjack, 12/15-18, Sands, 733-5542

Photo: Larry Hanna

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THE NEVADA CALENDAR





Snow at Tahoe means great skiing and also Nordic and alpine races for pros and amateurs.

HOT LINES

Festivals at Tahoe: information on North Shore festivals throughout the year, 916-583-7625

Nevada Division of State Parks: hikes, tours, stargazing, campfire programs at 21 parks around the state, District II, Carson City, 885-4379

UNR Football: 11/4 v. Boise State; 11/11 v. UNLV Mackay Stadium, UNR, 348-PACK

UNR Music Department: concerts, recitals, 784-6145

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

EVENTS

November

American Landscape and Impressionist Painting, thru 11/26, Hawkins House, 329-3333

"Starburst!" 11/1-2, talent production with both professional and amateur performers, benefit for Washoe Medical Center Auxiliary's Nurses Scholarship Fund, Flamingo Hilton Reno, 328-4755 or 328-4166

National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals, 11/1-5, Reno Livestock Events Center, 851-4144

Veteran's Exhibit, 11/1-30, tribute to all veterans of the U.S. armed forces, includes uniforms, memorabilia, and pictures, vets are welcome to loan items for display, open to the public, Lake Tahoe Historical Society, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-5458

Stewart Indian Museum Christmas Indian Arts and Crafts Exhibit and Sale, 11/1-12/31, Indian arts and crafts people from throughout Nevada and the Great Basin will be exhibiting and selling their works, first annual, 9am-4pm, Stewart Indian Museum, 5366 Snyder Ave., Carson City, 882-1808

Meet Your Winemaker Dinners, 11/3 and 12/1, complimentary wine tasting followed by dinner (optional), Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe, Incline Village, 831-1111

"We Have Always Lived in the Castle," 11/3-4, mystery, 8pm, Reno Little Theater, 329-0661

Fall Reno Home Show, 11/3-5, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 323-6055

The Great American Craft Fair, 11/3-5, more than 250 arts and crafts exhibits, live entertainment including bluegrass, Big Band, and '50s music, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 322-4544

Art Exhibit, 11/3-28, works by Jim McCormick, UNR art professor, Sheppard Art Gallery, UNR, 784-6682

Art Exhibit, 11/3-1/15, Madonne Aureate (The Halo in Art) exhibit and sacred art paintings by Oronzo Abbatecola, Museum Art and Science, Carson City, 883-7447

Basque Club Dance, 11/4, CVIC Hall, Minden, 782-5145

Museum Public Grand Opening, 11/5, ribbon cutting ceremony open to public, William F. Harrah Foundation National Automobile Museum, corner of Lake and Mill streets, 333-9300

Ramblin' Wheels Motorcycle Turkey Run, 11/5, 75-mile poker run includes drawing for turkeys and hams, trophies, awards, Reno area, 355-9104

North American Indian Championship Rodeo, 11/8-12, Reno Livestock Events Center, 827-7630 or 916-663-4255

Comedy Commandos, 11/9, with the Coors Light Comedy Commandos, Jot Travis Student Union, UNR, 784-6589

Photo: Larry Prosor

Carson Valley Open Dart Tournament, 11/10-12, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711

Reno-Sparks On Display Trade Show, 11/10-12, Reno-Sparks Convention Center, 786-3030

"The Medieval Mystery Plays," 11/10-11 and 11/17-19, Nevada Repertory Company, Redfield Studio Theater, Church Fine Arts Complex, UNR, 784-6505

Cris Williamson and Teresa Trull Concert, 11/12, benefit for Committee to Aid Abused Women, 7:30pm, $15 in advance, $18 at door, Nightingale Concert Hall, Church Fine Arts, UNR campus, 789-4348

National Children's Book Week, 11/13-18, on Mon. and Wed.-Sat. at 3pm library staff will give children's book talks, on Tues. songwriter Penny LeVee presents sing-a-longs and stories, Ormsby Public Library, Carson City, 887-2244

Top Rank Boxing, 11/14, Harrah's Tahoe, 588-6611

Reno Philharmonic Concert, 11/14-15, 8pm, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 825-5905

All-Star Bocce Classic, 11/16-18, more than 400 bocce players from across the county will compete, free and open to the public, Peppermill, 689-7244

Monster Truck Spectacular, 11/17-18, Reno Livestock Events Center, 323-3073

Robert Rudie in "Paganini," 11/18, community center, Carson City, 883-1976

Old-Fashioned Christmas Faire, 11/18-19, craft fair, community center, Carson City, 882-2111

Christmas on the Comstock Festival of Lights, Thanksgiving (11/23)-Christmas, Virginia City, 847-0311

Lake Tahoe's South Shore Winter Festival of Lights, Thanksgiving (11/23)-3/1, businesses on U.S. 50 and Hwy. 89 will participate, creating a corridor of twinkling lights almost 10 miles long, 916-544-5050

Family Day, 11/24, Wilbur D. May Museum will be open from 10am-5pm, Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-5961

Grand National Motorsports Truck Pull, 11/24-25, Reno Livestock Events Center, 323-3000 or 209-575-3413

Cowboy Poets' Rhymers Rodeer, 11/25-26, cowboy poetry gathering, Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890

Magic of Santa Christmas Faire, 11/25-26, Santa Claus photos, local artists and craftsmen offer their wares, food, entertainment, 10am-5pm Sat., 10am-4pm Sun., McKinley Park School, 785-2262

Northstar/Truckee 10-Km. Classic X-C Ski Race, 11/26, Northstar, 916-562-1010

Foreign Film Festival, 11/28-12/1, Jot Travis Student Union, UNR, 784-6589

Robert Bluestone Concert, 11/30, classical guitarist, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Book Signing, 11/30, University of Nevada Press sponsors this annual Christmas reception and author book signing, Harrah's Reno, 784-6573

America's Opening—Men's and Women's Pro Tours, 11/30-12/3, top professional men's and women's ski race circuits kick off at Alpine Meadows, 916-583-4232

December

Sierra Nevada Chorale Concert, 12/1, foods, costumes, and songs from countries around the world and how they celebrate Christmas, Pioneer Center for Performing Arts, 825-5000



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1989-90 Downhill Skier's Guide

Area	Phone	Top Elevation	Vertical	Lifts	Rating Bg-Int-Adv	Lift Price Adult/Child	Rental Adult/Child
TAHOE BASIN							
Alpine Meadows	916-583-4232	8,637	1,800	13	25-40-35	$34/$12	$18/$13
Boreal	916-426-3666	7,800	600	11	16-58-26	$25/$14	$16/$12
Diamond Peak/Incline	702-832-1177	8,540	1,840	7	18-49-33	$28/$12	$14/$10
Donner Ski Ranch	916-426-3635	7,751	720	4	25-50-25	$22/$10	$14/$8
Granibakken	916-583-4242	6,480	280	2	50-50-0	$10$6	$10/$8
Heavenly	916-541-1330	10,100	3,600	24	25-50-25	$35/$14*	$15/$9*
Homewood	916-525-7256	7,880	1,650	10	15-50-35	$27/$9	$18/$11
Kirkwood	209-258-6000	9,800	2,000	11	15-50-35	$33/$15	$16/$10
Mount Rose/Slide	702-849-0704	9,700	1,440	5	30-35-35	$27/$10	$14/$10
Northstar	916-562-1010	8,600	2,200	11	25-50-25	$30/$14	$17/$11
Sierra Ski Ranch	916-659-7475	8,852	2,212	10	20-60-20	$27/$13	$16/$11
Soda Springs	916-426-3666	7,350	650	3	30-50-20	$20/$11	$16/$12
Squaw Valley	916-583-6985	9,050	2,850	32	25-45-30	$35/$5	$18/$12
Sugar Bowl	916-426-3651	8,383	1,500	9	20-30-50	$29/$14	$16/$12
Tahoe Donner	916-587-9400	7,350	600	3	50-50-0	$18/$10	$14/$11
MOUNT CHARLESTON (LAS VEGAS)							
Lee Canyon	702-646-0008	9,320	1,030	3	15-80-5	$20/$14	$14/$14

1989-90 Cross-Country Skier's Guide

Area	Phone	Trail (km)	Trail Fee Adult/Child	Rental Adult/Child	Lessons Adult/Child	Day Lodge
TAHOE BASIN						
Incline Nordic	702-832-1177	30	$9/$6	$10/$7	$25/$20**	√
Kirkwood	209-258-7248	80	$12/$7	$12/8	$22/$16**	√
Northstar	916-562-1010	45	$10$5	$12/$8	$25$13**	√
Royal Gorge	916-426-3871	317	$14.50/$8.50	$12.50/$8.50	$23/$20**	√
Sorensen's	916-694-2203	50	none	$12/$7	$12/$8	√
Spooner Summit	702-749-5349	65	$7/$4	$16.50/$13.50	$18**	√
Squaw Valley	916-583-8951	30	$8/$5	$11/$7	$14/$12	√
Sugar Pine Point	916-573-2600	The Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit has brochures on many forest areas.				
Tahoe Donner	916-587-9484	74	$120/$6	$11/$7	$19/$15**	√
Tahoe Nordic	916-583-0484	65	$11.50/$7.50	$11/$8	$20**	√
AROUND THE STATE						
Lee Canyon	702-732-7222 702-872-5200	Randy McGhie of the Ski Chalet offers x-country suggestions Bill Ikner has info on camping and avalanche conditions				
Ruby Mountains (Elko)	702-753-6867	Ruby Mt. Heli-Skiing in Lamoille offers helicopter skiing				
Spring Valley (Eureka)	702-237-5280	Ron Carrion at Owl Club provides map				
White Pine (Ely)	702-289-8877	Chamber has maps for skiing at three local areas				

prices subject to change
**includes trail pass

Festival of Artisans, 12/1-2, exhibition and sale of handcrafted items, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Christmas Exhibit of Antique Toys and Ornaments, 12/1-31, Lake Tahoe Historical Society, South Lake Tahoe, 916-541-5458

Sparks Hometown Christmas, 12/2, Christmas parade, arts and crafts fair, Santa Claus photos, tree-lighting ceremony Victorian Square, Sparks, 356-2284

Genoa Christmas Fair, 12/2, bazaar of Christmas gifts and food, Genoa, 782-8144

"Messiah," 12/2, Reno Chamber Orchestra and UNR Concert Choir, Nightingale Concert Hall, Church Fine Art Complex, UNR, 826-0880

Walt Disney's Birthday Celebration, 12/5-7 cartoons and books, Ormsby Public Library, Carson City, 887-2244

Sugar Ray Leonard v. Roberto Duran, 12/7, closed-circuit telecast, 6pm, Lawlor Events Center, 408-294-7072

"Oliver," 12/8-9, 12/15-17 and 12/22-23, musical, Reno Little Theatre, 329-0661

Nugget Hereford Celebrity Sale, 12/9, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300

Holiday Treat Concert, 12/10, Carson City Chamber Orchestra, Carson Chamber Singers, and three children's choirs, 4pm, community center, Carson City, 883-4154

UNR Symphonic Choir Concert, 12/10, Nightingale Concert Hall, Church Fine Arts Complex, UNR, 784-6145

Swix/Royal Gorge Cup 10-Km. Race, 12/10, Royal Gorge, 916-426-3871

Moonlight Skiing, 12/14, Hope Valley Cross-Country, Sorensen's, 916-694-2203

"The Nutcracker Ballet," 12/15-17 Tchaikovsky's ballet followed by the Sugarplum Christmas Faire in the exhibit hall, Nevada Opera, Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, 786-4046

10-Km. Ski Race, 12/16, Tahoe Nordic Ski Center, 916-583-0484

Plymouth All-American Ski Race, 12/16 and 1/13, Northstar, 916-562-1010

Festival of Trees, 12/16-23, tree decorating contest, caroling, gala events, Virginia St., downtown Reno, 827-7636

Christmas at the Inn, 12/20, free Christmas party for the community, food, games, entertainment, open to all, Peppermill, 689-7125

Farwest Freestyle Bump Competition, 12/20, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7453

Holiday Festival, 12/22-25, a community Christmas celebration with Santa Claus, food, caroling, and prizes, Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515

Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade, 12/24, Squaw Valley, 916-583-6985

Christmas Caroling, Cookies, and Cocoa, 12/24, Sorensen's, Hope Valley, 916-694-2203

Night of Comedy, 12/28, local amateur performers get an opportunity to perform before a live audience, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

Night One, 12/31, a New Year's celebration of the arts involving events that appeal to all ages as an alternative to the evening's traditionally "adult party," nine-hour event begins at 3pm with simultaneous performances in several downtown Reno locations building toward a Grand Finale celebration at midnight at the Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno Tahoe Company and Sierra Arts Foundation, 348-7788

Puttin' on the Ritz, 12/31, black tie, dinner, dance, and auction, $400 per couple, reservations required, The Chateau, Incline Village, 831-4440

New Year's Eve Celebration, 12/31, New Year's countdown on Virginia St. in downtown Reno, 827-RENO

January

Jeep Challenge New Year's Day 10-Km. Race, 1/1, Royal Gorge, 916-426-3871

1960 Winter Olympics National Ski Patrol Reunion Race, 1/6, Squaw Valley USA, 916-583-6985

Alpenglow Lake Tahoe 10-Km. Classic Ski Race, 1/7 10am start, Tahoe Donner Cross-Country, 916-587-9484

Donner Ski Ranch Anniversary Week, 1/8-12, special rates, Donner Summit, 916-426-3635

Ririe Woodbury Dance Company, 1/11, Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 883-1976

National Brotherhood of Skiers Winter Carnival, 1/13-15, Alpine Meadows, 916-583-4232

Indian Head Ski Challenge, 1/14, 15-km. classic, Hope Valley Cross-Country, Sorensen's, 916-694-2203

Nevada State Backgammon Championship, 1/17-21, players from throughout the U.S. compete, Peppermill, 826-1984

World Championship of Race Horse Handicapping Tournament, 1/17-23, Club Cal-Neva, 323-1046 ext. 267

National Learn-to-Ski-Free Day, 1/19, at participating ski areas, 916-583-3494

"Veronica's Room," 1/19-20 and 1/26-28, Reno Little Theatre, 329-0661

Molson Ski Challenge, 1/20, Alpine Meadows, 916-583-4232

Eighth Annual Legislator's Cup Ski Race, 1/26, Nevada legislators v. California legislators, live jazz at the Main Lodge, Sierra Ski Ranch, 916-659-7519

Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert, 1/27, featuring cellist Peter Lenz, 8pm, Nightingale Concert Hall, UNR, 826-0880

Tahoe Nordic Ski Championships, 1/27-28, 916-583-0484

Coca-Cola Cup Ski Race, 1/28, Northstar, 916-562-1010

COMING EVENTS

American Bowling Congress, 2/3-6/5, Reno, 827-7662

Snowfest Winter Carnival, 3/2-11, North Lake Tahoe

Chili Cook Off and Cinco de Mayo, 5/5, Virginia City, 847-0311

Virginia City Grand Prix, 5/12-13, 847-0311

Comstock Preservation Weekend, 5/19-20, Virginia City, 847-0311

Great Lake Tahoe Sternwheeler Race, 5/28, South Lake Tahoe, 916-544-5050

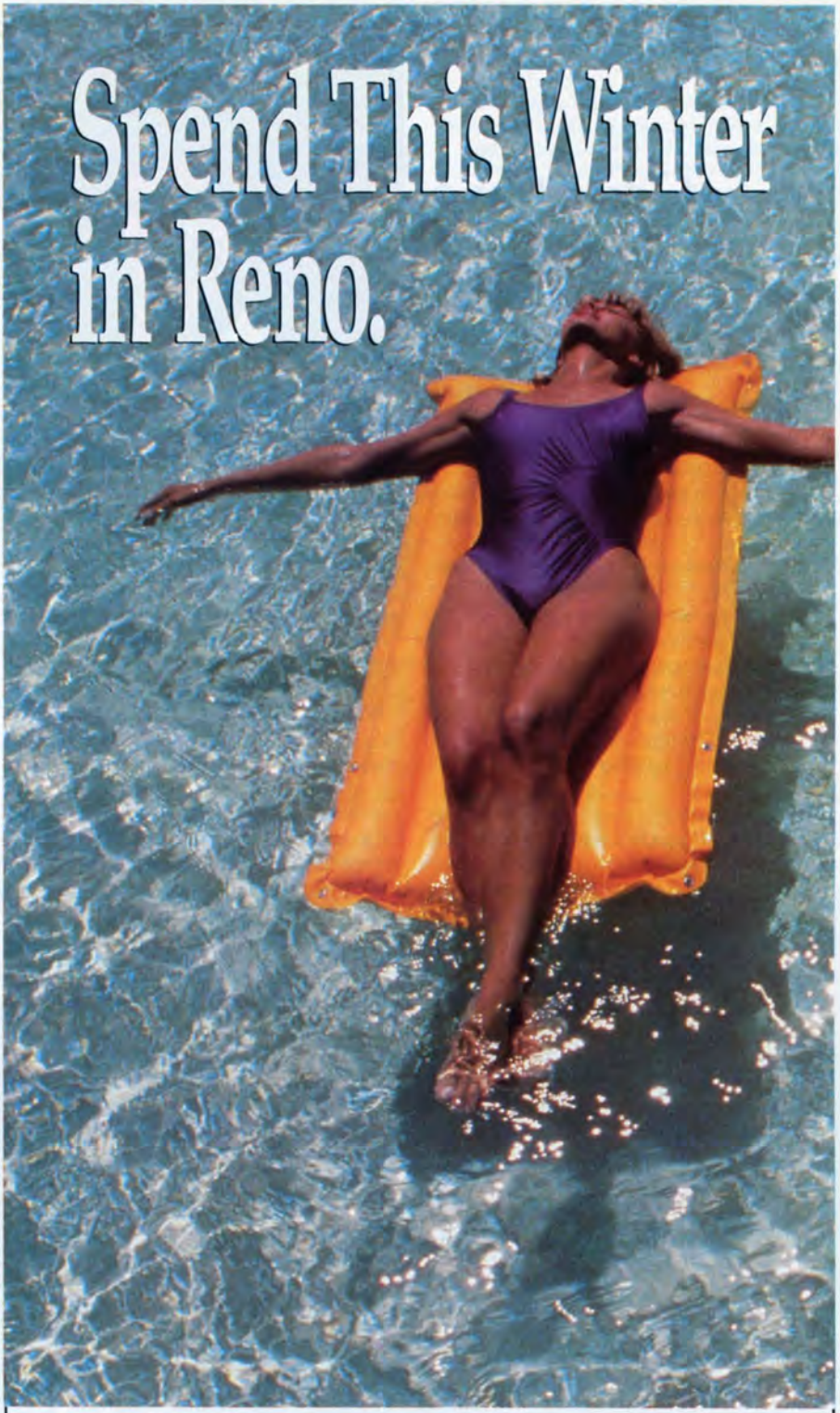
A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, use the phone number listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada. For hotels' toll-free phone numbers, call 800-555-1212.

SHOWGUIDE

Bally's Reno, 789-2285: Entertainment TBA

Bill's Lake Tahoe: 588-2455: Detour, indf.

Caesars Tahoe, 588-3515: *Cascade Showroom:* Joan Rivers, 11/10-11; Ann-Margret, 12/22-23 and 12/26-30; Dolly Parton, 12/31-1/1; Kenny Loggins, 1/12-14; Sheena Easton, 1/19-20



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Reno's Year-Round Casino Resort

Country's Reluctant Star

By Guy Richardson



The term "outlaw" wasn't Waylon's idea.

Earlier this year I photographed Waylon Jennings sitting in his Harrah's Reno dressing room with wife Jessi Colter. Jessi sat there all sweet and prim—well, pretty much prim.

Waylon leaned over and licked her cheek.

Not a little kissy-poo lick. He went up that cheek with a hound-dog slurp.

"*Way*-lonnnnnnn!" Jessi shrieked.

So he stuck his tongue in her ear.

Waylon and Jessi's 10-year-old son is nicknamed Shooter because, says Waylon, "his daddy's a pistol."

You bet.

When most of you see the name "Waylon Jennings," the next word up is "outlaw." Waylon is a pistol, but the whole outlaw thing was a record company hype. "I'm an entertainer," he said. "When they came up with that idea for the 'Outlaw' album, I was the first one to gripe, but it worked out pretty good."

Your outlaw gets up at 5:30 in the morning to play basketball with Shooter. However, six years ago when Jennings sat down to play with Shooter, he had problems. "His attention span was longer than mine," Jennings said. "He knew something was wrong with me."

What was wrong was Jennings' 21-year-old drug habit. "Toward the end of that time, I was doing $1,500 to $2,000 a day in drugs," Jennings said. "I just stayed up all the time."

He decided to ease off a bit. "I went out to Arizona, leased a house, took my family there, and just quit. I didn't intend to quit. I intended to go about 30 days to clean myself out and then go back to doing the same thing. But once I got off them and my mind cleared, I realized what I was doing—I was killing myself. Worst of all, I was killing the people around me."

So he quit, bang. Hasn't ever gone back. Doing that is not as simple as it may seem. "The best way I've found to describe someone on drugs is like this," Jennings said. "It's like you are this other person, who is with you all the time. It's real easy to get by, because you blame everything on this other person. The thing is—you really like that person. You love that person, and when you get off drugs that person dies. Then you pine for that person. And you know you could bring him back to life any time you wanted, just by doing drugs.

"But then you know both of you would die."

Last March 31, Jennings had been off drugs for five years. Colter, he says, is his centerpost. "Even through my drug years she was the stabilizing force of my whole life. I was never mean to her, but I wasn't there a lot, either. She spent a lot of time waiting."

They've been married 19 years, since before his stardom came along. Jennings doesn't like the word "star," by the way. "I don't think stardom has anything to do with music. You can't worry about all that."

Sure, but he's had hit records and people recognize him, and he makes big money. Doesn't that make him a star? "I don't know " he said. "Ask somebody who listens to me—that's the best way." So what is he? "Well," he starts, and clears his throat, "I'm a good ole boy."

This is kind of fun, because not many people get to embarrass Waylon the cheek-licker. So I asked who is a star? "Jessi's pretty sharp," he said.

Shooter is not going to be a star. "If he goes into music, I'd adopt him out," Jennings said. No problem. "We were in a restaurant, and a man asked him if he wanted to grow up to be like his daddy. He said, 'No. That hurt my feelings, so I asked him outside why he said that.

"He said, 'I love you and I don't want to hurt your feelings, but I just don't want to smoke, and I don't want to sing.'"

The jury is still out on whether he'll lick cheeks.

Waylon Jennings performs at Harrah's Reno November 16-22.

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Carson City Nugget, 883-3854: Entertainment TBA

Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711: Motifs, 10/31-11/12; Tommy Bell, 11/14-26; Whiskey Ridge, 11/28-12/10; Passion, 12/12-24; Perfect Circle, 12/26-1/11

Circus Circus, Reno, 329-0711: Free circus acts, 11am-midnight

Crystal Bay Club, North Tahoe, 831-0512

Del Webb's High Sierra, Stateline, 588-6211: "Barely Legal," revue, thru 11/5; Danny Marona, 11/7-19 and 12/5-17; Pat Collins, 11/21-12/3

Eldorado, Reno, 786-5700: Danny Marona, 11/1-5; Pat Collins, 11/7-19; Sons of the Pioneers, 11/21-12/3; Diamonds, 12/5-10; Gary and Sandy, 12/23-1/7; Dae Han Sisters, 12/27-1/7

Fitzgeralds, Reno, 785-3300: Ohana, 11/1-12; Whiskey Ridge, 11/1-19; Garfin Gathering, 11/13-12/10; Love Affair, 11/20-26; Tommy Bell, 11/27-12/10

Flamingo Hilton Reno, 322-1111: Just For Laughs, Comedy Festival, indf.; Jonathan and Music Magic, thru 11/6 and 11/21-12/11; Dae Han Sisters, thru 12/11; Ricky and the Redstreaks, 11/7-13; Far East, 11/14-20

Harolds Club, Reno, 329-0881: Reta and the Wizz Kidz, 11/1-5 and 11/27-12/10; Passion, 11/1-12; Love Affair, 11/13-19; Network, 11/13-26; Whiskey Ridge, 11/20-26; Perfect Circle, 12/4-10; Double Take, 12/11-24

Harrah's Reno, 329-4422: *Headliner Room:* Neil Sedaka, 11/2-8; Roy Clark Show, 11/9-15; Waylon Jennings/Jessi Colter, 11/16-22; Hawaiian Christmas starring Danny Kaleikini, 12/7-17; Louise Mandrell Show/Sammy Shore, 12/23-31; *Casino Cabaret:* Williams and Ree, 11/2-8; Lacy J. Dalton, 11/30-12/6; Martin Nievera and Aura, 12/7-20; Frederic Apcar's "Zing!" revue, indf.

Harrah's Tahoe, 588-6606: *South Shore Room:* Roberta Flack, 11/21-26; Jay Leno, 12/23-31; *Stateline Cabaret:* Zasu Pitts Memorial Orchestra, 11/2-7 and 1/11-16; Williams and Ree, 11/9-14; Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, 11/16-28; Roomful of Blues, 11/30-12/5; Paul Revere and the Raiders, 12/7-12; Rob Hanna Salutes Rod Stewart, 12/14-19; Bus Boys, 12/21-26; Greg Kihn Band, 12/28-1/2; Outlaws, 1/4-9

Harvey's, Stateline, 588-2411: "Champagne," revue, indf.; Sonny Turner, 12/28-31 and 1/4-7; The Act, 10/30-11/19; Stephanie Teel, 11/20-12/10; Liaizon, 12/11-24; The Last Band, 12/25-1/14

Hyatt Lake Tahoe, Incline, 831-1111: Entertainment TBA

John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3304: *Celebrity Showroom:* Exile/The Volantes, thru 11/8; Sha Na Na, 11/9-22; Forester Sisters/Walkers, 11/23-12/9; McGuire Sisters/Walkers, 12/26-1/3; Brenda Lee, 1/11-24; Michael Martin Murphey, 1/25-2/7; *Casino Cabaret:* Mike Slappey/Louie Fontaine and the Rockets/Rickey and Bobby, 10/31-11/19; Kenny Laursen Show/Zella Lehr/Ricky and Bobby, 11/21-12/10; Martha's Children/Motifs/Ricky and Bobby, 12/12-31

Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890: Stearns and Chandler/Garfin Gathering, 10/31-11/12; Motifs/Laura Bright, 11/14-26; Passion, 11/28-12/10

Peppermill, Reno, 826-2121: Cameron, thru 11/5; Tommy Bell, thru 11/12; Lelands, 11/6-19; Sneak Preview, 11/13-19; Wrays, 11/20-26; Summit, 11/27-12/10

Ponderosa, 786-6820: Nightly entertainment

Reno Ramada, 788-2000: Comedy Circuit, Tues.-Sat., indf.

Sharkey's Nugget, Gardnerville, 782-3133

Tahoe Biltmore, North Tahoe, 831-0660: Rock 'n' roll bands

Topaz Lodge, Topaz Lake, 266-3339

Western Village, Sparks, 331-1069: Gary Wade and Bump, 10/30-11/12; Surprise Package, 11/6-19; David Proud, thru 11/5; Mid Life Crysis, 10/30-11/12; Southern Reign, 11/20-12/3; American Made Bank, 11/27-12/10

MUSEUMS

Carson City

Nevada State Archives: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., 101 S. Fall St., 885-5210

Nevada State Museum: 8:30-4:30 daily, 600 N. Carson St., 885-4810

Nevada State Railroad Museum: 8:30-4:30 Fri.-Sun. and holidays from Memorial Day thru Nov. 1, S. Carson St. at Fairview Dr., 885-5168

Stewart Indian Museum: 9-4 every day, 5366 Snyder Ave., 882-1808

Warren Engine Co. No. 1 Museum: 1-5 Mon.-Fri., 111 N. Curry St., 887-2200

Genoa

Genoa Courthouse Museum: 10-4:30 daily May 15-October 15, closed during winter, 782-4325

Reno

E.L. Wiegand Museum of Art: 10-6 Tues.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., 160 W. Liberty, 329-3333

Fleischmann Planetarium: 8-5 and 7-10 Mon.-



Old Time Rodeo Riders



Ronnie Rossen, world champion in 1961 and '66, contemplates his next ride.

By Paul Bosarge

Some of the greatest performers in rodeo history will gather for the National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals on November 1-5 at the Reno Livestock Events Center. Sponsored by the National Old Timers Rodeo Association and the Reno Elks Club, the event features contestants 40 years and older competing for more than $100,000 in prizes.

Last year more than 370 cowboys and cowgirls—including 26 former world champions—vied in the six standard rodeo events plus ribbon-roping, where a rider must rope a calf, dismount and touch it; then a female partner grabs the ribbon off the calf's tail and races to the finish line.

The elder statesman last year was 82-year-old Ed Honnen of Brighton, Colorado. Sixty-three-year-old Bob Fraker of Greely Colorado, placed highest in his age group with a 72 score in the second go-round of the bronc riding.

According to Terry Taillon, the event's general manager, it's much like the senior golf tour. "Some of the truly legendary names in rodeo will be there. And for rodeo fans, it's a thrill to see these guys compete."

Perhaps the most famous of all the great rodeo contestants, Casey Tibbs, will be honored with a special banquet during opening ceremonies Wednesday night. In the 1940s and '50s Tibbs won six saddle bronc championships and a couple of all-around titles. He's a stylish man who not only put professional rodeo on the map but also ushered it into the modern era.

The list of rodeo legends last year included Dean Oliver, winner of a half dozen calf-roping world championships and three all-around titles, and Jack Roddy who won a couple of world steer-wrestling titles.

The man to beat this year is Benny Reynolds, 54, from Twin Bridges, Montana, who'll be going for his eighth consecutive all-around title. (He won the all-around PRCA title in 1961.) Also going for an eighth straight title, this time in bull riding, is Ronnie Rossen, 53, of Absarkee, Montana, the PRCA world champion in 1961 and 1966.

The rodeo, held indoors at the Reno Livestock Events Center, begins Thursday evening, November 2, and runs through the finals on Sunday afternoon. Admission is $5 per person and $7 on Sunday.

For ticket information contact the Elks Club (702-825-0597), local western stores, or the Reno Livestock Events Center (702-851-4144).

Paul Bosarge is a Reno writer and rodeo fan.

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Photo: S. Shubert

Fri., 10:30-5 and 7-10 Sat.-Sun., UNR, call 784-4811 for schedule of shows

Harolds Club Gun Collection and Museum: 10-10 daily, 329-0881

Hawkins House: art museum, 10-4 Tues. and Thurs.-Fri., 10-8 Wed., 12-4 Sat.-Sun., 549 Court St., 329-3333

Liberty Belle Slot Collection: 11am-11pm daily, 4250 S. Virginia St., in Liberty Belle Saloon and Restaurant, 825-1776

Mackay School of Mines Minerals Museum: 8-5 Mon.-Fri., UNR, 784-6988

Nevada Air Museum: 10-5 weekends, Reno-Stead Airport, 10 mi. north of Reno, 853-3488

Nevada Historical Society: 10-5 Tues.-Sat., and noon-5 Sun., 1650 N. Virginia St., 789-0190

UNR Anthropology Dept. Research Museum: 9-1 Mon.-Fri. Sept.-May, open all year by appointment, UNR, 784-4686

Wilbur D. May Museum: 10-5 Wed.-Sun., 1502 Washington (Rancho San Rafael Park), 785-5961

Sparks

William F. Harrah Foundation National Automobile Museum: 9:30-5:30 daily, 970 Glendale Ave., 333-9300 (Will be closing in September to move to new location at the corner of Mill and Lake St. in downtown Reno. Call to confirm that they are open before visiting. Museum will reopen to the public on November 5.)

Sparks Heritage Foundation and Museum: 1-4 Wed.-Sun., 820 B St., 355-1144

Virginia City

Comstock Firemen's Museum: 10-4 daily May-Oct., closed during winter, 847-0717

Fourth Ward School Museum: 10-5 daily May-early Nov., closed during winter, 847-0975

Julia C. Bulette Red Light Museum: 7:30-9 daily, 847-9991

Mackay Mansion: 10-6 daily June-Oct., 11-5 daily Nov.-May, 847-0173

Mark Twain Museum: 10-6 daily, 847-0525

Museum of Memories: 9:30-5 daily, 847-0454

Nevada Gambling Museum: 10-6 daily, 847-0789

The Castle: 11-5 daily Memorial Day-Oct., closed during winter, 847-0275

The Way It Was Museum: 9:30-5 daily, 847-0766

Wild West Museum: 9-5 daily, 847-0400

ART GALLERIES

Carson City

Abell House: 1114 Curry St., 10-5:30 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., monthly shows by local artists, 883-5300

Austin Arts: 1505 N. Carson St., 9-5:30 Mon.-Fri., 9-1 Sat., visiting and local artists, 883-5531

Donna's Gallery: 1307 S. Carson St., 11-5:30 Tues.-Sat., handcrafted gifts, 883-9132

Great Basin Art Gallery: 110 S. Curry St., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., works by Jeff Nicholson, Mary Chadwell, Judith Stroh Miller, Barbara Moore, Jim Christison, Buckeye Blake, Steven Saylor, 882-8505

Museum of Art and Science: 3359 U.S. Hwy. 50 E., 10-5 Tues.-Fri., paintings of futurist artists including Oronzo Abbatecola, prints, limited editions, and cards, 883-7447

Nevada Artists Association Gallery: 449 W. King St., 10-4 Mon.-Sat., primarily Nevada themes, 882-6411

XS Gallery: Western Nevada Community College, 2201 W. Nye Ln., 8-10 Mon.-Thurs., 8-5 Fri., contemporary fine art, 887-3000

Gardnerville

East Fork Gallery: 1427 Main St. (U.S. 395), 10-5 daily, paintings, photographs, and ceramics by local artists, 782-2769

Lake Tahoe

Allen Augustine Gallery: Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, 11-6 daily, sculptures, original works, 588-3525

DeCurtis Art Gallery: Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, 10-5 Mon.-Sat., Sun. by appointment, oils, watercolors, 588-7310

High Sierra Gallery: Del Webb's High Sierra, Stateline, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 9-9 Sat.-Sun., oils and photos, Tahoe themes, 588-6707

Jerome Evans Gallery: Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, 11-6 Mon.-Sat., traditional and contemporary art of the native peoples of North and South America, Africa, and the Pacific Islands, 588-6486

Lake Gallery: Boatworks Mall, Tahoe City, 10-10 Sun.-Sat., contemporary sculpture, prints, and limited editions, 916-583-1002

Potlatch: 324 Ski Way, Incline Village, 10-5:30 Sun.-Sat., Anthony Sinclair oils, 831-2485

Royal Art Gallery: Round Hill Mall, Zephyr Cove, 10-8 daily, limited-edition prints, oils, and sculptures, 588-2461

Sierra Galleries: Caesars Tahoe, Stateline, 8:30-9:30 Sun.-Thurs., 8:30-11 Fri.-Sat., western and Tahoe paintings, variety of artwork, 588-8500

Timberline Crafts Gallery: 590 Lakeshore Dr.,



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Incline Village, 10-5:30 daily, pottery studio, more than 100 regional artists' works, 831-2460

Minden

Lone Tree Frame Co. and Gallery: 1592 Esmeralda, 10-5:30 Tues.-Fri., 10-2 Sat., originals by Mimi Jobe and Lady Jill Mueller, western and wildlife prints, 782-2522

Reno

Addi Galleries: Bally's Reno, 9-11 Sun.-Sat, Red Skelton clown paintings, 323-1920

Artist's Co-op Gallery: 627 Mill St., 1-4 daily, work by 20 local northern Nevada artists, oils, watercolors, pottery, scupture, and other media, 322-8896

Barnwood Is Beautiful: 135 N. Sierra, 12-5 Mon.-Sat., antique Nevada photos lacquered on barnwood, 329-6106

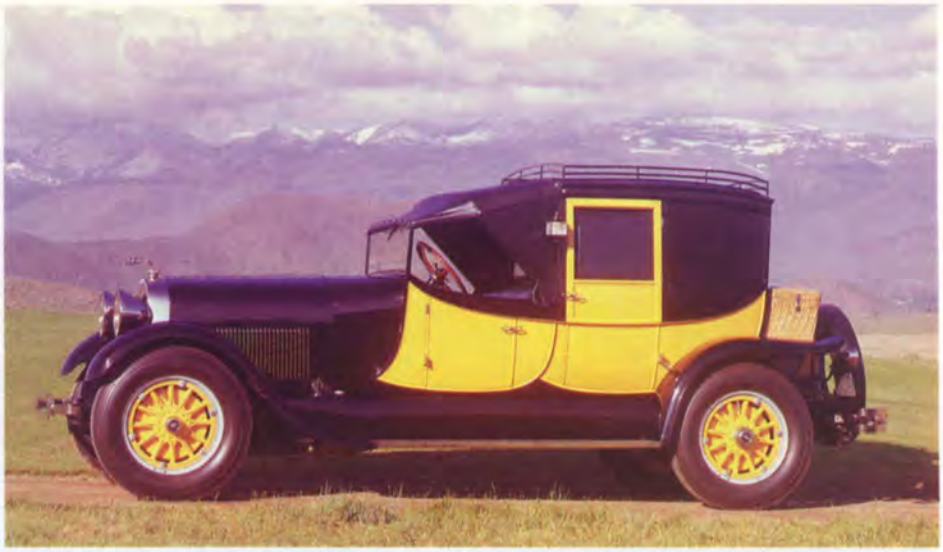
Casazza Art Gallery and Studio: 2200 Thornwood, by appointment, watercolors, winterscapes, abstracts, and florals, 322-0233

Custom Framing by Clark: 135 W. Liberty, 10-4:30 Mon.-Thurs., 10-4 Fri., oils and watercolors, 329-1177

Desert Moon Gallery: 725 S. Center St., 10-6 Tues.-Sat., international, national, and local artists' work, custom framing, and original and limited-edition prints, 329-4911

Earth Window: American Indian Art: 2001 E. Second St., 10-5:30 Sun.-Sat., American Indian art in oil, acrylic, sandpainting, and beadwork, 786-5999

E.L. Wiegand Museum of Art: 10-6 Tues.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., 160 W. Liberty, 329-3333



The William F. Harrah Automobile Museum opens in its new quarters in November

Fallen Leaf Gallery and Framery: 907 W. Moana Ln., 10-6 Tues.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., Frank McCarthy western prints, 826-7477

Frame Shop: 3366 Lakeside Dr., 9:30-5 Mon., 10-6 Tues.-Fri., 9:30-5 Sat., duck stamps and limited-edition prints, 825-7117

Frame-Up: 145 W. Plumb Ln., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-3 Sat., Lyle Ball western paintings, Mary Chadwell miniatures, 329-7557

Hagar's Gallery: 4056 Kietzke Ln., 9:30-5:30 Tues.-Sat., Phillipe Noyer, Luongo, Jerry Schurr, 826-0323

Hawkins House: art museum, 10-4 Tues. and Thurs.-Fri., 10-8 Wed., 12-4 Sat.-Sun., 549 Court St., 329-3333

Hermitage Gallery: 245 California Ave., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat., George Foster oils, graphics, limited-editions, 786-6880

Kate Hanlon Weaving Studio and Craft Gallery: 45 Lockwood Rd., Sparks, call ahead, hand-woven clothing, custom chess sets, 342-0196

Manville Gallery: School of Medicine, UNR, 8-5 Mon.-Fri., contemporary paintings and sculpture, 784-6063

Nevada Fine Arts: 1030 E. 4th St., 9-5:30 Mon.-Sat., limited edition prints of state and federal duck stamp prints, Vivi Crandall's wildlife



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Nevada Opera presents "The Nutcracker Ballet" on December 15-17 at the Pioneer

prints, 786-1128

New Ideas Art Gallery: Truckee Meadows Community College, 8-7 Mon.-Thurs., 8-5 Fri., contemporary fine arts in a variety of media, 673-7000

Norris-Allovio Gallery: 3430 Lakeside Dr., 10-5:30 Mon.-Sat., lithographs and fine art, 825-5000

Powers Frameworks: 2317 Kietzke Ln., 10-6 Mon.-Fri., 10-5 Sat., Roy Powers prints, Steve Davis photography, 825-8060

Sheppard Art Gallery: UNR, 9-4 Mon.-Fri., contemporary western art, 784-6658

Stremmel Galleries: 1460 S. Virginia St., 8-5:30 Mon.-Fri., Sat. by appointment, leading American artists, 786-0558

Valle Art Gallery and Studio: 213 E. Plumb Ln., 12-6 Mon.-Sat., watercolors by Esteban Valle, pottery by Kelsie Harder, 323-1887

Wildlife Galleries: 565 California Ave., 9-5 Mon.-Fri., Nevada issue duck and trout stamps, 322-0323

Virginia City

Riata Gallery: 88 South C St., 10-5 Tues.-Sun., Olag Wieghorst lithographs and western prints, 847-0502

CASINO NOTES

•**John Ascuaga's Nugget** in Sparks has just opened a new hotel lobby and enlarged convention center at a cost of $20 million. The expansive lobby, with huge registration desk, multiple entrances, and a concierge desk, makes arriving and departing a breeze. The convention center boasts a 30,000-square-foot ballroom that will hold 2,500 people for dinner and about 3,000 for theater-style seating. Later this year, the hotel will open an Olympic-size swimming pool, health spa, and other amenities in a glass-enclosed area that will offer year-round sunbathing and a panoramic view of the Sierra.

•With the completion of its new wing the **Carson Valley Inn** now offers 160 deluxe rooms and suites. Some of the new suites offer Jacuzzis, steam showers, and walk-behind bars. Two executive rooms make business easier with special desk areas and hookups for computer modems.

•Tired of blank stares and raised shoulders when you ask for directions? **Harvey's** at Lake Tahoe has the solution: a casino concierge service that provides information on what acts are playing, where shops and restaurants are, and what is going on at the hotel. The information is provided from kiosks that are manned from noon until 2 a.m., Thursday through Sunday, while at other times information is available at the kiosks via an easy-to-use interactive video system.

•**Circus Circus** has added a new twist to door knobs and dead bolts. It uses a key-card that automatically cancels the previous guest's key-card when inserted into the lock. The high-tech card activates one of three lights on the door to

CARSON CITY

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• COMING EVENTS •

Nov. 18-19 Old Fashioned Christmas Faire

Dec. (call) Santa Train Arrives at Nevada State Railroad Museum



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PREVIEW

SKY TRIALS



Falconers admire their birds' hunting instincts and flying talents.

By Paul Bosarge

The ancient sport of falconry takes to the skies north of Reno the first weekend in November during Sky Trials '89.

Begun in 1985 and sponsored by the Nevada Falcon Association, the event is held in Palomino Valley about 25 miles north of Reno, and brings together licensed falconers from Nevada, California, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and Arizona in a two-day competition.

Falcons are hawks trained to hunt and take small game. Most birds are about 17 inches long and have long, pointed wings and short, curved, notched beaks. Capable of speeds up to 180 mph, falcons often strike their prey with talons rolled under in a stunning motion. Both males and females are flown, with the smaller males capable of added speed.

Several species are used in the competition: peregrine falcons, prairie falcons, saker falcons, and gyrfalcons. Hybrids are also used because they combine some of the species' best characteristics.

During the competition, falcons are judged in individual flights against trained homing pigeons. Last year, none of the pigeons were killed. Instead, the slower falcons were rated on such aspects as height reached and pursuit.

Doug Bristol of Reno, the association's president, says there is something fascinating about the predator-prey aspect of nature found in falconry. "It happens every day in nature," he says. "We feel we're lucky enough to witness it."

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NEVADA

Coming up in the Jan/Feb issue:

Movies In Nevada

▪

Cross-Country Skiing

▪

Main Street: Austin

▪

Elko Cowboy Poetry Gathering

▪

Reno Film Festival, Chariot Racing

Photo: Paul Bosarge

indicate if the room is occupied, the dead bolt is activated, or the battery is running low.

•The hot-tub crowd is sure to be pleased with **Eldorado's** new 25-story tower. Among the variety of rooms are the 68 Players' Spa suites, which have whirlpools and panoramic views of the city, and four penthouse suites that range from 1,600 to 2,100 square feet with whirlpool tubs and large sitting and dining areas. On the mezzanine level, the Plaza Bar has a fiber-optic ceiling and limestone floor that gives the illusion of being outside.

•Out-of-state visitors can spread their vacation dollars even further with the **Flamingo Hilton Reno's** 35-page coupon booklet valued at more than $100 with cocktail and food credits and a 50-percent merchandise discount.



"Ring Thunder" by M. Kevin Jones, one of the artists featured at the Stewart Indian Museum's holiday show and sale.

TOURNAMENTS

November

Keno, 11/5-7 Eldorado, 786-5700
Blackjack, 11/7 and 12/5, Cactus Jack's, Carson City, 882-8770
Blackjack/Craps, 11/9-11, Peppermill, 689-7100
Blackjack, 11/9 and 12/6, John's Tahoe Nugget, 588-6288
Blackjack, 11/9-11, Peppermill, 689-7100
Video Poker, 11/10-12, Reno Ramada, 788-2000
Keno, 11/11-12, Harrah's Reno, 786-3232
Slots, 11/12-15 and 12/3-6, High Sierra, 588-6211
Blackjack, 11/16 and 12/13, Lakeside Inn, 588-7777
Slots, 11/17-19, Reno Ramada, 788-2000
Slots, 11/17-23 and 1/26, Club Cal-Neva, 323-1046
Blackjack, 11/19-21, High Sierra, 588-6211
Blackjack, 11/21 and 12/14, Ormsby House, Carson City, 882-1890
Slots, 11/26-29, John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 356-3300
Blackjack, 11/28, 12/12, and 12/19, Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 782-9711

December

Reel/Video Poker, 12/1-3, Peppermill, 689-7282
Poker, 12/3, High Sierra, 588-6211
Slots, 12/3-5 and 1/7-9, Eldorado, 786-5700
Video Poker, 12/8, Harrah's Reno, 786-3232
Poker, 12/10-11, High Sierra, 588-6211

January

Blackjack, 1/1, Peppermill, 689-7100

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THE NEVADA CALENDAR

Rural Areas





The Riders in the Sky band (top) will entertain at the Cowboy Poetry Gathering in Elko. In early November guided fossil tours (bottom) will be given at Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park.

HOT LINES

Nevada Division of State Parks: District III office in Fallon: 867-3001; District IV office in Elko County: 758-6493; District V office in Panaca: 728-4467

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

RURAL EVENTS

COVERED WAGON TERRITORY

November

Wildlife and Leaf Art Exhibit, thru 11/12, works by Walter Shull of Elko, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Art Exhibit, thru 12/10, landscape and animal painter Phyllis Storm of Nampa, Idaho, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Almost Anything Goes, 11/10, a 38-piece orchestra, plus featured soloists present an evening of music ranging from Beethoven to Broadway, Northern Nevada Concert Orchestra Assn., 7:30pm, convention center, Elko, 738-4187

Veteran's Day Powwow, 11/10-12, traditional dancing, competitive dancing, Miss Sho-Pai contest, dinner honoring the veterans, arts and crafts, Crawford Gymnasium, Owyhee, 757-3211

Soroptimist Annual Christmas Crafts Festival, 11/11, community center, Lovelock, 273-7144

Silver Smith Classic Slot Tournament, 11/11-12, Silver Smith Resort, Wendover, 664-2231 ext. 709

Art Exhibit, 11/15-1/2, watercolor roses by Marilyn Cordes of Spring Creek, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

Eagles Turkey Bingo, 11/18, benefit bingo game to win Thanksgiving turkeys, sponsored by Lovelock Eagles, community center, Lovelock, 273-7144

Pre-Holiday Show, 11/18-19, retail show, convention center, Elko, 738-7135

December

Community Christmas Fair, 12/2, service clubs sell crafts and food items, community center, Lovelock, 273-2923

Sabella Consort, 12/8, holiday season musical performance, sponsored by Pershing County Fine Arts Committee, community center, Lovelock, 273-7144

Nevada Photographs Exhibit, 12/13-1/16, by photographer and teacher Chris Priaulx, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 738-3418

High School Basketball Tournament, 12/15-16, Pershing County High School, Lovelock, 273-2625

New Year's Eve Dance, 12/31, State Line Convention Center, Wendover, 664-2221 ext. 698

January

Cowboy Poetry Gathering, 1/24-27/90, cowboy poets, storytellers, and balladeers recite original works, convention center, Elko, 738-7508

Photos: June Stone (top), Cliff Segerblom (bottom)

PONY EXPRESS TERRITORY

November

History of Fort Churchill, year-round, ranger-led talks or tours can be given to groups of eight or more with advance reservations, contact park office, Fort Churchill State Historic Park, 577-2345

Fossil Shelter Tours, thru 11/13, ranger leads guided tour and discussion of the fossils of ichthyosaurs of 225 million years ago, 10am and 2pm, Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park, 867-3001

Lady Jill Mueller Art Exhibit, 11/3-30, artist reception 11/3 from 7-9pm, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 423-3677

Hidden Cave Tours, 11/11 and 11/25, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677

December

Christmas Faire, 12/1-2, handcrafted gift items, live entertainment, food, and craft demonstrations, free admission, community center, Fallon, 867-3576

Sing-In of Handel's "The Messiah," 12/3, selections from the famous oratorio will be performed, social with refreshments will follow, 7:30pm, free, St. Patrick's Church, Fallon, 423-3871 or 423-2382

Christmas Fantasy Faire, 12/8-9, community center, Fallon, 867-3576

Hidden Cave Tours, 12/9 and 12/23, meet at 9:30am, Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 882-1631 or 423-3677



Anglers and their supporters are gearing up for the ice fishing derby at Wildhorse in February.

Christmas Sampler, 12/14-15, Christmas concert featuring modern and traditional carols, 7:30pm, free, community center, Fallon, 423-3871 or 423-2382

PIONEER TERRITORY

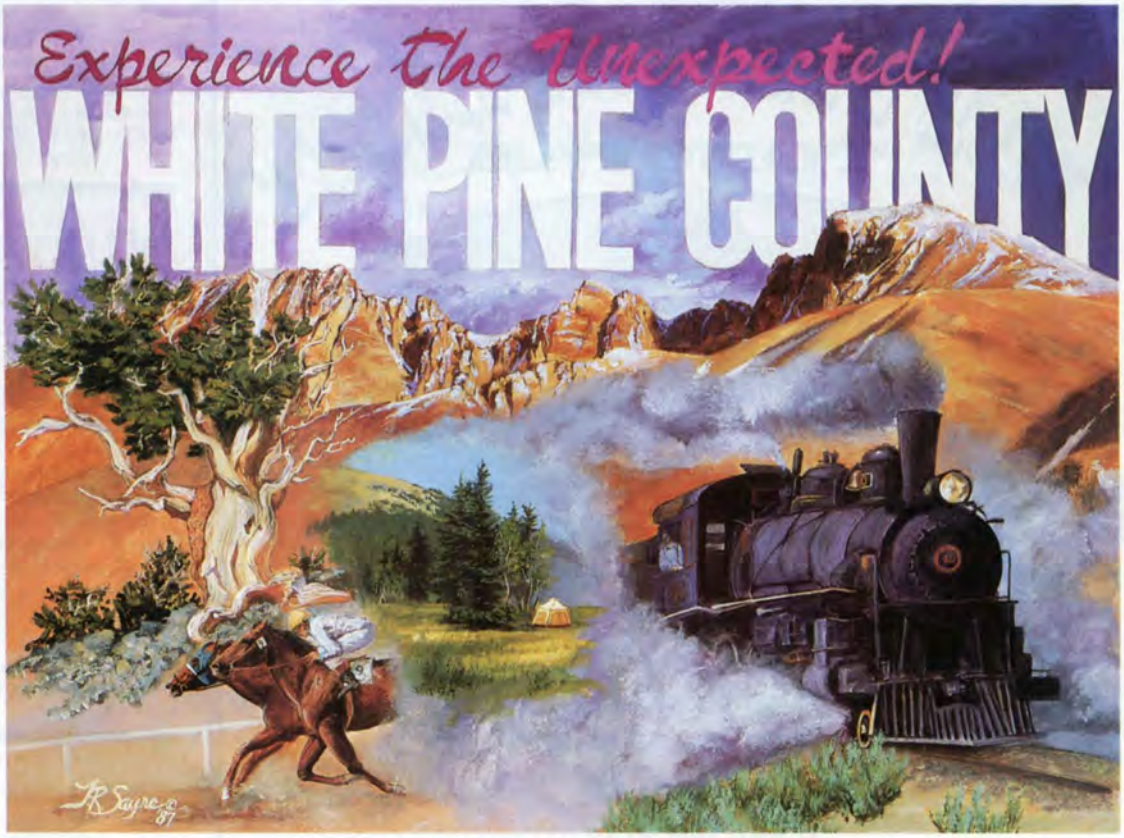
November

Art Exhibit, 11/1-1/31, paintings by Carlos Warner, Desert Light Studio, Wadsworth, 575-5516

Fifth Annual Walker Lake Fishing Derby, 11/24-26, cash prizes and merchandise giveaways for anglers lucky enough to catch native Lahontan cutthroat trout, Walker Lake, 12 miles north of Hawthorne, 945-5896

Sabella Consort, 11/29-30, variety of holiday music for the whole family with traditional, medieval, and English carols, Celtic tunes, and jazz renditions, on Wed. at Lincoln County High School in Panaca (728-4539), on

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE BRISTLECONE CONVENTION CENTER:
P.O. BOX 958
ELY, NV. 89301
(702) 289-3720



GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK, NEVADA

Photo: June Stone

LOVELOCK



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The Sabella Consort performs holiday concerts in Lovelock, Panaca, and Alamo this winter

Thurs. at Pahranagat Valley High School in Alamo (728-4539 or 725-3322)

December

Second Annual Christmas Tree Festival, 12/1-3, Caliente, 726-3209

Beatty Annual Christmas Lighting Contest, 12/1-31, chamber of commerce judges residential and commercial lighting decorations and awards prizes, judging on 12/22, Beatty, 553-2424

Silverado Motor Club, 12/8-10, motor home club district meeting with barbecue, Community Park, Pahrump, 727-5707

We the People, 12/15, a community reading of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, and the Bill of Rights; Mineral County Museum, Hawthorne, 945-5142 or 945-3111

Beatty Family Christmas Day, 12/25, everyone invited for dinner with all the trimmings, games, TV, gifts from Santa, tree decorating, food and fun for all, no charge, Beatty, 553-2253 or 553-2424

RURAL COMING EVENTS

Winter Carnival, 2/16-18, Wildhorse, 758-6472

Shooting the West II: The Nevada Photography Experience, 2/23-24, Winnemucca, 623-6833

Bristlecone Chariot Races, 3/3-4, Ely, 289-8877

Lincoln County Rodeo Series Rodeo, 5/18-19, Alamo, 726-3333

Armed Forces Day, 5/19, Hawthorne, 945-5896

Best in the Desert Motorcycle Races, 5/19, Ely, 289-8877

Lincoln County Homecoming, 5/25-28, Caliente, 726-3333

Jim Butler Days, 5/25-28, Tonopah, 482-3859

Pigeon Race, 5/26, from Jackpot to Bay Area, 755-2321

High School Rodeo, 5/26-27 Eureka, 237-5417

Pahrump Round-Up Rodeo, 5/26-27 727-7344

SHOWGUIDE

Covered Wagon Territory

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

Jackpot: Cactus Pete's, 755-2321; Horseshu Casino, 755-2331
Wendover: Nevada Crossing, 664-4000; Peppermill, 664-2255; Red Garter, 664-2111; Silver Smith, 664-2231 ext. 709: Live entertainment nightly; State Line, 664-2221 ext. 698: Live entertainment nightly
Winnemucca: Winners Hotel, 623-2511

Pony Express Territory

Battle Mountain: Owl Club, 635-5155
Fallon: Fallon Nugget, 423-3111
Yerington: Casino West, 463-2481; Dini's Lucky Club, 463-2868: Entertainment weekends

Pioneer Territory

Pahrump: Saddle West Casino, 727-5953
Tonopah: Station House, 482-9777: Cindy and Party Line, 11/13-26; Long Riders, 11/28-12/17



This Pony Express cabin was erected in 1860 at Ruby Valley Station and moved in 1960 to the Northeastern Nevada Museum in Elko.

MUSEUMS

Covered Wagon Territory

Northeastern Nevada Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 738-3418
Marzen House Museum, 9-2 Mon.-Fri., 1:30-4 Sat.-Sun., Lovelock, 273-7213
Humboldt Museum, 10-4 Mon.-Fri., 1-4 Sat., Winnemucca, 623-2912

Pony Express Territory

Nevada Northern Railway Museum, 8:30-4:30 daily, May 27-Oct. 1, closed during winter, East Ely, 289-2085
White Pine Public Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Fri., 10-4 Sat.-Sun., 2000 Aultman St., Ely, 289-4710
Eureka Sentinel Museum, open April 15-Oct. 13, hours vary, call 237-5484, Eureka
Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave, 10-4 Mon.-Wed. and Fri.-Sat., noon-4 Sun., 1050 S. Maine St., Fallon, 423-3677 For Hidden Cave tours call Carson City BLM, 882-1631
Lyon County Museum, 10-4 Sat., 1-4 Sun., Yerington

Pioneer Territory

Mineral County Museum, 2-4:30 Mon.-Fri., Hawthorne, 945-3185
Lincoln County Museum, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 10-5 Sun. (closes from 12:30-1:30 for lunch), Pioche, 962-5207
Central Nevada Museum, 12-5 Tues.-Sat., Tonopah, 482-9676

ART GALLERIES

Desert Images: 459 Fifth St., Hawthorne, noon-5 Mon.-Sat. or by appointment, features monthly guest artist, artwork representative of Mineral County and rural Nevada, 945-2138
Desert Light Studio: 369 Old Highway 40, Wadsworth, 1-4 Mon.-Fri., paintings and drawings by Carlos Warner, 575-5516
Gallery: 2051 North St., Ely, 10-5 Mon.-Fri., Sat. and Sun. by appointment, pastels, watercolors, and oils by local artists, 289-4750
Northeastern Nevada Museum: 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 9-5 Mon.-Sat., 1-5 Sun., photos, pen and ink, sculpture, and oils on Nevada themes, 738-3418
The Office Gallery: 178 S. Maine St., Fallon, 8-5:30 Mon.-Fri., 8:30-5 Sat., original artwork of all kinds, 423-6078
Planet X Pottery: Box 4, State Highway 81-447 outside Gerlach, hours vary, call ahead; original pottery, 557-2500

A Reminder: To confirm dates and times, use the phone number listed with each event. For out-of-state callers, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

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Photo: Howard Hickson

DINING GUIDE

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers and those who have paid a $50 listing fee. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and accepted credit cards. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to $10 ($), $11 to $20 ($$), $21 to $30 ($$$), and more than $30 ($$$$). To phone from out of state, the area code is 702 throughout Nevada.

BOULDER CITY

Gold Strike Steak House—Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000. Steaks, lobster, veal, and daily specials. D. $-$$, major.

Two Gals—1632 Nevada Hwy., 293-1793. Omelets, sandwiches, quiche, cheesecakes. B, L. $, No CC.

LAS VEGAS

AMERICAN

California/Market Street Cafe—12 E. Ogden, 385-1222. Prime rib dinner. B, L, D. $, major.

Circus Circus/Skyrise—734-0410. Prime rib, steak and shrimp. B, L, D. $, major.

Desert Inn/Champions Deli—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4513. Daily cooked brisket of beef, pastrami, corned beef. B, L. $, major.

Desert Inn/La Promenade—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4580. Pasta sala tricolore, steak sandwich. B, L, D. $, major.

Flamingo Hilton/Flamingo Room—733-3111. Seafood salad bar, fresh fish of the day, veal cutlet Viennoise. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Flamingo Hilton/Lindy's Deli—733-3111. Grilled Rueben, New York steak, marble cheesecake. B, L, D. $, major.

Imperial Palace/4th Floor Rib Room—731-3311. Prime rib and barbecue entrees. D. $$, major.

Sam's Town/Mary's Diner—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8073. '50s flair, blueplate specials served 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.

Sam's Town/Smokey Joe's 24 Hour Cafe & Market—5111 Boulder Hwy., 456-7777. Barbecue specialties served 24 hours. B, L, D. $, major.

Sam's Town/Uptown Buffet—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8048. B, L, D. $, major.

Stardust/Tony Roma's—732-6111. Ribs and chicken. D. $, major.

CAJUN

Holiday Casino/Joe's Bayou—369-5000. Shrimp Creole, blackened catfish, Memphis-style barbecue. D. $-$$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Bally's/Gigi—739-4651. Cote de veau nouveau chasseur mormard grille, beurre fondu. D (closed Mon-Tues.). $$$$, major.

Caesars Palace/Bacchanal—731-7110. Seven-course Roman banquet. D (closed Tues.-Wed.). $$$$, major.

Caesars Palace/Palace Court—731-7110. Langoustines, steak Diane. D. $$$$, major.

Dunes/Sultan's Table—737-4681. Breast of capon ala kiev, brochette of beef tenderloin, medaillion of veal ala sultan. D. $$-$$$, major.

Las Vegas Hilton/Le Montrachet—732-5111. Dover sole, medallions of veal, extensive wine list. D. $$$$, major.

GERMAN

Alpine Village Inn—3003 Paradise Rd., 734-6888. Sauerbraten, wiener schnitzel, fleisch rouladen, kassler rippchen, sausages, combination plates, fish, steak, homebaked breads and desserts. D. $-$$, major.

ITALIAN

Bally's/Caruso's—739-4656. Gamberoni alla griglia, pollo alla fiorentina. D (closed Wed.-Thurs.). $$$$, major.

The Bootlegger Ristorante—5025 S. Eastern, 736-4939. Seafood fra diavolo (hot, medium or mild), jumbo shrimp, cioppino style clams and calamari over a bed of fresh linguini, milk-fed veal piccata, homemade manicotti and lasagne, pasta diet menu from the American Heart Assn. L, D. $$, major.

Caesars Palace/Primavera—731-7110. Fettuccine Primavera, pasta specialities, Caesars salad. B, L, D. $$-$$$, major.

Desert Inn/Portofino—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4495. Saltimbocca a la Romana, scampi a la Provinciale, fettuccine Alfredo. D. $$, major.

Imperial Palace/Pappa's Pizza—731-3311. Pizza, pasta, and salads. L, D. $, major.

Las Vegas Hilton/Andiamo—732-5111. Northern Italian specialties, 25 pastas, veal, lamb, and fish entrees. L, D. $-$$, major.

MEXICAN

Casa Tequila—1815 E. Charleston, 384-0651. Chimichangas, fajitas, crab enchiladas, burritos, tacos, tostadas, rellenos. L, D. $, AE, MC, V.

El Sombrero Cafe—807 S. Main St., 382-9234. Albondigas soup, Mexican steak, chili Colorado. L, D. $, MC, V.

Garcias Mexican—1030 E. Flamingo, 731-0628. Fajitas, chimichangas, seafood enchilladas, deep-fried ice cream. L, D. $, major.

Sam's Town/Willy & Jose's Mexican Cantina—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8044. Authentic Mexican dishes in Old Mexico setting. D. $, major.

ORIENTAL

Bally's/Tracy's—739-4930. Kung pao gai, mongo ngow. D (closed Wed-Thurs.). $$, major.

Caesars Palace/Ah So—731-7110. Sushi and sashimi, teppan yaki-style. D. $$$$, major.

Desert Inn/Ho Wan—3145 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 733-4547. Sizzling oyster beef, prawns a la Szechwan, almond pressed duck. D. $$, major.



Diners enjoy fine food and wine at the Eldorado's Vintage restaurant in Reno.

Flamingo Hilton/Peking Market—733-3111. Nine-course family dinner, lemon chicken and lobster Cantonese. D. $, major.

Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace—731-3311. Cantonese and Mandarin cuisine. D. $$, major.

Las Vegas Hilton/Benihana Village—732-5111. Four restaurants: tempura, robata, sukiyaki, hibachi; animated show. D. $$$, major.

Silver Dragon—1510 E. Flamingo Rd., 737-1234. Lover's delight, lemon shrimp, lobster Szechwan, silver dragon crab legs, and lover's shrimp. L, D. $$, major.

Tokyo—953 E. Sahara in Commercial Center, 735-7070. Sushi, teppan, yakiniku, tempura, teriyaki, sukiyaki. L. D. $$, major.

SURF AND TURF

Bally's/Barrymore's—739-4661. Blackened red fish, surf and turf. L (Mon.-Fri.), D. $$-$$$, major.

Caesars Palace/Spanish Steps Steak and Seafood House—731-7110. Fresh seafood, prime dry-aged steaks, Mediterranean dishes. D. $$-$$$, major.

California/Pasta Pirate—12 E. Ogden, 385-1222. Mesquite-broiled seafood, steaks, pasta made fresh daily, live Maine lobster. D. $$, major.

California/Redwood Bar and Grill—12 E. Ogden, 385-1222. 18 oz. porterhouse dinner. D. $-$$, major.

The Cavalier—3850 E. Desert Inn Rd., 451-6221. Medallions of beef, chicken Cavalier. L, D. $$, major.

Circus Circus/Steak House—734-0410. Steak, prime rib, lobster, seafood appetizers flown in fresh daily. D. $$, major.

Dunes/Dome of the Sea—737-4254. Picata of lobster Dome of the Sea, shrimp Christina, scallops Bruno. D. $$-$$$, major.

Flamingo Hilton/Beef Barron—733-3111. Prime rib special, chateaubriand, crisp roast duck. D. $$-$$$, major.

Holiday Casino/Claudine's—369-5000. Steaks and seafood, open kitchen, piano bar nearby, excellent wine list. D. $$-$$$, major.

Imperial Palace/Kobe Steak House—731-3311. Steak and lobster. D. $$, major.

Sam's Town/Diamond Lil's—5111 Boulder Hwy., 454-8009. Fresh fish and seafood daily. D, Sun. brunch. $-$$, major.

Stardust/William B's—732-6111. Broiled halibut, lamb, veal, rib eye steak. D. $$, major.

Yolie's Brazilian Steakhouse—3900 Paradise Rd., 794-0700. Meats include: turkey wrapped in bacon, sausage, brisket of beef, lamb, pork, chicken. All cooked over a mesquite charcoal fire. L, D. $$, major.

LAUGHLIN

Colorado Belle/Orleans Room—298-4000. Steak, seafood, prime rib, lamb chops, linguini. D. $$, AE, DC, MC, V.

Edgewater/The Embers—298-2453. Steak, seafood, prime rib, Midwestern beef. D. $$, major.

Riverside/Gourmet Room—298-2535. Chateaubriand, Cajun dishes, steak and quail, rack of lamb, wine steward. D. $$, major.

Riverside/Prime Rib Room—298-2535. Salad, potato, vegetable, and dessert bar, prime rib. D. $, major.

Sam's Town Gold River/Sutter's Mill—298-2242. Mesquite-broiled steaks. Brunch Sat.-Sun. D. $$, AE, MC, V.

RENO-CARSON AREA

AMERICAN

Boomtown—I-80 at Verdi, 345-6000. Changing buffet, regular menu. B, L, D. $, MC, V.

Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's—Minden, 782-4347. Steaks, seafood, veal, soup and salad bar. L, D, Sun. brunch. $-$$, major.

Carson Valley Inn/Katie's—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers. B, L, D. $, major.

Comstock Hotel/Miner's Cafe—200 W. 2nd St., 329-1880. One-pound New York steak dinner. 24 hours. $, major.

Country Garden in Arlington Gardens Mall—606 W. Plumb Ln., 825-0213. Homemade soups and desserts, unique salads. L. $, MC, V.

Eldorado/Mardi Gras—786-5700. English sole, shrimp salad croissant sandwich, won ton soup. B, L, D. $, major.

Harrah's/Garden Room—786-3232. Eggs Benedict, avocado clubhouse, triple dragon. B, L, D. $, major.

Harrah's/Skyway—786-3232. Buffets, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. $$, major.

Holiday Inn/Greenhouse—5851 S. Virginia St., 825-2940. Sandwiches, burgers, dinners. B, L, D. $, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis. B, L, D. $, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet with menu that includes rack of lamb and scampi, Sunday brunch. L, D. $-$$, major.

Liberty Belle Saloon and Restaurant—4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776. Prime rib, lobster tail, crab legs, seafood dishes, steak, ribs, chicken. L, D. $-$$, V MC.

Ormsby House/Comstock—Carson City, 882-1890. Burgers, prime rib, breakfasts. B, L, D. $, major.

Peppermill/Coffee Shop—2707 S. Virginia St., 826-2121. Fruit salads, lasagna, gourmet omelets. B, L, D. $$, major.

Peppermill/Island Buffet—2707 S. Virginia St., 826-2121. Salad bar with fresh shrimp and crab legs and homemade pasta. Sun. brunch. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Reno Ramada/Gaming Tables—Sixth and Lake, 788-

2000. Daily specials. B, L, D. $-$$, major.

Sharkey's Nugget—Gardnerville, 782-3133. Prime rib is house specialty. B, L, D. $, no CC.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. 4th St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. $$, major.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Adele's—1112 N. Carson St., Carson City, 882-3353. Fresh fish, lobster, lamb, beef, chicken. L, D. $-$$$$, MC, V.

Bally's/Cafe Gigi—789-2266. French, cracked crab, snails, lobster bisque, chateaubriand, veal Oscar. D. $$$$, major.

Eldorado/The Vintage—786-5700. Fresh Sonoma duckling, chateaubriand, prawns amaretto, extensive wine list. D. $$, major.

Four Seasons—1885 S. Virginia St., 329-4833. Stuffed croissants, scallops sauteed Provencale, coquille St. Jacques, frog legs Provencale, linguini alla vongole. B, L, D. $$, AE, MC, V.

Gold Hill Hotel/Crown Point—1 mile south of Virginia City, 847-0111. French and Cajun cuisine. D. $$, major.

Harrah's/Steak House—786-3232. Steak Diane, fresh fish daily, roast rack of lamb. L (Mon.-Fri.), D. $$$, major.

Ormsby House/Woody's—Carson City, 882-1890. Rack of lamb persillade, veal Cordon Bleu. L (Tues.-Fri.), D (Tues.-Sat.). $$-$$$, major.

Peppermill/Le Moulin—826-2121. Tournedos of beef a la Dianne, veal a la Oscar, dover sole meuniere. D. $$, major.

Reno Hilton/Top of the Hilton—322-1111. Salmon with three sauces, roast duck with raspberry sauce, roast prime rib of beef au jus. D. $$$, major.

ITALIAN

Bally's/Caruso's—789-2267. Fresh oysters, canneloni, calamari. D. $$$, major.

Eldorado/La Strada—786-5700. Saltimbocca, gnocchi al pesto, raviolli verdi con spinaci. D nightly. $$, major.

Plaza Court—1981 Terminal Way in Airport Plaza Hotel, 348-6370. Lobster chardonnay, seafood delicacies, chicken saute sec, fettuccine Christina. B, L, D. $$, major.

Rivoli—221 W. Second St., 784-9792. Veal, chicken, pasta. D. $$, MC, V.

MEXICAN

Cantina Los Tres Hombres—7111 S. Virginia St., 852-0202. Paella chingalinga, deep-fried ice cream, coconut flan. L, D. $, AE, MC, V.

Hacienda Del Sol—2935 So. Virginia St., 825-7144. Fajitas (beef and turkey). L, D. $, MC, V.

Western Village/Pancho and Willie's—Off I-80, Sparks, 331-1069. Fajitas, chili verde. L (res.), D. $$, major.

ORIENTAL

Bally's/China Seas—789-2268. Mandarin shrimp, Mongolian beef, cashew chicken. D (closed Sun.). $$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialities, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$, major.

Miramar House—202 Fairview Dr., Carson City, 882-0262. Daily luncheon buffet. L, D. $, major.

SURF AND TURF

Bally's/Bounty—789-2000. Steamed clams, cracked half crab, oysters. L, D. $, major.

Bally's/Steak House—789-2270. Broiled T-bone steak, Columbia River salmon. L (except Sat.-Sun.), D (except Sun.-Mon.). $, major.

Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scallopini, scampi in dill sauce, chicken picata, escargot. D. $$, major.

Cattlemen's—555 Hwy. 395 S. in Washoe Valley, 849-1500. Sirloin, filet mignon, lobster, Alaska king crab. D. $$, major.

Circus Circus/Hickory Pit—329-0711. One-pound prime rib, New York steak. D. $$, major.

Club Cal Neva/Copper Ledge—Second and Virginia, 323-1046. Steak and scampi, prime rib dinner, New York steak. B, L, D. $,

Comstock Hotel/Dinner House—329-1880. Steak and lobster, veal picata, stuffed shrimp. D. $$, major.

Harrah's/Seafare—786-3232. Fresh fish specials, calamari, lobster tail, veal parmigiana, eggplant Romano. L, D. $$$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/John's Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. $$, major.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak and lobster, snapper, shrimp Louis. L, D. $$, major.

Western Village/Steakhouse—Off I-80, Sparks, 331-1069. Prime rib, Australian lobster, veal scallopini, steak Diane. D. $, major.

LAKE TAHOE

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$$, major.

Harrah's Tahoe/Forest—Stateline, 588-6611. Honey-dipped fried chicken, veal stew madeira, mahi mahi. B, L, D. $$$, major.

Harrah's Tahoe/Sierra—Stateline, 588-6611. Daily specials, Chinese entrees. B, L, D. $$, major.

Harvey's/Cafe Metro—Stateline, 588-2411. European sweet shop, coffees, retail bakery. $, major.

Tahoe Queen—970 Ski Run Blvd., S. Lake Tahoe, CA., 916-541-3364. Afternoon Emerald Bay cruise with luncheon menu, evening dinner-dance cruise. L, D. $$, MC, V.

FRENCH/CONTINENTAL

Caesars Tahoe/Le Posh—Stateline, 588-3515. Award-winning California cuisine. D. $$$, major.

Harrah's Tahoe/The Summit—Stateline, 588-6611. Saddle of veal flamed with morel mushrooms, Grand Marnier souffle. D. $$$$, major.

Harvey's/Sage Room—Stateline, 588-2411. Rack of lamb persille, prime dry-aged cuts of beef, beef Wellington. D. $$-$$$, major.

Harvey's/Top of the Wheel—Stateline, 588-2411. Continental cuisine, mahi mahi with macadamia bourbon, Sun. brunch, D. $$-$$$, major.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini Carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola, pollo allo spumante, D, weekend brunch, $$, major.

MEXICAN

Harvey's/El Vaquero—Stateline, 588-2411. Camerones Veracruz, carnitas. L, D. $$, major.

ORIENTAL

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. $$, major.

SURF AND TURF

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. $$, major, res. for large parties.

Harrah's Tahoe/Friday's Station—Stateline, 588-6611. Fresh fish, steaks. L, D. $$$, major.

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REVIEW

Where the Boys Are

For 13 years Kenny Kerr's show starring female impersonators has opened the eyes of Las Vegas showgoers.

By Jackie Brett

The female impersonator show "Boy-lesque" long ago elevated itself above the realm of curiosity. After 13 years on the Las Vegas Strip, first at the Silver Slipper and now at the Sahara, this production is recognized as high entertainment and a Vegas institution.

But most of all, "Boy-lesque" is tremendous fun.

Men are sometimes intimidated by the show's concept. They shouldn't be. They should think of it as a work of art. Unlike a "drag" show in which men put on dresses and act crazy this show is handled with the utmost taste.

Some women go crazy over the show. They even beg the male performers for makeup tips.

This is a show of illusion. Through the wonders of costumes, makeup, and strategic stuffing, the boys of "Boy-lesque" are transformed into female stars like Cher, Barbra Streisand, Tina Turner, Julie Andrews, Diana Ross, and Marilyn Monroe. And they act as well as they dress, magically appearing and sounding just like the celebrities they portray.

The show opens with four male dancers and four showgirls pumping the room's collective adrenaline to "This Girl's Back in Town."

Then enters Kenny Kerr, the star, producer, and originator of the show. Kerr always wears knockout evening gowns.

He also sets demanding standards of technical precision. He excels at imitating Cher and Barbra Streisand, the latter for 22 years. "Streisand is my favorite character because she's so versatile," he says.

Once a year new numbers, wardrobe, and choreography are introduced to keep the show fresh. The next change will occur around the beginning of the new year. In other words, Kerr will still do Cher and Streisand, but they will do new numbers.

The other men are equally attached to the stars they bring to life.

Crystal Woods, a member of the cast for more than a year, does Whitney Houston early in the show and an outstanding Diana Ross towards the end. The gap is necessary,



Kenny Kerr (right) and the cast of "Boy-lesque" portray stars they admire.

Kerr explains, because it takes Woods a half hour to change his makeup and add Ross-size eyelashes.

Jim North has been with "Boy-lesque" from its inception back at the old Silver Slipper in 1977 He's currently doing Julie Andrews as Victoria portraying Victor—well, you get the picture.

Stacy Carlson plays Ann-Margret, at times supported, appropriately by four male dancers.

Playing the vivacious Tina Turner is Emore Duboise's challenge. In "Be Good to Me" Duboise, who has been with the show nine years, hangs it out with a flurry of movement that might leave even Tina gasping.

The role of Marilyn Monroe in the "Diamonds" and "Heat Wave" routines is performed by Jamie DeSario, the newest member of the cast. DeSario, who must fall in the arms of the male dancers, says he's so well padded that if they dropped him, he'd just bounce.

There's comedy relief provided by the famous Little 'Lil, who's been played by Howard Benway for 27 years. He does two numbers, Timmi Yuro's "Hurt" and "Little George." You could say there's an element of surprise and visual impact in both routines. By popular demand Little 'Lil's numbers never change.



When Kerr moved "Boy-lesque" into the bigger 900-seat showroom at the Sahara last summer, the show needed to be enlarged. So Kerr added Barry Conyers' life-size puppets doing the hyperactive Pointer Sisters.

Kerr himself is bigger than life in this show. Early on he does a brief comedy routine that's as good as any headliner's.

Another high point is his "Queen of the Striptease" routine. He enters through the audience as a glamorous woman singing the clever ditty "Beer Package, Champagne Taste." He ends up on stage doing a striptease worthy of Gypsy Rose Lee. The clincher is the way he ends it, revealing his male chest and giving a meaningful gesture to the audience.

After the show Kerr often draws a crowd as he signs autographs outside the showroom. There may be a few men in the crowd, but the women are always braver, and they aren't bashful about asking the star and his cast for makeup tips along with the autographs.

Jackie Brett is Nevada's *Las Vegas representative.*

"Boy-lesque"

"Boy-lesque" starring Kenny Kerr plays at the Sahara indefinitely. Performances are 8 and 10 p.m. and midnight Saturday and 8 and 11 p.m. other nights except Wednesday when the room is dark. Tickets are $9.95 plus tax per person. Drinks are separate.









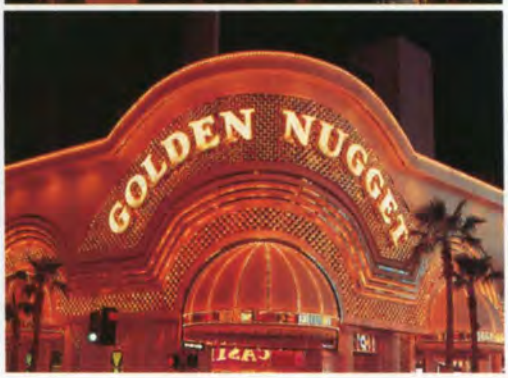












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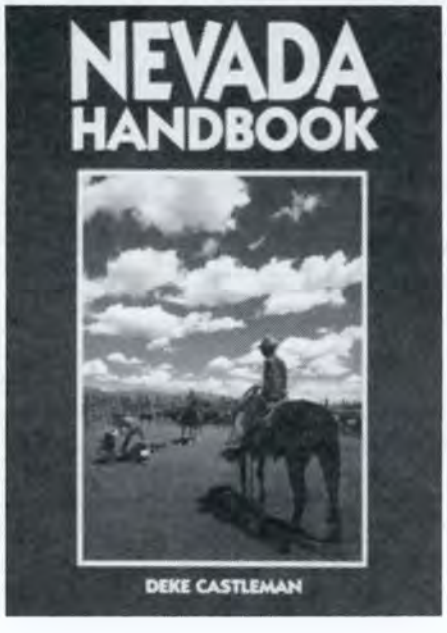
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