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MAGAZINE

June 2000

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Tonopah Turns 100

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NEVADA

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"When Tonopah and Goldfield came into existence, they were bigger than Las Vegas and Reno."
—Bob Perchetti of Tonopah, on his town's centennial celebration



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Three-time winner Jim Furyk at the Las Vegas Invitational.

Photo by Rick Martin

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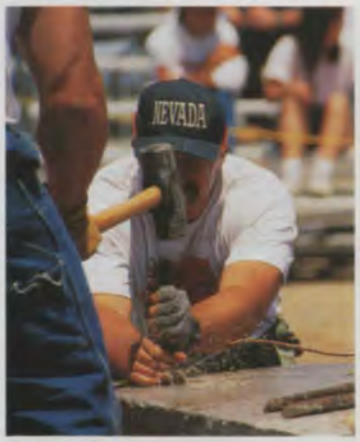
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A Golden Opportunity

Speaking in the soft drawl of her native North Carolina, **Kathy Espin** recalls the adventure that began when she moved to Las Vegas on Christmas Eve, 1973. "I came kicking and screaming," she laughs. "My [soon-to-be ex-] husband had heard from a friend that life was good in Nevada and that the streets were paved with gold."

Instead of gold, Kathy found something less glamorous in her first job at the Golden Nugget. "Back then, when I was pregnant, it was unheard of to see pregnant women working in a casino," she says. "It wasn't considered seemly, so I became a card washer. Poker rooms use expensive plastic cards, and I would take them home to clean, repair, and sort so they could be reused."



Las Vegas writer Kathy Espin.

Kathy went on to work in casino public relations and marketing. She now has her own consulting business and teaches communications at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her experiences are reflected in two articles in this issue, "Making the Honor Roll," a feature on gaming classes in the Silver State, and "'Splash' on Ice," a review of the Riviera Hotel's popular production show.

That first experience of washing cards for the Golden Nugget enabled Kathy to attend UNLV while taking care of three small children. "Going part-time, I spent three years as a freshman," she recalls. Kathy completed her education at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, earning a degree in political science. Once again she headed to Las Vegas, this time toting samples of newspaper articles she had written, which helped her land a job as a copy editor at the *Las Vegas Sun* for $250 a week. "I knew I was headed for the big time," she says with a laugh. The big time included stints in public relations and marketing for major Las Vegas casinos including the Bingo Palace (forerunner of Palace Station), Caesars Palace, Riviera, Stardust, Boyd Gaming, and Sam's Town. She also met and married Steve Baker, who is poker room manager at the Venetian.

Kathy now laughs at her initial reluctance to move to Las Vegas. "I wouldn't have missed a moment of the past 26 years," she says. "I not only had interesting career opportunities, but I also found a great husband."—*Ann Henderson*

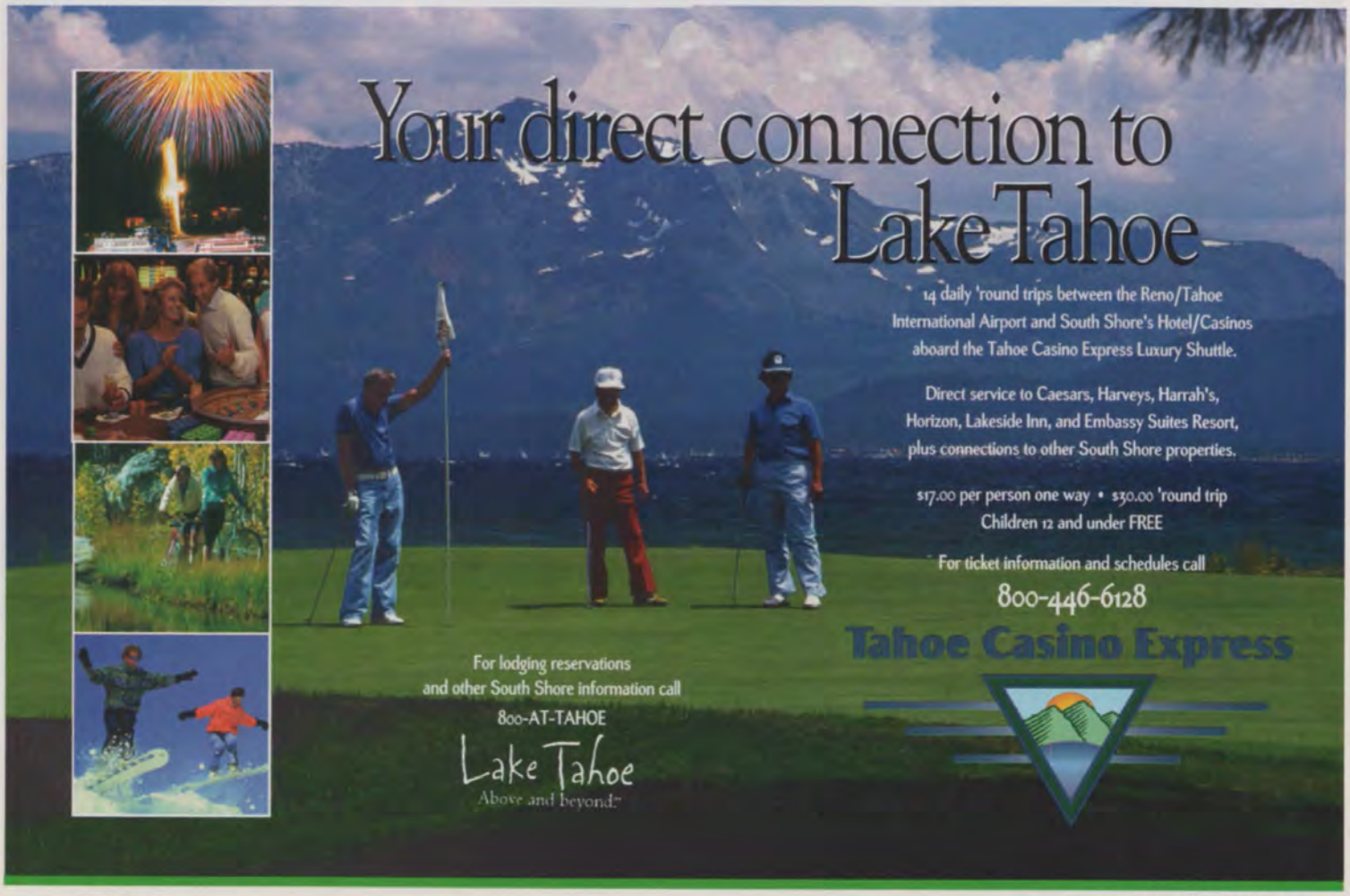


Photo: David Lee Waite

Letters

Nightclub insights, pool question, and history lessons.

Trails of Nostalgia

It was a pleasure reading "Donner Trail Days" by Katharine Jensen in the March/April issue. It took us back to the days of Reno's prime, when dude ranches, Sierra majesty, and Sammy Davis Jr. reigned supreme. It seems that over the years Reno lost its special chemistry and instead focused more on competing with Las Vegas.

Reno is still a great town, full of colorful characters and great spirit. It is truly a unique place in the world, but oh, how I long for the days when Reno was the "Biggest Little City."

Ryan M. Osborne
Wahiawa, HI

Dancing and Big Hotels

Last issue's article "Boogie Nights," in which Elizabeth Nielsen details every nightclub in Las Vegas, has proved invaluable to me as a Las Vegas cab driver.



Boogie fever is on tap at clubs like Ra in the Luxor.

Instead of trying to answer questions from my customers about each nightclub, I simply give them duplicated pages of Ms. Nielsen's article. Nightclub logistics on hours, entry fees, and types of music played are a great time saver to prospective customers.

Also, in the past you have printed a list of the 10 biggest hotels in the world as compiled by Deke Castleman. He lists a hotel in Thailand with 6,000 rooms. I have talked to customers in my cab who travel the world, inquired of people who live in Thailand, and looked at many travel books on Thailand. No customer has heard of, nor does any book mention, this supposedly monstrous hotel. May I be so bold as to suggest that no 6,000-room hotel exists?

Dan Shepard
Las Vegas

Dan, Deke Castleman reports that the MGM Grand is the world's largest hotel with 5,036 rooms. However, he did confirm that a huge hotel, called the Ambassador Beach, does exist in Jomtien, on the east coast of Thailand. The exact room count is difficult to assess since the hotel consists of several buildings, but Deke says it probably has nearly 5,000 rooms.—Ed.

A Date With History

This is to inform you that I have found a new use for my Nevada Historical Calendar. When it's not adorning my wall,

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Photo: Steve Spatafore

I use it as a teaching tool. I teach English as a Second Language and use the calendar to incite conversation in class. The wonderful old photos inspire my students to describe what they see in English. They also are beginning to learn about Nevada history.

The calendar is not only a great teaching tool but also a fine work of art.

Susan G. Paslov
Professor of English
Western Nevada Community College
Carson City

Pooling Resources in Vegas

With all the new and mega-hotels in Las Vegas, it amazes me that none of them has a year-round swimming pool complex. The Vegas resort pools are available only from April through October and idle in the cool months. Even in the Southern Nevada warm months, I've found that the pool areas are time-restricted. One hotel in particular (Treasure Island) opened the pool area in October at 9 a.m. and closed at 6 p.m.

It would seem that in this day of retractable roofs (even on cruise ships) and family-oriented recreation that some Vegas mega-hotel owner would construct a year-round recreational pool area.

John O'Brien
De Pere, WI

A Keeper of a Story

Being in the publication business ourselves, we look for easy-to-read layout, some interesting ads, and also some articles that we call "cut-outs" or "keepers." One so-called "keeper" is the quite informative article in the Jan/Feb issue entitled "Rural Casino Getaways" by Sharon Carter. The article had exciting words, vivid descriptions, and useful information.

Your magazine is one that I believe the following: "If you have not cut out articles to refer to in the future, you have not read *Nevada Magazine*," for it is one of the many fine publications that I find chock-full of useful information.

Make sure to give Sharon Carter a large glass of orange juice each time she enters your office to make sure her brain and creativity do not wane. She presents a professional approach to writing.

Harvey L. Sherman
Bethesda, MD

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Roadside Attractions

Sinking into the *Titanic*, water-skiing at Tahoe, and targeting Elvis' guns.



Lake Tahoe Water Ski School owner Scott Longoria offers pointers to son Danny during a ride.

Summer Skiing at Tahoe

LAKE TAHOE—This summer water-skiers and wake boarders can learn how to ride the clear-blue waters of Tahoe or improve their techniques by attending classes at several Lake Tahoe-area ski schools. The schools offer instruction for all ages and skill levels.

At **Lake Tahoe Water Ski School**, owners Scott and Heather Longoria and their instructors have been teaching people to water-ski for 15 years. The Longorias recently began offering lessons in wake boarding, which is becoming popular at the lake. (A wake board resembles a large surfboard with upturned fins.) The school is based at the Camp Richardson marina on Lake Tahoe's south shore, 11 miles west of Stateline. Lessons include wet suits, equipment, and certified instructors. This season students will ski behind new Pro Air Nautique boats.

"Students just show up with their swimsuits, and everything else is taken care of," says Scott Longoria. "The main thing we do is take the hassle and frustration out of skiing. A lot of times we see a family come in, and they've spent all day trying to get Junior up on skis. They've gone loop after loop after loop around the lake. Junior is tired and frustrated, Dad is tired and frustrated, everybody's just had it. We can get Junior out there, and boom—he's up and skiing his first try."

Students spend a few minutes on the shore getting oriented with the equipment and then move to the water with their instructors. The instructors ski next to students, coaching them as they come up out of the water. "This means we can give immediate feedback to the student," says Longoria. "It's always a thrill to see someone get up their first time." Once skiers are up, they can practice making turns and crossing the wake.

Lake Tahoe Water Ski School offers lessons from June through September, weather permitting. Cost is $125 per hour and includes equipment. Reservations are required. Call 530-542-6570 for information.

Other Tahoe water-ski schools offer similar lessons in such skills as wake boarding, knee boarding, tube rides, hi-wrap singles, water ski repairs, and slalom. Most also offer equipment sales and rentals. Boats usually carry from one to five skiers. Call ahead for reservations and specifics for each school or check out www.laketahoe-vacationguide.com.

Werley's Water Ski School is located at Tahoe Keys Marina, South Lake Tahoe. Call 530-544-5099 (summer) or 530-542-1113 (winter). **Borges Water Ski School** is based at Round Hill Pines Beach at South Lake Tahoe. Call 530-541-1351. **Action Watersports of Tahoe** has two locations: Timber Cove Marina at South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-2942, and 967 Lakeshore Blvd. in Incline Village, 775-831-4386. **Kings Beach Aqua Sports** is located at Kings Beach State Park on the north shore. Call 530-546-2782. **Lighthouse Watersports** is located at 950 North Lake Blvd., Lighthouse Marina in Tahoe City. Call 530-583-6000 for further information.—*Shannon Montana*

Trigger History

SPARKS—Visitors can take a shot at learning some Western history at **Sierra Sid's Auto Truck Plaza**, where owner Sid Doan



Marcy Barba (right) targets history at Sierra Sid's gun collection.

Photo: Shannon Montana (bottom)

shows his extensive collection of historic firearms. The collection includes three series of guns: commemorative guns of the American West (both the Lawman Series and the Gun Fighter Series), custom Colt sheep-themed guns, and guns that once belonged to Elvis Presley.

The Gun Fighter Series features replica guns from famous outlaws of the West, including Calamity Jane, Bat Masterson, Wyatt Earp, and Doc Holiday. The series was created by a custom Colt shop, Doan says, that designs the replicas based on records and gunfighters' preferences.





Visitors can see a re-creation of the *Titanic's* lavish grand staircase (above) and artifacts like this porthole (right) salvaged from the ill-fated ship in the Rio exhibition.

The second series commemorates the four sheep indigenous to the West: Stone's, Dall's, Rocky Mountain bighorn, and desert bighorn. Commissioned in the 1960s, prior to the federal government's ruling in 1976 that a gun cannot be released without a serial number, these single-action Army Colts feature ivory handles. When the guns came out of the forge, "they were grabbed before they went to have a number stamped, so subsequently the name is the serial number," says Doan. "The government stopped that, so these are the only one set ever made." Doan purchased the set for $60,000.

Commemorative guns, says Doan, lose their value after they're fired. All the guns in the collection will fire, but they've been fired only once—in the factory. "With the value of these guns, if you shoot them one time and scratch the cylinder, the gun falls into the shooting category and drops to $250, $300 in value," Doan says.

Maintaining the collection has become a family affair. Doan's daughter, Marcy Barba, vice-president of Sid's, researched the commemorative guns and, with the help of her mother, sorted the collection in chronological order and posted the histories with the proper guns. Photographs of Bat Masterson, Doc Holiday, and Calamity Jane and the official government photo of Sitting Bull are part of the exhibit. A map from 1856 shows where the guns would have been found.

"We laid the guns out chronologically from the Civil War to John Wayne's spurs and started researching what they were and why they mattered," says Barba.

John Wayne's spurs hang in the truck stop with a photo of the Duke. In the 1930s a bit-part actor named James Heath was told by his future father-in-law to give up Hollywood and get a real job. Heath had been sharing rides with fellow actor John Wayne, who owed him gas money but couldn't pay up. Instead, Wayne gave him his spurs.

In 1979 a driver passing through Sid's and knowing of Doan's interest in guns mentioned the guns that Elvis' father Vernon Presley had in his estate, then in the possession of Sandy Miller, Vernon's fiancée and nurse. "I put twenty thousand in my boot and went to Denver," Doan says, but Miller wouldn't sell. "So the next day I put twenty thousand in my other boot and went and got the guns."

The guns, which Elvis had engraved with gold and silver and the images of bears and lions, make up the third series in the collection, including four .45 handguns, one of which Elvis is said to have used to shoot out a television. The collection is located near the casino restaurant. Call Sierra Sid's, 775-359-0550, for more information.—*Jennifer Rachel Baumer*

Lessons From the Deep

LAS VEGAS—Visitors can dive into **Titanic: The Exhibition** now on display at the Rio Suite Hotel. Participants listen to a Walkman cassette tape explaining the *Titanic* relics. The audio tour, which can be paused at any time, includes quotes from survivors of the 1912 accident.

The display presents photos, video clips, and relics that trace the *Titanic* from its conception and construction to its sinking and subsequent artifact excavation. Historic photos offer a glimpse at the hope and excitement of the times.

The personal items bring the story to life. Visitors can gaze upon razor blades, a hot-water bottle, pipe, pocket watch (stopped at 10 minutes to 11), cigarette holder, suitcase, baggage label, shoes, eyeglasses, a jacket and trousers, coins, paper money, and other personal items brought on board by the ill-fated passengers. Photos of the passengers and crew members deepen the experience.

The close encounter continues as visitors view re-creations of rooms from the ship, including hallways, a restaurant, cabins, and the infamous grand staircase. Each area contains various relics and artifacts. A video shows how the sinking occurred. Visitors are invited to touch a wall of ice, illustrating how cold the iceberg and water must have felt.

The exhibit is open daily from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Tickets cost $15.95 for adults and $9.95 for children ages nine to 14 (young children are not advised). Tickets are sold at the Titanic Box Office on the second floor of the Masquerade Village or through Ticketmaster, 702-474-4000. Call the Rio at 702-252-7777 or log onto the hotel's Web site at www.playrio.com for more information.—*Elizabeth Nielsen*



PeoplePage

A long-serving Eurekan and a shot-glass collector.

Serving Eureka

"When I was first elected Eureka county clerk in 1964, I thought that 20 years would be a long time to serve," says **Joan Shangle**. Little did she know she would become one of Nevada's longest-serving elected officials. Shangle, who also holds the distinction of being the first woman ever elected to office in Eureka County, is celebrating her 36th year as the county's court clerk and treasurer.



Joan Shangle registers her 36th year as the Eureka County clerk.

Born and raised in Eureka, Shangle studied at the University of Nevada, Reno, and graduated from Reno Business College with accounting and executive secretary degrees. Her career has been a series of firsts.

"I was the first secretary-bookkeeper for the Eureka School District, and then I became the town's first librarian," she recalls. "Then I was hired at the county clerk's office and was eventually appointed acting county clerk and treasurer in 1963. I became the first woman elected in Eureka County when I won the election in 1964." Shangle has been challenged in only two elections. She won both by landslides.

Shangle's family history in Eureka County dates back to the 1800s. Family and courthouse relics fill her office.

As her responsibilities have increased over the years, so have her hours. Most days Shangle can be found working as late as 10 p.m. But in the 1960s and '70s, the job was less demanding.

"I didn't have to work so many hours when my children were small," Shangle says. "When I went to work, they would often come with me, go into the judge's chambers, draw, and even write stories."

Shangle and her husband of 43 years, Monte, a brand inspector who raises and trains quarter horses, raised four children: Dan, Rhonda, Joel, and Brandon. They range in age from 17 to 42.

Shangle's family history in Eureka County dates back to the 1800s. Family and courthouse relics fill her office. "It's a museum," she says. She has a collection of six-inch-tall leather-bound law books known as saddlebag books from the 1860s, an old calculator with a wind-up handle, and her great-grandfather's office set, complete with ink wells, bottles of ink, paper, and pens. Modern times are catching up with Shangle—she now has a computer—but she still takes minutes in shorthand and records in the court files and dockets by hand.

She has many fond memories of her work in the county office. "I've worked with so many characters," she says. "I've served under Governors Sawyer, Laxalt, List, Bryan, Miller, and now Guinn. Paul Laxalt was a family friend of ours before I ever went into office. I liked them all."

But one special moment stands out. On June 20, 1995, Shangle received a proclamation from Governor Bob Miller naming her the first person inducted into the Election Hall of Fame, located in the Capitol in Carson City. "I was just sitting in the balcony at the Fiscal Officers Association's annual convention in Eureka when Secretary of State Dean Heller made the announcement," says Shangle. "It was a total surprise, and it meant a lot to me. It was the highlight of my life."—*Genevieve Kilpatrick*

A Touch of Glass

For more than 20 years, hunting for shot glasses has been **Brad Rodgers'** passion. Holder of the "World's Largest Shot Glass Collection" title in the *Guinness Book of World Records*, Rodgers owns 8,411 shot glasses and more than 4,000 duplicates. He recalls that his shot-glass obsession began when he was traveling with his family from California to visit relatives in Utah.

"We would always stop over in Las Vegas," says Rodgers, who is director of the Information and Technology Center at the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Bureau. "One of my earliest childhood memories is of a magician with a three-cup monte game on Fremont Street. He used three shot glasses and a small ball. As I walked away, he gave me one of the shot glasses because I could never guess where the ball was. It's been out of control ever since."

Rodgers explains, "Shot glasses are not for drinking. They're for traveling the world, learning of places I have



Brad Rodgers' passion for shot glasses earned him a spot in the *Guinness Book of World Records*.

Photos: Wally Cuchine (top), Chris Leedham (bottom)

never been." Although most shot-glass collectors specialize in particular places or eras, such as pre-Prohibition, Rodgers says, "I collect them all—short, tall, colored, plain, old, new."

Every horizontal surface in his home is covered with shot glasses. They're arranged on the stairs, on ledges, in kitchen cabinets, and, in some rooms, on the floor. There's a pre-Prohibition beauty of cobalt blue with a sailboat etched on it, a family of duck-shaped glasses, and a 1950s "walking" shot glass that waddles when wound up with a key.

"Shot glasses are not for drinking. They're for traveling the world, learning of places I have never been."

Pride of the place, however, is his collection of casino shot glasses—not only from Nevada, but from around the world.

"If I were to display all my shot glasses, it would take eight foot-high cases of shelves the length of a football field," Rodgers says. In his early days of collecting, Rodgers had no thoughts about making it into the *Guinness Book.* He planned his vacations around auctions and antique shows, collecting shot glasses as he traveled.

"Then it was about 1988," Rodgers says. "I had quite a few then. I went to California where a guy was selling his collection. He had about 2,000 glasses and was getting old. I said, 'Let me buy them from you, and I'll get them into the *Guinness Book.*'"

To keep his promise, Rodgers collected a few thousand more. Next, he pursuaded the Guinness people to create a shot-glass category. Then Rodgers and some friends catalogued and photographed every shot glass in his collection.

Despite the achievement, Rodgers continues to collect shot glasses. His goal is to create a kiosk system so that the whole collection can be put on display. Visitors can see a portion of Rodgers' shot-glass collection at the Guinness World of Records Museum, located on the Strip a half-block north of Circus Circus at 2780 Las Vegas Boulevard South.—*Connie Emerson*

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The Big Bang

From the Dunes to the Mapes, Nevada hotels have discovered a dynamite method of urban renewal.



In Nevada, demolishing old hotels to replace them with something bigger and better has become a common practice. In Las Vegas, the trend started in 1994 with the implosion of the Dunes Hotel (right), which had been built in 1955. The Dunes was replaced by the 3,000-room Bellagio, which at $1.8 billion is the most expensive hotel-casino ever built.

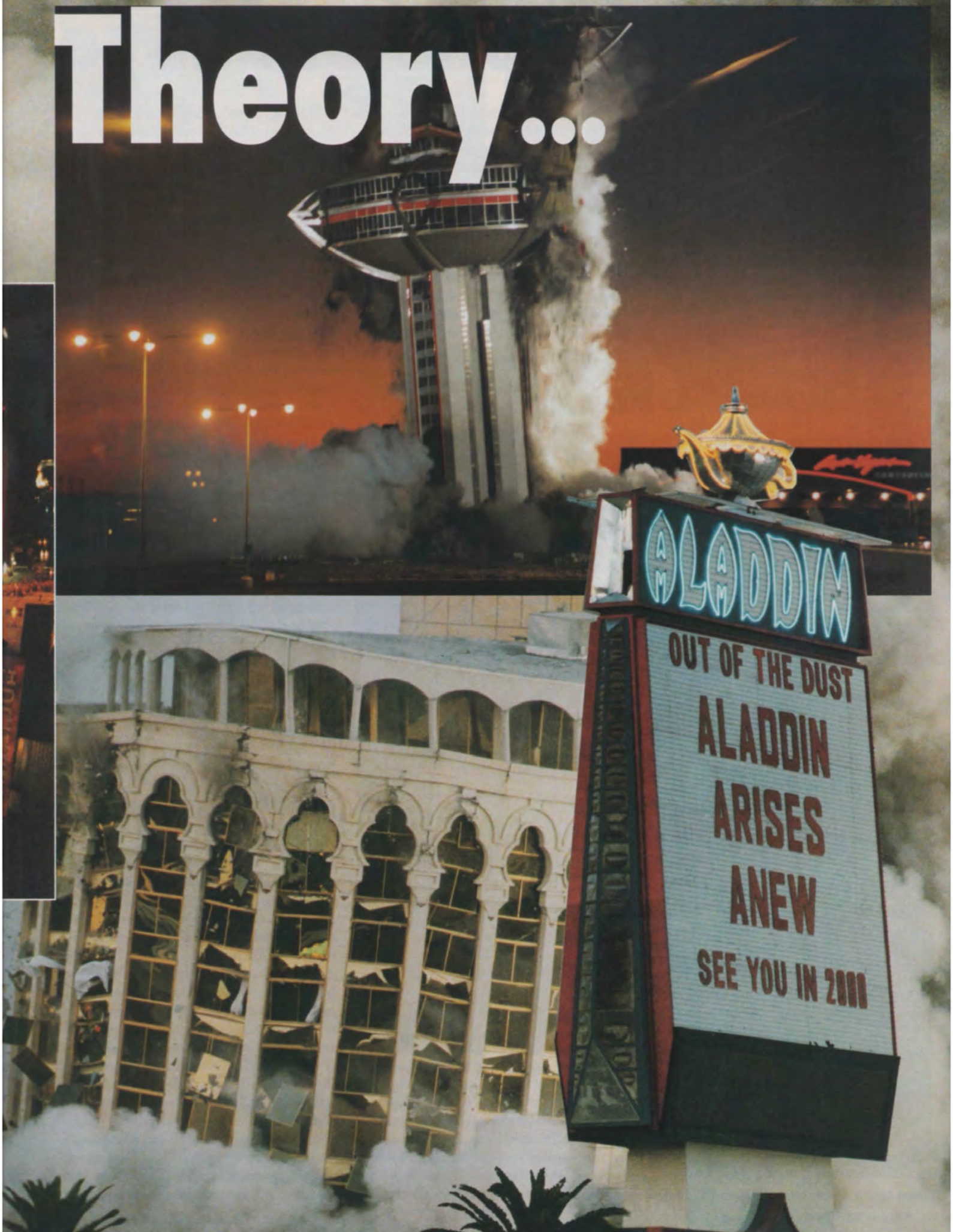
In 1995, the Landmark (top right), erected in 1969, was the next outdated Las Vegas hotel to be dynamited. Its destruction was followed a year later by the implosions of the Sands—playground of the Rat Pack in the early 1960s—and the Hacienda, a Strip fixture since 1956. The site of the Landmark became parking for the Las Vegas Convention Center. The Sands lot was turned into the Venetian, and the Hacienda was transformed into Mandalay Bay. More recently the Aladdin (far right), which opened in 1966, was blown up to make way for a new Aladdin.

Meanwhile, in Reno, three casinos dating back to the 1930s and 1940s have been demolished. Harolds Club (above) and the Nevada Club were imploded as part of Harrah's future plans, while the Mapes Hotel was leveled on Super Bowl Sunday.



Photos: Debra Reid (above), Las Vegas News Bureau (bottom), Alan Bloom (top right), Ron Koch (bottom far right and left)

Theory...



...And the Long Goodbye

Its guests included Marilyn Monroe, Walter Cronkite, and cowboys on a spree, but the Mapes ended with an unglamorous bang.

By Richard Moreno



Time ran out for the Mapes Hotel on January 30, 2000. That morning I turned on my television and, at 8:03 a.m., watched the 12-story Reno landmark shiver briefly and then collapse in an ugly heap of metal, brick, and concrete. Earlier, I had considered driving downtown to watch the spectacle, which attracted thousands of onlookers, but I decided I didn't want to be a part of the Mapes' public demise.

I'm not sure why I liked the Mapes. I'd never worked in the hotel and, before it closed, had been inside only a couple of times. But after two decades of living in Northern Nevada, it was familiar to me.



Sammy Davis Jr. was a frequent Sky Room star.

Whenever I was in downtown Reno, I expected to see the Mapes standing tall alongside the Truckee River, as it had for more than half a century. So when the historic hotel crumbled in a giant cloud of dust on Super Bowl Sunday, I felt sad, as if someone I knew had passed away.

In recent years, blowing up venerable hotel-casinos has become a Nevada spectator sport. Since 1994, the Dunes, Landmark, Sands, and Hacienda in Las Vegas and Harolds Club, the Nevada Club, and the Mapes in Reno have been imploded out of existence.

In the case of the Mapes, its destruction came despite intense lobbying by Reno preservation groups and the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which had listed the Mapes as one of the nation's most endangered historic sites. The hotel had sat empty on the corner of First and Virginia streets since 1982, when it closed for financial reasons. Reno officials decided to have the structure demolished so it could be replaced by something newer.



But while the building may be gone, plenty of memories remain. The Mapes was Reno's grandest hotel when it opened on December 17, 1947. At 123 feet high, it was the tallest building in Nevada and the first high-rise in the country that was designed to house a hotel, restaurant, and casino under one roof.

The Mapes had 250 hotel rooms as well as 40 large guest apartments on the building's corners. The 12th floor of the hotel was reserved for the Sky Room, a 12,000-square-foot dining-and-dancing area with a panoramic view of Reno. Over the decades, the Sky Room hosted a glittering assortment of entertainers such as Sammy Davis Jr., Liberace, Rudy Vallee, and Tony Bennett.

From the late 1940s to the late 1960s, the Mapes was Reno's showcase hotel. In 1959, the cast of *Bonanza* stayed at the Mapes during the world premiere of the television show at Reno's Granada Theater. A year later, many members of *The Misfits* cast, including stars Marilyn Monroe and Montgomery Clift, lived for several months at the Mapes while the movie was filmed in the area.

In fact, Harry Spencer, who served as publicist for the Mapes from 1951 to 1971, recalled in a recent *Reno Gazette-Journal* interview that he literally hijacked two movie studio representatives making arrangements for the film. Apparently, the advance team had decided the cast would stay at the rival Holiday Hotel when Spencer and his boss, Mapes general manager Walter Ramage, met them at the bar at the Holiday. After offering them a better deal to switch to the Mapes, Spencer and Ramage quietly and quickly hustled the two advance men out of the Holiday—they even carried their luggage—and checked them into the Mapes. "It proved to be the most lucrative piece of business the Mapes ever got," Spencer said.

Nineteen-sixty might be considered the high point in the Mapes' existence. In addition to serving as the headquarters for *The Misfits* crew, the Mapes was one of the host hotels for the Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley. A room on the hotel's top floor was converted into the Winter Olympics Press Club and filled with wire service teletype machines, telephones, and typewriters. National media figures, including Walter Cronkite of CBS and Jim Murray of the *Los Angeles Times*, wandered into the room to file stories and then bellied up to the hotel bar for refreshments.



By the early 1970s, however, the Mapes had begun to fade. The change was gradual. Just as Las Vegas eclipsed Reno as the gaming center of Nevada, the Mapes lost its luster as Nevada's premier hotel-casino. During the 1970s, the hotel largely remained the same while Reno grew and the nature of the state's gaming industry changed. Nevada's hotel-casino owners began to realize that it was no longer enough to have a casino, restaurant, and rooms under one roof. To compete with new gaming destinations like Atlantic City,

Photos: Gary Elam (center 3), Don Dondero (bottom left)





***Misfits* director John Huston (above, center) relives his ride with Mapes owner Charles Mapes (far right) and *Territorial Enterprise* publisher Lucius Beebe (left) after one of the first camel races staged in Virginia City. At right: Clark Gable, Marilyn Monroe, and Montgomery Clift meet the public in 1960. *Misfits* cast and crew stayed at the Mapes.**

hotel-casinos had to be bigger and offer more amenities.

Compounding the Mapes' problems was the fact that in 1969 owner Charles Mapes had opened the Money Tree Casino, which eventually became a money pit. In 1980, Charles Mapes was forced to close the Money Tree and file for protection under federal bankruptcy laws.

By the early 1980s, the Mapes was an aging property in serious need of new investment. Many of the rooms had their original furnishings and fixtures, and the hotel lacked a sprinkler system, required for all high-rises after the MGM Grand fire in Las Vegas in 1980. Faced with mounting bills, Charles Mapes finally shut down the hotel on December 17, 1982—exactly 35 years after it opened—and handed the keys to his creditors.

The last time I walked through the Mapes was in 1983. I'd been assigned by the Reno newspaper to write about the hotel on the first anniversary of its closing, and the bank trying to sell it arranged a tour. I can recall the strange feeling that I was intruding whenever we entered an empty hotel room and found beds still made and clean glasses on the bathroom counters.

The hotel had a number of unusual design features. The rooms on the corners overlooking the Truckee River were spacious and furnished with antiques, while those in the building's interior were tiny, with a single small window and a sink. My guide told me that the corner rooms were suites for honeymooners, high-rollers, celebrities, and wealthier guests, while the closet-like quarters were for cowboys who came to town looking for a cheap place to flop after spending most of their paychecks in the casinos and bars.

We wandered up to the Sky Room, where a few dozen glasses were stacked neatly on the counter and bottles of liquor lined the back bar. White tablecloths covered the cocktail rounds, and the stage looked as if it were ready for the next act to come out from behind the curtains. My most vivid memory was the magnificent view of Reno afforded by the Sky Room's large windows.



The Mapes was built in the 1940s using architectural plans from 20 years earlier, when art deco was in style.

At the time, I thought the Mapes might have to wait a year or two before a buyer would step forward to fix up the hotel and reopen it. But no one ever did.

Richard Moreno is Nevada Magazine's *publisher. He wishes he had saved his Mapes swizzle stick.*

Photos: Don Dondero



AT PLAY ON THE PLAYA

The flat expanse of the Black Rock Desert is ideal for golfing, land sailing, and car walking.

Story by Carolyn Fox
Photos by Carolyn Fox and Larry Angier

That land of the West is gone now, "gone, gone with lost Atlantis," gone to the isle of ghosts and of strange dead memories.
—Theodore Roosevelt in his autobiography





Doug Keister (right) and other Black Rock golfers play a round. The Living Room Hole reveals a crime scene at dawn (top). Opposite page: The road to Lucifer's Anvil Golf Course and the porta-potties.

Place a porta-potty on the playa of the Black Rock Desert, and city folks will start arriving. Put out two porta-potties, and they will come from as far away as Yugoslavia.

That's what happened during our visit last June to the Black Rock, the vast, flat playa 100 miles north of Reno. Larry and I had traveled there to attend the 12th annual Black Rock Self-Invitational Golf Tournament. This event takes place on Lucifer's Anvil Golf Course, where tees and greens are created with biodegradable paint and designated by names such as Hell Hole and Freeway. Organizers describe the tournament as "18 holes to test the spirit." The course has only nine holes, but because you won't believe what you're seeing the first round, you have to play it again.

Leaving the highway north of Gerlach, we drove about 10 miles on the playa, following other car tracks. This is where a British racing team set the world land speed record in 1983, reaching an average speed of just over 633 mph with a jet-powered car. Nearby is the site of Burning Man, the conflagratory celebration that lures thousands of people to the playa each Labor Day weekend.

This also is where you can let your car drive itself. You move over to the passenger seat and let go of the wheel. Larry tried a variation. He put the truck in first gear, got out, and walked it like a dog. The truck made no move to run him over, and it even let him jump back in. (Don't try this at home; wait until you come to Nevada.)

On the shimmering horizon we spotted islands and castles that soon evaporated into hillocks and miscellaneous vehicles. Some folks from the Bay Area had camped there several days while helping photographer Doug Keister orchestrate the annual golf tournament. Often when we see Doug his eyes seem to be sparking from all the synapses connecting in his brain, the way lightning flashes on the edges of the playa at twilight. He's always cooking up a photo shoot or an artistic sporting event. He lives in Oakland but his license plate reads "BLK RCK."

Doug and his accomplices were painting the tees and greens for the event, scheduled to start the next day. I soon found my favorite spot—the Living Room Hole, formed by a huge, orange-red

Photos: Carolyn Fox







Commentator Hal Cannon and sound man Taki Telonidis interview playa painter Joan Kiley of Oakland for National Public Radio (top left). San Francisco attorney Richard Brown and son Robin watch the pre-tourney softball game (lower left). Brian "Gizmo" Covey of Gerlach describes In Search of the Holy Gale and other land-sailing events on the playa (right).

Persian rug painted on the playa. Upon it had been placed a gold cut-velvet sofa, a Danish-modern coffee table with detective magazines, and a TV with the cover of an old *Homicide Magazine* looking out from the screen. The victim was outlined in white chalk. We watched the father-and-son team of Richard and Robin Brown apply globs of stage blood. Then they placed the *pièce de résistance*, a bloody hatchet, near the chalk outline.

All my life I have wanted to trick blood from a rock. I have dreamed about raising the devil and cutting him in half. I have thought too about never being afraid of anything at all. This is where you come to do those things.

—Barry Holstun Lopez, Desert Notes

Like Al and Alice in Wonderland, we drove around Lucifer's Anvil. We ran into Hal Cannon reporting for National Public Radio with his sound man, Taki Telonidis, tagging along with a furry mike. They recorded the playa crunching underfoot. They preserved the sound of Joan Kiley and Chris Schweitzer cleaning the paint-spray equipment at the Fish Hole. They got Larry to walk the truck. We encountered Filip Kesler and Sasha Tomic, who had flown into Reno from Yugoslavia wearing brand-new hiking boots. Sasha helped Chris paint an orange happy face with red horns on Hell Hole. The painters had to be sure of their designs. There are no erasures until it rains, when any paint that hasn't faded washes away.

After the putting contest, a softball game began. The two teams consisted of the Californians versus everybody else. By game's end each team had nine or 10 fielders fanned across the outfield.

The next morning Doug gave his Sermon on the Mound and then took a group photo before the golfers, slathered in sunscreen, teed off. I followed three young men from the United Kingdom. The zinc oxide the three were using was blue, so I called their team the Blue Noses.

By noon Larry and I had made complete nuisances of ourselves, so we went for a drive. Heading toward the railroad tracks, we almost got stuck in the mud. Soon we came upon a hot springs. A brochure there warned us, "Tell someone where you're going [oops], and when you'll return [oops], and if the playa is at all wet, there is a good chance you will get stuck if you drive on it [oops]."

The wet playa reminded us of the time we stopped to help a poor fellow whose large-size pickup truck was stuck in the mud east of Fallon. Our four cylinders were no match for his rig, so we waited for assistance. "I just wanted to check out Sand Mountain, and it looked dry," he moaned as his legs made this disgusting sucking sound while he looked under his truck. His girlfriend was perched prettily on the tailgate in her bare feet and white dress. No man is an island except when he's stuck in the mud.

Photos: Carolyn Fox

There's a living quiver in the stick. I have to push hard to hold it forward. Slight movement of the rudder keeps the nose on course. Good signs, but more than a thousand feet have passed. Is there still time, still space?"

—Charles Lindbergh, Roosevelt Field, May 20, 1927

Returning to the golf course, we'd no sooner climbed out of the vehicle when some kind of conveyance whizzed by the porta-potties in a cloud of dust. No one noticed but us.

We jumped in the truck and chased the thing. We clocked it at 35 mph. Why hadn't anyone else seen it? Was it because they were ready to award the custom trophies designed by tall, lithesome Mary B. White from the glass program at San Jose State University? (She was last seen putting them together with glue and duct tape next to her car.)

Taking pictures like mad, we almost caused an accident. The thing turned out to be a "dirt boat," and, as in sail boating, you don't want to get so close you cut off the other craft's wind. At one point Larry was trying to steer while changing lenses and film. The dry sailor led us to his camp on the playa and slowed to a stop.

Gerlach land sailor Brian "Gizmo" Covey called himself "a lounge potato on adrenaline."

It turned out we were in the presence of a Gerlach celebrity, Brian "Gizmo" Covey, and he was in a good mood, thank goodness. "A lounge potato on adrenaline," he called himself. Gizmo gave us a vocabulary lesson. His sport is not "board sailing" or "wind surfing"—that's wet. It's not "wind sailing"—that's redundant. "Land sailing" or "sand sailing" is acceptable.

Gizmo told us he was a member of the Sunny Acres Sipping, Sailing, and Soaring Society (SASSASS). It holds its major gathering, In Search of the Holy Gale, on the Fourth of July at the Black Rock. One day is spent racing on almost the entire playa—a 100-mile course. Last year he finished the course in a little more than three hours, cutting his previous time in half due to good winds.

Gizmo mentioned other groups that sail dirt boats. There's the Black Rock Acceleration Team (BRAT) for local Gerlach and Empire sailors. There's the Sierra Area Land Sailing Association (SALSA) for Reno-Tahoe dirt boaters. Then again, as Gizmo pointed out, there seems to be a society for everyone, including armchair dirt boaters: "There is the ephemeral and sometimes fictitious international organization, the Federation of Flat Earth Dry Sailing Societies."

Later we rejoined the golfers as they rehashed their round and admired the Mary B. White trophies. The scene reminded us that no matter how barren the Black Rock may appear, it is fertile ground for the imagination. If you want running water, bring it. Just don't forget your dreams, and don't get stuck in the mud.

Carolyn Fox of Jackson, California, is a writer and photographer. She and photographer Larry Angier frequently explore the Silver State. The 13th annual Black Rock Self-Invitational Golf Tournament is scheduled for June 24-25; log onto www.keisterphoto.com for information.



Woods and irons raised eagerly, heavily sunscreened golfers pose for a group portrait prior to the shotgun start of last year's Black Rock tournament. Organizer Doug Keister is stretched out in left front. In the background one can see the linksters' campsites and their specially rigged, club-carrying bicycles.

Photo: Larry Angier

Making the Honor Roll

Nevada casinos offer classes on craps, roulette, and other table games to show players there is a world beyond slots.

By Kathy Espin

Many first-time gamblers would rather lose money in a slot machine than lose face at a blackjack table. After all, table games can be intimidating to the uninitiated. Slots and video-poker machines have instructions printed on them. Table games don't.

As a result, many casinos in Las Vegas, Reno, and Lake Tahoe offer gaming lessons to help make beginners feel comfortable taking a seat at a blackjack table or bellying up to a craps game. The instructional expertise varies from casino to casino. Some provide teaching specialists while others leave the job to whoever isn't busy at the moment. Most allow beginners to practice their new skills in a live game at reduced cost.

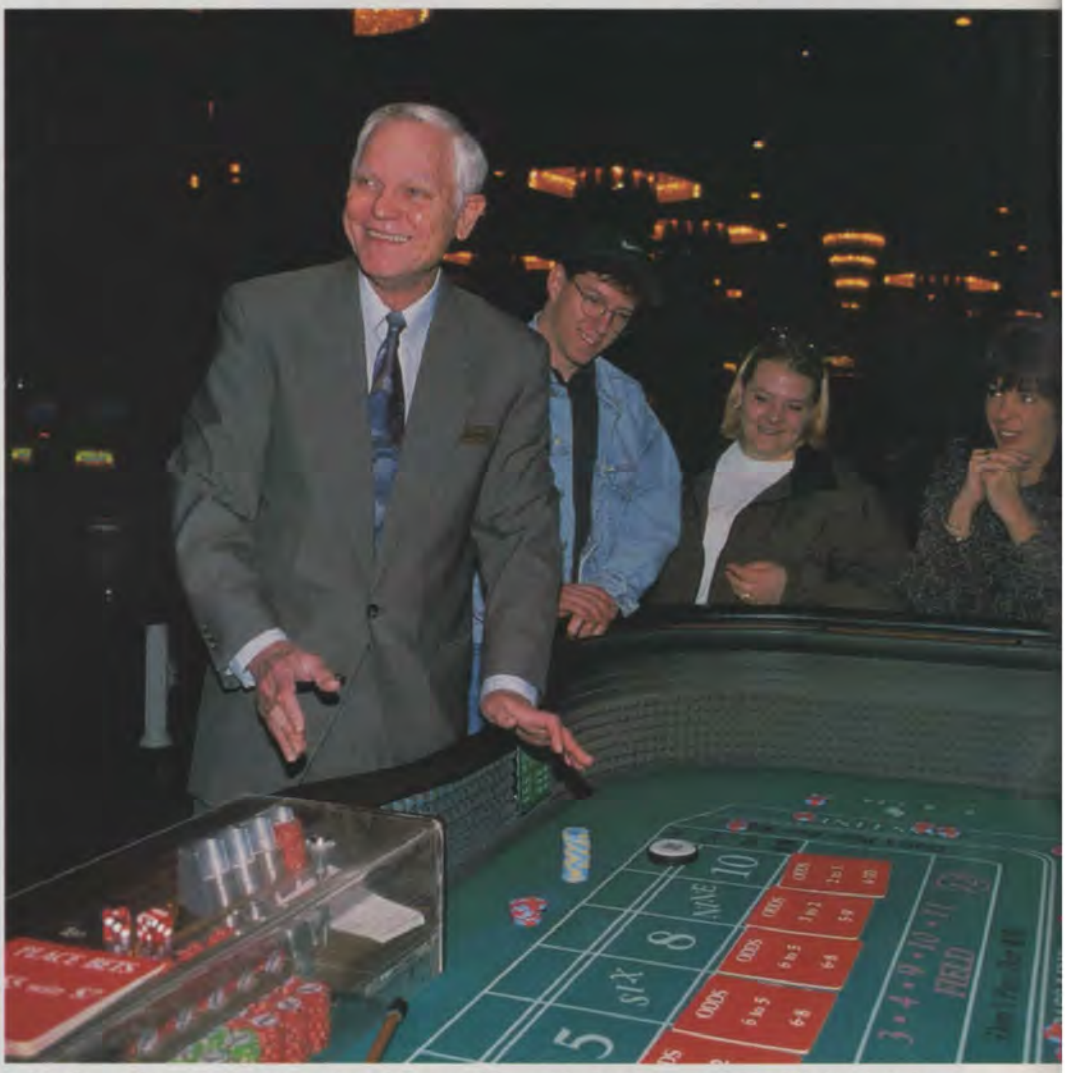
A recent sampling of the "customer training programs" at three Las Vegas casinos revealed several facts: The classes are relaxed, informative, free of charge, and often highly entertaining.

"Gambling Is Supposed to Be Fun"

Barney Vinson, a casino floor supervisor and author of several how-to books on gambling, teaches classes weekdays at Caesars Palace.

"The lessons are very popular," Vinson said. "We had about 20,000 people in our lessons last year. People are intimidated by the games. That's why slots are so popular. People are afraid they will make a mistake and the dealers and players will get mad at them. They have to remember that gambling is supposed to be fun."

Vinson, an elegant-looking gentleman with white hair, blue eyes, and a friendly face, has been part of the Las Vegas casino scene since 1967. He recalled that he started as a blackjack dealer downtown at the Mint Hotel and later worked at the Landmark and Dunes. When it was noted that those hotels no longer exist, he joked, "Hey, that's not my fault." Vinson began his Tuesday-morning craps lesson in the table-games area next to Caesars' sports book. At first only three students leaned over the rail of the oblong craps table, but soon others joined the class. By the time the dice were rolling, 12 people surrounded the table.



Author Barney Vinson holds a craps class at Caesars Palace. "Just enjoy yourself," he tells his students.

Vinson was friendly, slow, and precise. He pointed out each section on the dice layout with a crooked dice stick. He repeated complicated concepts and stopped often to review. He gave the students chips so they could place pretend bets.

First he explained the "pass-line bet," the basic bet in the game of craps. If seven comes up on the first roll of the dice, the pass-line bet wins even money. If the first roll is a two, three, or 12, the bet is lost. Any other number—four, five, six, eight, nine, or 10—becomes the point and will win if that number is rolled again before a seven.

"Backing up your pass-line bet with an 'odds bet' is the most important bet on the dice table," Vinson said. The odds bet is an

Photo: Chris Leedham

extra wager placed behind the pass-line bet once the point has been established. If the point number appears again before a seven, the odds bet will pay from two-to-one to six-to-five, depending on the point number. Vinson said the odds bet is the best wager in the casino.

"But if they roll a seven, you lose all your bets," said a young man in a baseball cap.

"Well, this isn't a savings and loan association," Vinson teased. Yes, he agreed, even the best bet in the house isn't a sure thing.

Vinson told the students not to be afraid



to ask a dealer for help if they aren't sure of the proper odds bet.

"I always feel I'm annoying the other players," a woman said.

"Don't worry about the other players," Vinson said. "Just enjoy yourself. One lady asked me one day, 'Is it OK to gamble if you don't know what you're doing?' Of course it is, the house loves it, but I recommend you know the games before you play."

To win at craps, he said, look for a good shooter—someone who rolls a lot of numbers before a seven. Listen for noise, he said. "If the people are having fun, that means they're winning."

Later Vinson conducted roulette and blackjack lessons. During the blackjack session he gave a tip on money management: Add one chip to your bet every time you win a hand, and return to the minimum bet when you lose. That way, he said, you can take advantage of a winning streak while putting away most of your winnings.

When the blackjack lesson was over, a dealer opened a $2 game that lasted as long as the students wanted to stay. As Vinson hung around to help the players get started, another supervisor gave each student a golden Caesars medallion.

"How to Stay in the Game"

MGM Grand floor supervisor Karen Danner held the day's first blackjack lesson in an empty table-games section across from the hotel's Lion Habitat. Trim in a gray pants suit with a white satin blouse and her long, blonde hair pulled back in a ponytail, Danner looked every inch the casino professional.

As she talked to the six students, others sidled up to the blackjack table. Soon more than a dozen people had gathered.

The object of blackjack is to gather cards totaling as close to 21 as possible without going over 21 but still totaling more than the dealer's hand. Face cards count 10. Danner assumed the students knew that much.

"Very quickly, I want to give you a mini-basic strategy lesson," she said. "I want to teach you how to stay in the game for a while. I want you to feel comfortable and enjoy yourself.

"The dealer's hand is the key to the entire game," she said. Always assume the dealer's hole (face-down) card is a 10, and remember there are more 10s in the deck than any other card. Always draw to 16 and stand on 17, just as the dealer does. Still, she warned, "It's not going to work every time."

Danner taught the same table etiquette that Vinson did:

- Don't touch the cards.
- Signals are important to the flow of the game. "The dealer won't respond to verbal commands," she said. "The [security] camera has to be able to see what's going on."
- To ask for another card, tap or scratch the table.
- To stand, wave your hand over your cards.
- Don't touch the money you've bet during the hand.

Tips From THE EXPERTS

Casino instructors can offer students a wealth of tips on table-game strategy and philosophy. Here are key reminders on blackjack, craps, roulette, and other games from three Las Vegas experts.

Barney Vinson

Caesars Palace floor supervisor:

1. "Learn the games before you play. You wouldn't buy stock without knowing about the company. You shouldn't gamble your money without knowing what you are doing."
2. "Gamble with your head, not over your head. Treat it as entertainment, not as a way to get rich quick."
3. "Look for a table where people are having fun. That means they're winning."

Karen Danner

MGM Grand casino floor supervisor:

1. "Only play with money you can afford to lose."
2. "Look for a dealer who matches your style of play. All the dealers here at the MGM are terrific, but some like to talk more, and some deal slower than others. Find someone you'll be comfortable with."
3. "Have fun."

Patrick Murphy

Lady Luck casino shift manager:

1. **Blackjack**: "Look at the signs so you know the minimum bet. Remember, the color of the signs matches the color of the chips: red for $5, green for $25, and black for $100."
2. **Roulette:** "Don't be intimidated by all the different-colored chips. That's just the way we keep track of who's who. Don't worry about the payouts. The dealer will keep track of that."
3. **Craps:** "If you are feeling insecure, stand next to the base man [the two dealers standing on the inside of the table next to the box man, who is sitting down]. You can ask for all the help you need, and no one will know the difference. Don't stand next to the stick man. He's too busy keeping track of the dice to answer questions."

— Kathy Espin

'Val Sent Me'



Instructor Valerie Phillips teaches roulette and other table games at the Silver Legacy in Reno.

Valerie Phillips is a full-time gaming-class instructor at the Silver Legacy in Reno. Enthusiastic and knowledgeable, she teaches craps, blackjack, pai-gow poker, and roulette from morning until late afternoon, Monday through Friday. How does she handle so many classes?

"I start with a double mocha," she explains.

Phillips' blackjack and pai-gow poker classes draw well, but dice lessons attract the most students. "Craps is the most popular," she says, her eyes lighting up. "The other day I had a big table crowded with people. It went on for about four hours.

"I love teaching," Phillips says. "I have families who follow me around for two or three days. They take the classes, try the games, and come back for refreshers."

As Phillips gathers a class at a roulette table in the Silver Legacy pit, the students eye the roulette wheel and rectangular table layout. "Roulette is a game of luck," she advises. "Either you're lucky or you're not, and you find out pretty fast."

Phillips explains the betting zones on the green-felt table, noting the even-money bets, such as black versus red, and the 35-to-1 payoff when you successfully bet which number the ball will land on. That's where lucky numbers come in. ("My lucky number is 29," Phillips reveals.) The roulette lesson takes 15 minutes, half to a third of other classes' lengths.

Phillips, 26, worked as a cappuccino girl at Harrah's Reno before becoming a dealer at the Silver Legacy. "When I started, I wore braces. Customers used to kid me: Are you old enough? Can we check your ID?" she recalls.

"I love to give lessons to people. It helps them feel more comfortable when they learn the rules and the etiquette of the game," Phillips says. "After class, when they go to play a real game, I always tell them to say, 'Val sent me.' That way the dealers will know to give them a little extra help."

—David Moore

• If you win, pause a moment. "It's polite to wait until the dealer has picked up all the cards before you grab your money," she said.

Danner recommended against always making insurance bets where the player has the option of betting half the original bet when the dealer has an ace. If the dealer has a blackjack, the player loses the original bet but wins two to one on the insurance bet, hence breaking even. "Do you think they would offer it if it was good for you?" Danner asked. She offered an automotive analogy. "If you have a '62 Pinto that's leaking oil and the doors are falling off, you wouldn't spend money on collision insurance, would you? But if you had a Jag, collision insurance would be worth the money, right? A 12 is like the Pinto, and a 20 is like the Jag. Don't insure a losing hand."

She had straightforward advice on doubling and splitting. "Don't split 10s," she said. "If you don't take anything else from this class, remember that." Basic strategy dictates that pairs of aces and eights should always be split and played as two separate hands, but not 10s and face cards.

After the lesson, a dealer invited the students to a one-hour $2 blackjack game to test what they had learned.

"What's the Best Bet?"

For an old-time Las Vegas gambling experience, nothing beats the Lady Luck, one of the oldest casinos downtown. The Lady Luck reminds one of an old farm house that was added on to as the family grew. Newer sections butt up against ancient areas, giving patrons the feeling of passing from one era to another. The decor is dominated by flashing slot signs.

Each lesson there is taught by a different dealer. Louie conducted the craps lesson without the aid of chips or dice. "What's the best bet?" one student asked. Louie replied, "All bets are good when the dice are passing," without explaining that "passing" means a lot of numbers are being rolled before a seven. Louie said he started working as a dealer in Lake Tahoe in 1976. He fondly recalled the old days when his "goombahs" ran things, a feeling shared by many old-time Las Vegans except, of course, those relegated to cactus fertilizer after unpleasant dealings with said "goombahs."

A dealer named John taught blackjack. He started describing a complicated splitting strategy but quickly returned to the basics when a student asked, "Do the 10s count the same as face cards?"

Photo: Jay Aldrich

The longest session was a 45-minute roulette lesson taught by Bob. He explained that each roulette player gets chips of a unique color. He demonstrated the payoffs using a "Win Card," which is part of a casino promotion. He explained that, for $10, students could receive $15 in chips that could be played only in the casino, plus a packet with "Win Cards" and guides on craps, roulette, and blackjack.

All three students took advantage of the offer. The male half of a husband-and-wife team took their $30 in promotional chips and sat down at a roulette table. He walked away a winner with $22 ($2 over the $20 he and his wife had invested).

This reporter took her 15 chips and played the pass line with odds. (After all, it's supposed to be the best bet in the house.) I placed my $2 bet and took the dice. As if they had been waiting for me, the three other players at the table immediately made pass-line bets. First roll, an eight. Then a six, a three, and, all too quickly, a seven. I had lost. After a couple more rolls, I had only $2 left.

"For the dealers," I said as I tossed my last two chips to the box man, just like a veteran.

Kathy Espin is a Las Vegas writer.

Casino Classes

By Wilma LaRocca

"What is a 'natural pass' at the craps table?" "How do you play Texas hold 'em?" Instructors answer these and other questions during gaming classes at 30 Nevada casinos. The lessons, designed for both beginners and experienced players, usually are held on the main casino floor and last from 20 to 40 minutes. The classes are free and informal—there's no sign-up or registration. Schedules, which sometimes change, can be confirmed by phone. In addition, most dealers are happy to give lessons when the floor is not busy, and some hotels make in-room videos available to guests. Here is a sampling of Nevada casinos that offer table-game lessons.

Las Vegas

Bally's: Classes weekdays. Blackjack 10 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., craps 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., roulette 1 p.m., pai-gow poker 2 p.m. Call 702-739-4111.

Caesars Palace: Classes weekdays. Craps 11 a.m. and 5 p.m., roulette noon, blackjack 12:15 and 3:15 p.m., pai-gow poker 2 p.m., baccarat 4 p.m. Call 800-634-6661.

Circus Circus: Classes Mon.-Thurs. at 10:30 a.m. in blackjack, craps, and roulette. Call 702-734-0410.

Excalibur: Classes weekdays. Poker (Texas hold 'em) 10 a.m., roulette 11 a.m., blackjack 11:30 a.m., craps noon. Call 702-579-7777.

Flamingo Hilton: Classes daily. Poker (several types) 9:30 a.m., craps 11 a.m. Call 702-733-3111.

Harrah's Las Vegas: Classes weekdays. Roulette 10:15 a.m., craps 11:15 a.m. and 5:15 p.m., blackjack 12:15 p.m., Let It Ride and Caribbean stud 1:30 p.m., pai-gow poker 3 p.m. Call 702-369-5000 for further information on weekday classes.

Imperial Palace: Classes weekdays. Blackjack 9 a.m. and (except Fri.) 2 p.m., baccarat 10 a.m., roulette 11 a.m., craps 11 a.m. and (except Fri.) 3 p.m. Call 702-731-3311.

Lady Luck: Classes weekdays. Craps 10 a.m., roulette 11 a.m., blackjack noon. Call 702-477-3000, ext. 3391.

Luxor: Classes daily. Craps 11:30 a.m., blackjack noon. Call 702-262-4000.

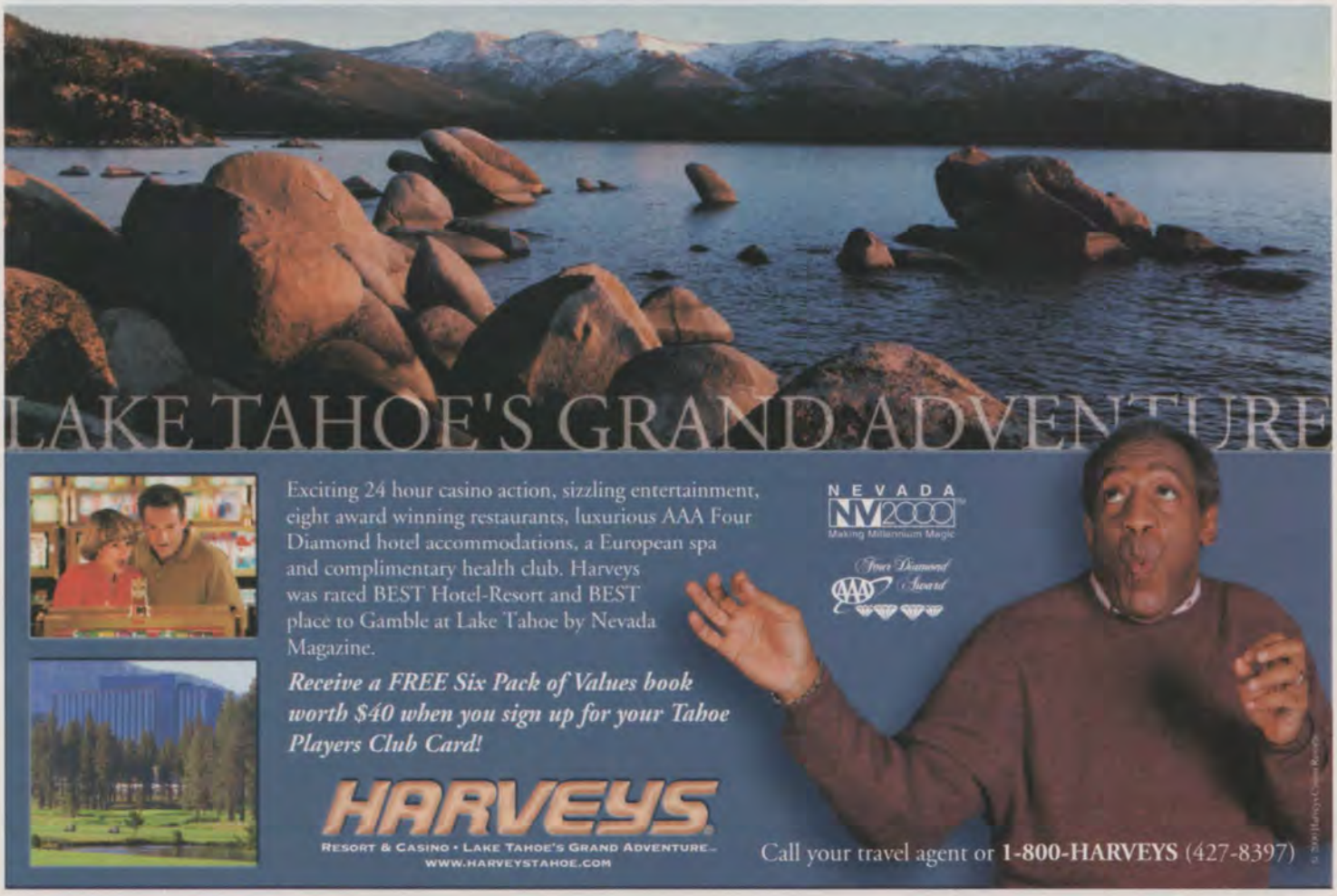
MGM Grand: Classes daily. Mini-baccarat 9:30 a.m., roulette 10:15 a.m., blackjack 11:30 a.m., craps 12:15 p.m., poker (Let It Ride, pai-gow, Caribbean stud) 2 p.m. Call 702-891-7399.

Monte Carlo: Craps lessons are offered at 11 a.m. on Mon., Tues., and Fri. Call 702-730-7777.

Palace Station: Classes weekdays. Craps 11 a.m., blackjack noon. Call 702-367-2411, instructor Jim Emmitte.

Riviera: Classes weekdays. Craps 10 a.m., roulette 11:15 a.m., blackjack noon, baccarat 1 p.m., Let It Ride 2 p.m., Caribbean stud 2:30 p.m. Call 702-734-5110.

(Continued on page 75)



The Belle of Tonopah

Belle Butler and her husband, Jim, staked Nevada to a bright future when they established Tonopah a century ago. Today the woman who was called "the Mother of Nevada" deserves at least as much attention as her husband and his burros.



Belle Butler had a hardscrabble life before she and Jim struck it rich.

By Sally Zanjani

This year Nevada celebrates the centennial of an event that changed its history: the discovery of silver at Tonopah. The man credited with discovering Tonopah in May 1900 was an impecunious rancher and occasional prospector named Jim Butler. A legend soon took shape around the momentous event. Burros loom large in the oft-told tale of Jim's trip to the small mining camp of Klondyke. Either the animals took shelter from a sand storm in the San Antonio Mountains, leading Jim to chip at a silver-bearing ledge, or Jim picked up a rock to throw at a wandering burro and realized that the rock contained mineral. Even today Tonopah visitors may see postcards showing Butler and a burro over the caption "Me and Jim Found Tonopah."

But history has unjustly ignored another figure who played a large role in the events at Tonopah—Jim's wife, Belle. She was the one who discovered the best claim, the fabulous Mizpah, but in the legend she usually receives less credit than the burros.

Perhaps it is time that attention was paid to this remarkable pioneer woman. She not only staked the Mizpah claim and helped her husband establish Tonopah. She also spent years in Central Nevada raising a family, tending to cattle and ranch work, and making ends meet despite husbands who were poor providers.

Belle was the one who discovered the best claim, the fabulous Mizpah.

Furthermore, the founding of Tonopah by Belle and Jim helped revitalize Nevada's fortunes. Since the decline of the Comstock mines two decades before, the state had slumped into an economic depression. By 1900 Nevada had lost a third of its population, leaving only about 42,000 residents. This downward spiral would be reversed, and Nevada's population would double in a decade, after the Tonopah excitement ignited a mining boom in the central part of the state.

The road that would bring Belle Butler to the desert hills of Central Nevada began far away in Canada, on Prince Edward Island, where she was born Isabelle McCormick in 1860. Her family moved to Nevada when she was a small child, locating first in the Fish Lake Valley and later in Tybo, a mining camp in the Hot Creek Range 60 miles east of present-day Tonopah. The qualities that made her memorable appeared early—her sunny, cheerful disposition and her warm sympathy for those in distress.

At 16 she married a man more than 20 years her senior, a vaquero named Maurice Donohue who also prospected and mined. Belle may have learned about prospecting from him, but the children must have kept her busy. She bore two boys, one of whom died, and two girls.

Nonetheless, what one Tybo resident termed an "inevitable" tragedy was taking shape in the Donohue home. Donohue

Photo: Virginia Butler Brewer Collection, Central Nevada Historical Society

grew jealous of the attentions other men paid to his young wife, and his suspicions increasingly centered upon the affable and portly Jim Butler, who ran a hardscrabble ranch with his father in the Little Antelope Valley and spent a good deal of time in the Shoshone camp near Tybo. The more suspicious Donohue became, the more he mistreated and alienated Belle. Several times she fled to take refuge at the home of her friend Sophie Williams on the Hot Creek Ranch. Fearing violence from Donohue, the two women would lock the doors and push furniture against them. In 1888 Belle filed for divorce after 12 years of marriage.

This apparently drove Donohue over the edge. He began making violent threats against Butler. In their first encounter, Donohue called Butler out to settle matters, but Butler succeeded in disarming him. The next confrontation ended fatally for Donohue. As Butler walked down a Tybo street with a friend one September evening, Donohue declared, "I've got you." The two men grappled and fired at each other. One of Donohue's three bullets wounded Butler's friend in the arm, another set Butler's hat on fire, and the third may have slightly wounded him. Donohue was less fortunate. Shot in the abdomen and the head, Donohue died where he lay. Although the authorities, to the disgust of Donohue's many friends, exonerated Butler on grounds of justifiable homicide, Butler may not have exonerated himself so easily. Years later Butler told a friend that he never slept well: "You see it all over and over again in the dark."

A few months later, in the spring of 1889, the widow Donohue married Jim Butler and went to live in the old rock house on his ranch, although one of the children refused for years to reside with her father's killer. Jim supplemented their meager income by serving a term as Nye County district attorney, a post for which he offered no legal qualifications whatsoever, while Belle tended the cattle. Future Nevada governor and U.S. senator Tasker Oddie called Belle "hearty and strong"—adjectives never applied to her husband—and wrote with a touch of admiration of her hard work over many years, "She used to ride through the mountains herself looking after her cattle."

This harsh, poverty-stricken existence would begin to change on May 19, 1900, which the author and newspaperman Carl Glasscock called "one of the most important dates in the history of the West." On that day Jim Butler took ore samples at the site he would later name Tonopah, a Shoshone word meaning "brush spring." Despite the burro legend, it has long been suspected that Butler's command of the Shoshone language and his intimacy with the Indians had led him to a place considerably removed from the normal route to Klondyke. He may have learned of the site through an Indian mistress named Mary, a story still told among the local Shoshone, or he may have been informed of it by the great Shoshone prospector Tom Fisherman, the original discoverer of Goldfield, Nivloc, and the Gibraltar Mine, but Butler's presence was no accident.

At first it did not appear that a turning point in Nevada history had arrived. When presented with Butler's samples, Frank Hicks, the assayer in Klondyke, discarded them as worthless. Butler nonetheless picked up more samples of the heavy black quartz on his way home and left them on the window sill of the Brougher store in Belmont, where Oddie noticed them and thought they looked promising. Because Butler lacked the money for an assay, Oddie offered to have it done by his friend Walter Gayhart in Austin in return for a percentage of the claim. The results proved so exciting—$300 to $400 per ton—that Oddie urged Butler to hasten back and stake the claims forthwith. But, according to Glasscock, "lucky lazy Jim" dillydallied. Butler said he had hay to stack and other chores to do on the ranch. Finally in late August "the efficient Mrs. Butler decided that the claims could more satisfactorily be located under her direction," recounted Glasscock, who had





According to legend, one or two burros helped Jim discover Tonopah in May 1900 (top). A year later, the Butlers visited the new diggings. From left: their friend Cal Brougher, Jim and Belle, boom-camp photographer E.W. Smith, a group of leasers, and future governor and senator Tasker Oddie (far right).

Photos: Nevada Browne Collection (top) and Ira Jacobson Collection (middle), Central Nevada Historical Society



The rush to Tonopah continued in 1903 (above). By then Belle and Jim had sold their mining interests.

interviewed Oddie and others who knew the Butlers well.

There was good reason for Belle to prod her procrastinating husband into motion before others found the place by accident or design. The Shoshone might share their knowledge with someone else. Isadore Sara, a Basque sheepherder, recently had taken samples at the site but dumped them from his packs as his mules struggled through the winter mud toward their summer range near Austin (a source of much ribbing from his friends in later years). Hearing rumors of the extraordinary Butler assays, some prospectors had already tried and narrowly failed to find the spot.

In between hauling water and chasing burros, Belle prospected the area with Jim.

Belle and Jim set off in a spring wagon and spent about a week staking claims at Tonopah. During this time the strength and heartiness that Oddie had noted in Belle must have stood her in good stead, as she spent many hours in the prospector's signature pastime, chasing runaway burros, and many more hauling water from wells several miles away. Although there is no definitive evidence on Belle's mining experience, she enjoyed some standing as a prospector. Agnes Reddenbaugh, a member of a pioneer family at Hot Creek, recalled, "Many 'old timers' thought that Mrs. Butler found Tonopah—and that she let Jim Butler take the credit. She was always prospecting." Jim enjoyed a lesser reputation among the prospecting fraternity. On hearing that Jim had a good eye for ore, one of these contemporaries said, "Ha! Jim Butler didn't know any more about ore than his burros."

In between hauling water and chasing burros, Belle carefully prospected the area with Jim. After about a week, she struck out on her own, somewhat patronizingly encouraged by Jim. That day Belle staked the Mizpah, recorded in her own name and christened in honor of a friend who signed her letters "Mizpah," after the place in ancient Palestine where Jacob and Laban built a pile of stones to signify their bond. The Mizpah, richest of all the Butler claims, was to bring fortunes to the Butlers and many others, and Jim always acknowledged Belle's role as his codiscoverer. In a letter four years later, he wrote that hers "were the only hands to assist me in locating this notable group of mines—now Tonopah—she locating the now world famous Mizpah, gives her first place of all among miners' wives."

Henceforth, events at Tonopah unrolled at a faster pace. Development work started in November, and miners, investors, and adventurers rushed to the scene when it became evident that a great silver camp had been born. Slightly over a year after Jim's first stop at Tonopah, the Butlers sold their mining interests for $336,000, a price that would have seemed a mad fantasy during the years when Belle drove cattle in the mountains. Oddie observed of Belle, "Her ranch is mortgaged for a few hundred dollars, and, up to a few months ago, a few hundred dollars were millions to her."

No more. In the spring of 1903 the Butlers left hardship behind and moved to California, where they bought a ranch near Bishop and a home in San Jose. Belle, however, showed no interest in spending their new wealth on luxuries, building a mansion, or making the grand tour of Europe as the Comstock mining tycoons had done. To her, money represented a means to support her charities to hundreds of needy Nevadans, an undertaking shared by her husband. Belle responded with sympathetic kindness to the penniless prospectors who turned to her for aid. When the young wife of a friend wounded in a gunfight could not pay the bills for his surgery and lengthy hospitalization, the Butlers helped.

"She could permit no one to suffer," the *Tonopah Bonanza* related when Belle died in Sacramento in 1922, "and she was continually doing acts of kindness that made her name a byword to the pioneers of the desert." Many times during Tonopah's early days she set out in the night from her home to minister to an ailing miner in his cabin, gave aid to the destitute, and even provided for hungry animals. It was for her compassionate heart and the part she had played in turning Nevada's rags to riches that, the *Bonanza* noted, she became known as "the Mother of Nevada."

Sally Zanjani wrote about Belle Butler and other women prospectors in her most recent book, A Mine of Her Own: Women Prospectors in the American West, 1850-1950 *(University of Nebraska Press, 1997). The Reno author's contributions to mining history have been honored by a Rodman Paul Award. She is currently working on a biography of the Paiute leader Sarah Winnemucca.*

Tonopah Turns 100

This summer Tonopah residents will raise numerous toasts to Belle and Jim Butler while celebrating their town's centennial. Mining contests, parades, and other festivities are scheduled on Memorial Day weekend, the Fourth of July, and Jim Butler Days. For details see "Tonopah Turns 100" by Shawn Hall on the following pages in this issue's Nevada Events and Shows section.

Photo: Nevada Historical Society

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Tonopah Celebrates Its Centennial

Miners hoist a cool one at a Tonopah saloon during the town's heyday as a Nevada mining center, circa 1910. This summer, visitors will be toasting Tonopah's centennial celebration.

Center Photo: Nevada Historical Society Background: Barry Melvin Glazier

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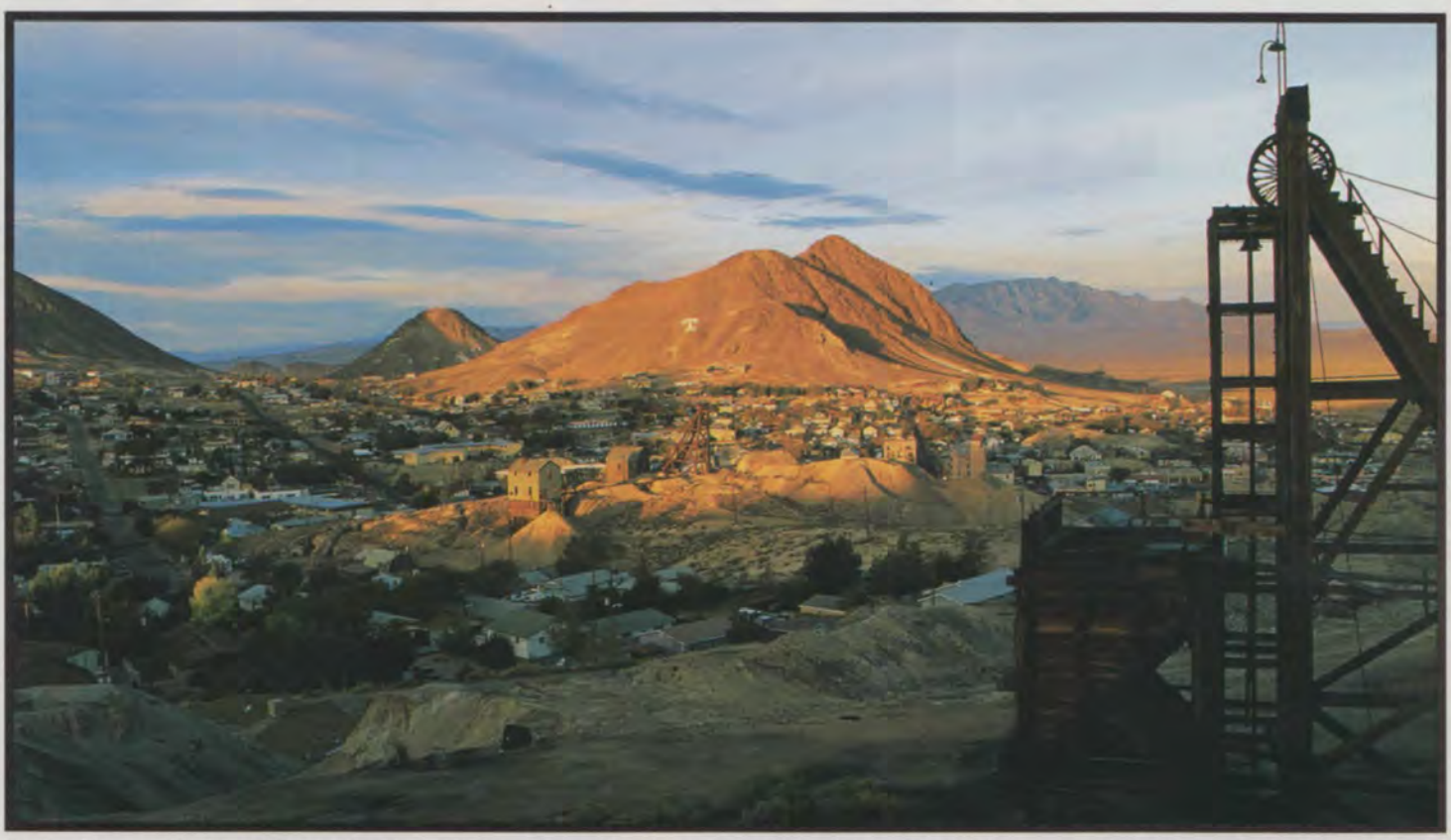
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Tonopah Turns 100

This summer, Tonopah's centennial offers parades, historical events, and tours of the town that returned prosperity to Nevada a century ago. By Shawn Hall



The head frame of the Desert Queen Mine is a reminder of Tonopah's colorful past, which will be celebrated this summer during the town's 100th birthday bash.

The citizens of Tonopah are hosting a summer-long centennial celebration. The main festivities—Tonopah Centennial Weekend—take place on Memorial Day weekend. At that time residents and visitors will honor the important events of May 1900, when rancher-prospector Jim Butler discovered valuable silver ore in the Central Nevada desert. A few months later Butler and his wife, Belle, staked their claims and established the mining camp of Tonopah.

"Tonopah's centennial will be a series of five events through the year, with the main celebration on Memorial Day weekend," says Bob Perchetti, a member of the event committee. "With $3,000 in prize money to attract entries from other parts of the state, we expect the biggest and best parade in Tonopah's history. The weekend will be a family celebration, and it will include a reenactment of the silver discovery by Jim Butler, from filing the claim at the Belmont Courthouse to staking the claims." Centennial events also are scheduled on the Fourth of July weekend and during Tonopah's annual town party, Jim Butler Days, on July 28-30.

A century ago, the rush to Tonopah revived Nevada's sagging economy and led to gold and silver discoveries at Goldfield, Round Mountain, Manhattan, Silver Peak, and a host of other towns.

"Historically, Tonopah is interesting because the silver discovery happened at the turn of the century, when Virginia City was declining. When Tonopah and Goldfield came into existence, they were bigger than Las Vegas and Reno," Perchetti says.

"Also, people important to Nevada and the country started their careers or were an important part of the Tonopah and Goldfield mining boom," he adds. Examples include Wyatt Earp, who owned a saloon in Tonopah; Nevada's U.S. Senator Patrick McCarran, famous for his hearings on the Communist menace; Jack Dempsey, who worked as a bouncer at the Mizpah Hotel early in his boxing career; George Wingfield, the Nevada mining and banking baron; and Tex Rickard, who built Madison Square Garden. In recent years the community has achieved national notice as the home of the Stealth fighter and bomber program.

The mines may no longer be active, but Tonopah has survived because of its location midway between Reno and Las Vegas. Perchetti says, "You have to go to Tonopah to get anywhere."

Photo: Jim Galli

Tonopah's rich history is now a prime attraction for visitors. During the centennial festivities one can recall a bygone era through landmarks like the Nye County Courthouse, the rustic workings at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park, exhibits at the Central Nevada Museum, and a wide range of centennial events. The first event, on May 11, will mix history and youth; it's the Miss Centennial Pageant, to choose a representative for the summer's activities.



Contestants in the double-jack drilling contest compete during Jim Butler Days, to be held July 28-30.

Centennial Festivities

Centennial events begin in earnest during **Tonopah Centennial Weekend** on May 26-29, Memorial Day weekend. Friday events include Tonopah's First 100 Years: A Historical Retrospective, during which longtime residents will impart their favorite Tonopah stories and students will read their winning historical essays.

On Saturday, visitors and residents can compete in two foot races. Then a parade offering $3,000 in prize money will proceed down Erie Main Street. The day will include a military fly-over, historical melodramas, a Wyatt Earp reenactment, a Dutch-oven cook-off, a beard contest, and stock-car racing at Tonopah Speedway.

Sunday boasts a reenactment at the Tonopah Historic Mining Park of Jim Butler's initial discovery. The Tonopah Town Barbecue will have live entertainment. Throughout the weekend, the Central Nevada Museum will be open. In addition, guided tours of the Tonopah Historic Mining Park will be offered. A limited edition, two-ounce silver commemorative coin will be sold for $35 at all events during the summer; call 775-482-9274 for details.

Miners and historians will congregate in Tonopah on June 1-4 for the **Mining History Association Conference**. The event, open to the public for a registration fee, will include talks on Tonopah, Central Nevada, and international mining. Tours will visit Goldfield, Belmont, and other former boom towns. Call the Tonopah Convention Center, 877-TONOPAH, for more information on the event, which is not an official centennial activity but still highly pertinent to Tonopah and its heritage.

During the **Fourth of July** weekend, July 1-4, the Central Nevada Museum holds its annual swap meet. For the sporting public, the town will host professional boxing matches as well as a fireworks display.

Centennial activities continue during **Jim Butler Days**, July 28-30. Hammer-swinging contestants will compete in the National Mining Championships. Other activities include a parade, street dance, talent show, Model T rides at the Central Nevada Museum, tours of the Tonopah Historic Mining Park, and a bartender's race.

The **Tonopah Town Picnic** will be held on August 19 at Jim Butler Park, and all are invited to trade stories. On September 9-11 past and present residents gather for a **Reunion Celebration**.

Historical Side Trips

Visitors will find many historical sites to explore in Tonopah and the other towns and camps it spawned. In Tonopah, a good stop is the **Central Nevada Museum**, where admission is free and varied displays depict the region's mines, ghost towns, military, and railroads. Outside, visitors can prowl among old buildings and other artifacts. The Central Nevada Museum (775-482-9676) is open 9 to 5 daily after May 1.

The **Tonopah Historic Mining Park** covers more than 100 acres and includes the famous Mizpah and Silver Top mines. Visitors can explore numerous head frames, buildings, and equipment from the early days of mining. Also, the park will conduct its first-phase underground tour, featuring bridges across 600-foot stopes. For a small fee visitors can take a self-guided walking tour and see exhibits and a re-created turn-of-the-century mine office. The Tonopah Historic Mining Park (775-482-9274) is open 10 to 5 daily after May 1.

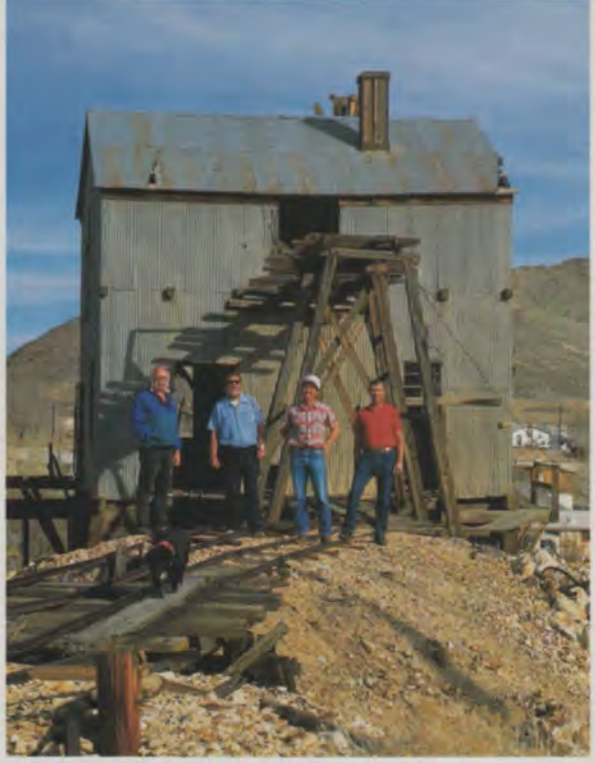
Tonopah explorers also will find a number of buildings that date back to the days when prospectors' burros were as common as autos in town. In 1905, Tonopah wrestled



Crowds watch a double-jack competition during Tonopah's Railroad Days celebration in July 1904.

Photos: Jim Galli (top), William and Philip Metscher Collection, Central Nevada Historical Society (bottom)


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The Rev. Ken Curtis, David Hamilton, Philip Metscher, and Bill Metscher pose at the Silver Top Mine in Tonopah's mining park.

the county seat from Belmont and erected the handsome **Nye County Courthouse** on Gold Hill above town. In 1906, **St. Mark's Episcopal Church** was built of rock from a nearby quarry. The five-story **Mizpah Hotel** is the town's tallest building. When it opened in 1908, the Mizpah boasted carpets of the "finest Brussels quality," a first-class grill room, and an elevator. The **Tonopah Public Library** is the oldest active library in Nevada, having been in continued use since 1912. Private buildings include the **Bartlett Mansion**, built by Jim Butler's attorney, and the **Castle** (the Raycraft home), one of the town's oldest homes. At the airport east of town stand the abandoned hangars of the **Tonopah Army Air Field**, a pilot-training center during World War II.

From Tonopah, the traveler can visit a number of picturesque towns and ghost towns that once had their own flush times.

Belmont, 45 miles northeast, was the Nye County seat before Tonopah boomed. The main part of Belmont contains many buildings in various stages of repair. The two-story brick courthouse, built in 1873 and now owned by the Nevada Division of State Parks, is undergoing a long-term restoration. The old Combination Mining Company's stone headquarters has been completely restored and operates as a bed-and-breakfast. For refreshment, there is Dick's Belmont Bar.

A mile east, **East Belmont** was once a bustling milling town. The site is dominated by the 75-foot brick stack of the Combination Mill, which began crushing ore in 1868. Nearby are the skeletal walls of the Cameron Mill, built from bricks taken from the Combination Mill when it was dismantled.

Manhattan, one of the state's leading mining centers in the early 1900s, is 10 miles southwest of Belmont. This sleepy town of about 30 residents has many original buildings and mining remnants. The old church, moved from Belmont when that town faded, watches over Manhattan from its perch high on the hillside. Old head frames and mill ruins sit next to a large open-pit mine that recently shut down.

Goldfield, 25 miles south of Tonopah, was Nevada's largest city in 1908, when it had 25,000 residents. While today's townspeople classify Goldfield as a living ghost town, visitors will find a number of shops and restaurants. Surviving buildings from its heyday include the Goldfield Hotel. Long closed, the hotel opened in 1908 as four stories of modern comfort, having 150 rooms with brass beds and private baths. The Esmeralda County Courthouse has a number of exhibits. Head frames, mill foundations, and other sites are easily viewed.

Visitors will find Goldfield bustling June 9-11 with the **Goldfield Millennium Land Rush Festival**. That weekend the county will auction off more than 200 parcels of land, and memorabilia from the Goldfield Hotel will be auctioned; call 775-485-6352 or -6365. A parade, food vendors, and tours will be part of the festivities.

From **Beatty**, halfway to Las Vegas, one can drive four miles west to **Rhyolite**, another former boom town. Sights include the old bank building, railroad depot, and the Rhyolite Bottle House.

Traveling to Tonopah

Visitors to Tonopah during its centennial summer can call the Tonopah Convention Center, 877-TONOPAH, for details on the celebration and town services. Tonopah (population 2,000) has a variety of motels, restaurants, parks, and casinos. The town is located on U.S. 95 midway between Las Vegas (209 miles) and Reno (236 miles). This summer's events include:

Tonopah Centennial Weekend, May 26-29: A parade, foot races, Jim Butler reenactment, beard contest, and stock-car races.

Mining History Association Conference, June 1-4: Tours and talks on Tonopah, early labor unions, and Nevada ghost towns.

Goldfield Millennium Land Rush Festival, June 9-11: County land auction, Goldfield Hotel memorabilia auction, parade, tours (775-485-6352 or -6365).

Fourth of July, July 1-4: Central Nevada Museum Swap Meet, boxing, and fireworks.

Jim Butler Days, July 28-30: Mining championships, parade, street dance, Model T rides, and tours of the mining park.

Tonopah Town Picnic, August 19: Annual gathering of citizens and visitors.

Reunion Celebration, September 9-11: Past and present residents gather.

Shawn Hall is director of the Tonopah Historic Mining Park and author of several books, including Preserving the Glory Days: Ghost Towns and Mining Camps of Nye County, Nevada *(University of Nevada Press, 1999).*



Visitors can explore the living ghost town of Belmont, where an 1873 courthouse is under restoration.

Photos: Jim Galli



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Millennium Countdown CALENDAR

Nevada, with its glittering resorts, friendly small-town festivals, cultural events, and scenic and man-made attractions, is holding a celebration for the millennium. Nevada has welcomed visitors and residents to 15 months of festivities that extend to Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15, 2001. Following is a statewide day-by-day guide to events and entertainers. Dates are subject to change, so it is wise to confirm dates and times. Each event is color-coded to the Nevada Territory Map.

May 2000

- **1 Carson Valley Inn-Genoa Lakes Pro-Am Golf Tournament:** Minden, 800-321-6983, ext. 625.
- **1-July 1 WIBC National Tournament:** Female amateur bowlers compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL.
- **2 *Raise the Red Lantern*:** A 1992 Chinese film about a woman sold into marriage in the 1920s. In Mandarin with English subtitles. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.
- **2 UNLV Chamber Chorale Concert:** Black Box Theater, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **4 UNLV Wind Orchestra Pops Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-3801
- **4 and 6 "H.M.S. Pinafore":** Nevada Opera presents the story of what happens when good girls turn bad. Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts, Reno, 775-786-4046.
- **5 Derby Day:** Buffet lunch, mint juleps, live and silent auction, viewing of the Kentucky Derby to benefit the Reno Chamber Orchestra. Hidden Valley Country Club, Reno, 775-348-9431
- **5-6 Cinco de Mayo:** Food, arts and crafts, live music, and a parade down Wendover Boulevard. Scobie Park, Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.
- **5-7, 12-14, and 19-20 "The Glass Menagerie":** Tennessee Williams' play. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-558-7275.
- **5-7 Quick Strike Keno and Three-Card Poker Tournaments:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.
- **5-7 $50,000 Craps Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 800-521-8767
- **5-7 Cinco de Mayo Festival:** Banquet at the Showboat, parade at Fremont Street Experience, and picnic, entertainment, and games at Freedom Park. Las Vegas, 702-649-1198.
- **5-7 4-H Livestock Show and Sale:** Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-428-1480.
- **5-7 Silver State Square and Round Dance Festival:** Styles include square, round, clogging, and country-western dancing. Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, 775-673-2557
- **5-7 Spring Dance Concert:** Redfield Theatre, U of N, Reno, 775-784-4041 ext. 240.
- **5-7 "Ballad Hunter":** Play about a secret shared by three generations of Appalachian women. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-893-8980.
- **5-7 Cinco de Mayo Festival:** Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 800-648-5966.



- **5-7 "Jake's Women":** Neil Simon comedy. Reno Little Theater, Reno, 775-331-1877
- **6 Cinco de Mayo Parade:** Downtown Reno, 775-329-6469.
- **6 "Snake Talk: Urgent Message from the Mother":** Traveling Jewish Theatre production starring Naomi Newman in a one-woman play covering Jewish tradition, women's achievements, and contemporary issues. Charleston Heights Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.
- **6 Stargazing Program:** Legends and lore of the stars and constellations. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **6 Bowers Mansion:** Dance, fortune telling, music, period costumes by Nevada Civil War Volunteers. Bowers Mansion Park, old Hwy. 395, Washoe Valley, 775-849-0201
- **6 Juanita Schubert Rediscovered:** Exhibit opens

the Genoa Courthouse Museum for the season, May-Oct. 16. Genoa, 775-782-4325.

• **6 EA Sports Supercross Series Finals:** Sam Boyd Stadium, Las Vegas, 888-464-2468.

• **6 Terry Allen and Guy Clark:** Singers perform in song-swap format. Convention Center, Fallon, 775-423-1440.

• **6 Las Vegas Philharmonic in Concert:** Artemus Ham Hall, UNLV, 702-895-2787

• **6 Canoe Trip:** Park rangers lead a canoe trip along the Carson River from Fort Churchill to Lahontan Reservoir. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **6 Cinco de Mayo Chili Cook-Off:** Cooking and tasting of the spicy frontier dish. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **6 Jewel in the Desert 5K:** A 5K run around Toana Vista Golf Course. Wendover, 775-664-3289.

• **6, 28 Sandstone Canyon Hike:** Three-hour moderate to strenuous hike. Long pants and hiking shoes advised. Bring water and snacks. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **6-7 Spring Jamboree:** More than 125 craft booths, food, music, entertainment, and a car show. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

• **6-7 Craft Fair and Rib Burn-Off:** Cooking competition, live entertainment, hot rods, and classic cars. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 704-455-8206.

• **6-7 Art in the Park:** Artists demonstrate and exhibit their works. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **6-7 NHRA Summit Drag Racing:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

• **6-7 Winnemucca Pro-Am Golf Tournament:** More than 100 golfers play at Winnemucca Golf Course. 775-623-5071

• **6-7 The X Rides:** Fully supported bicycle rides include an evening ride to Area 51 mailbox, a mountain bike ride to Area 51 gate, based at Little A 'Le' Inn, Rachel. Call 775-588-9658.

• **7 Junior Livestock Show and Sale:** 4-H Building, Lovelock, 775-273-2923.

• **7 Cinco de Mayo Celebration:** Performances on three stages, food, crafts. Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 800-634-6133.

• **7 Las Vegas Woodwind Quintet:** Concert. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211

• **7 Las Vegas Master Singers:** U.S. premiere of Anton Hansen's "Messe Uden Gloria" and other Scandinavian music. Christ Church Episcopal, Las Vegas, 702-228-8316.

• **7, 27, and 29 Ash Grove Hike:** Easy hike through an area that offers diverse habitats. Wear hiking shoes and bring water. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **7-10 Putting on the Grand Slot Tournament:** MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-891-4220.

• **7-10 Slot-Tucky Derby Slot Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.

• **11-13 Pioche Heritage Days:** Play based on events in the mining town's turbulent history. Evening includes an old-fashioned melodrama. Town Hall, Pioche, 775-962-5544.

• **11-14 Salute to Swing Slot Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 800-521-8767

• **11-14 RSVP Spring Fair:** Carnival, entertainment, vendors, arts and crafts. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **12 What's In a Name?:** Slide program on Eastern Nevada's unusual place names. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **12-13 Las Vegas Junior Rodeo:** Rodeo Grounds, Mesquite, 702-346-5038.

• **12-14 Pai Gow Poker Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111



The riding and roping action begins with a colorful grand entry during the Reno Rodeo, June 17-25.

• **12-14 Spring Wings Bird Festival:** Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, Fallon. 800-874-0903.

• **12-14 and 18-21 "South Pacific":** Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company presents the Broadway musical. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **13 Liberace Play-A-Like Competition:** Professional and amateur pianists are judged on technique, costume, and presentation. Held in conjunction with Liberace's 81st birthday celebration. Liberace Museum, Las Vegas, 702-798-5595.

• **13 Antique and Collectible Sale:** Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-265-6097

• **13 Opening Day Steam Excursion:** Two-hour train ride on the Keystone Route pulled by Steam Engine No. 93. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 775-289-2085.

• **13 Fallon Horsemen's Association Horse Show:** Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4740.

• **13 Woodsy Owl Day:** Family entertainment. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **13 Meet the Artist: Carole Ladonna Binford:** Impressionistic oil land and seascapes. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.

• **13 Jazz in the Park:** Free concerts. Clark County Government Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

• **13 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour to an archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

• **13-14 Jackpot of Gems 2000:** Jewelry, gems, and mineral show. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-356-9864.

• **13-14 Western States Racing Association Grand Prix:** Motorcycle race around the hills of historic Virginia City. 775-847-0311

• **13-14 Third Annual ArtFest of Henderson:** Fine art, crafts, entertainment, booths. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-4771

• **13-21 Northern Nevada Senior Olympics:** Variety of competitive events to participate in or watch. Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828 or 775-782-8165.

• **14 Mother's Day Breakfast:** Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-265-5125.

• **14 Walt Boenig Big Band Mother's Day Concert:** Light refreshments follow the performance. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211

• **14 Nevada Jazz Orchestra:** Performance by 18-piece band. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

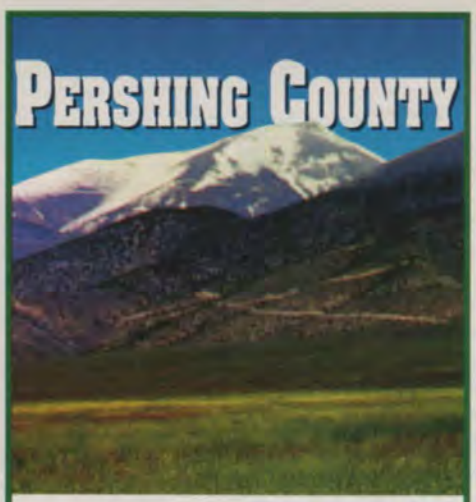
• **14 Spring Bloomers Walk:** Easy walk to identify shrubs and wildflowers. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **14-15 Winning Is Wonderful Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.

• **14-16 Crazy Reels Slot Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.

• **14-17 Mother's Day Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111

Photo: Ralph Willits



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Millennium Countdown Calendar

- **15-19 Fallon Farm Festival:** Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-7733.
- **18-21 Asian Festival:** Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 800-648-5966.
- **18-21 Nevada Open Road Challenge:** Car race against the clock on S.R. 318 from Lund to Hiko. Pre-race activities in Ely. 775-289-8877
- **18-21 Comstock Historic Preservation Week:** Theatrical presentations, lectures, guided tours, demonstrations, costume ball, fireman's muster, and parade. Virginia City, 775-847-0311
- **19 Cindy Pearson in Concert:** Singer and acoustic guitar. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6006.
- **19-20 Fabulous '50s:** Dance and free concert. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **19-20 County Fair Slot Tournament:** Golden Nugget, Laughlin, 800-955-7568.
- **19-21 Sports Parade:** Memorabilia and collectors show. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-567-1900.
- **19-21 Boulder City Folk Festival:** Storytelling, folk music, ethnic food, artist demonstrations. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-6634.
- **19-21 Winner Take All Slot Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427
- **19-21 Tonopah 300:** Best in the Desert off-road race. Tonopah, 702-457-5775.
- **19-21 "H.M.S. Pinafore":** Opera performed by White Pine Community Choir. Centennial Fine Arts Building, Ely, 775-289-2116.
- **20 Civil Air Patrol World War II Fly-In and Hangar Dance:** Minden-Tahoe Airport, Minden, 775-782-9771
- **20 Moonlight Hike:** Ranger-led walk through spires and caves. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **20 Asian-Pacific Festival Parade:** Downtown Reno, 775-329-7469.
- **20 Outdoor Doll and Craft Show:** Senior citizen show and sale. Derfelt Senior Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6601
- **20 Belle in the Park:** Paige O'Hara, who was the voice of Belle in the animated film *Beauty and the Beast*, performs. Hills Park in Summerlin, Las Vegas, 702-382-3445.
- **20 Keno Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427
- **20 Reno Chamber Orchestra Concert:** Nightingale Hall, U of N, Reno, 775-348-9413.
- **20 Horseback Tours:** Park rangers lead a tour of the new Carson River ranches. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.
- **20 Carl Grove Combo:** Big band dance. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.
- **20-21 $50,000 Fishing Derby:** Rye Patch State Recreation Area, 22 miles north of Lovelock, 775-273-2611
- **20-21 Ranch Lifestyle:** Chuck-wagon breakfast, demonstrations, stories on ranch life. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141
- **20-21 Portuguese Festa:** Dance, parade, Mass, lunch, auction. Fallon, 775-423-2223.
- **20-21 Armed Forces Day:** Salute to the military features a parade, displays, open house at the Hawthorne Army Depot, stock car races, dances, kids' games, barbecue, and horseshoe tournament. Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.
- **20-21 Fly-In and Air Show:** Demonstrations, fly-by's, hot-air balloons, model airplanes, static displays. Fernley, 775-463-2245.
- **20-21 Barrel Racing:** Cactus Petes Arena, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.
- **20-21 Wells High School Rodeo:** Rodeo Grounds, Wells, 775-752-3540.
- **21 Jazz Society Picnic:** Groups such as Brass on the Grass and Jimmy Wilkins Big Band perform for the blanket, beach chair, and picnic basket crowd. Free event. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.
- **21 Geology Walk:** Ranger-led walk to examine geological features of the park. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.
- **21 Henderson Civic Symphony:** Season finale. Valley View Recreation Center, Henderson, 702-565-2367
- **21 Brass Roots Quintet:** From classical to Dixie and ragtime music. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211
- **21 Las Vegas Jaycees' Blues Jamboree:** Blues bands, food. Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 702-229-6511
- **21-23 Slot Tourney Fever Slot Tournament:** Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-572-3553.
- **22-23 High School Rodeo:** Rodeo Grounds, Lovelock, 775-273-2968.
- **22-25 May Madness:** Dodge diesel pickups, technical seminars, day in the dirt, show and shine. Minden, 775-577-2100.
- **23-24 Senior Pro Rodeo:** Cactus Petes Arena, Jackpot, 800-821-1103.
- **23 Eagles Easter Egg Hunt:** Lovelock, 775-273-2195.
- **24 Jazz Festival:** Convention Center, Elko, 775-735-7281
- **25 Winemaker Dinner:** Featured Stag's Leap and five-course dinner for $69.95 per person. Atlantis, Reno, 775-824-4411
- **25 National Tap Dance Day Celebration:** Performance honors dancer Bill "Bojangles" Robinson. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.
- **25-29 National Senior Pro Rodeo:** Rodeo Grounds, Wells, 775-752-3540.
- **26-28 Bocce Ball Battaglia:** Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 800-321-6983, ext. 625.
- **26-28 Snow Mountain Powwow:** Tribal songs and dances, arts, crafts, and foods. Paiute Indian Reservation, U.S. 95 North, Las Vegas, 702-386-3926.
- **26-29 Tonopah Centennial Weekend:** Celebrating Tonopah's founding in 1900 with a parade, barbecue, centennial pageant, Jim Butler reenactment play, essay contest, historical melo-

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The wearing of the plaid is part of downtown Reno's Celtic New Year Celebration, Oct. 21-22.

drama, foot races, cook-off, beard contest. Tonopah, 877-TONOPAH.

• **26-29 Ghosttowns.com Rally 2000:** Live band and dancing, tours, Old West costumes and play acting, real Old West Saloon, some meals provided, preregistration and payment due by May 12, $110 per person, $200 per couple, kids 12 and under free, Gold Point, 800-996-4960.

• **27 Henderson Memorial Day Celebration:** Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **27 Kit Carson Trail Wild West Tour:** Tour of historic homes, costumed characters. Historic District, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

• **27 Elgin Living History Museum:** Opening at 11am of the newly restored one-room schoolhouse used from 1922 to 1968. The museum is located 21 miles south of Caliente via Rainbow Canyon. 775-728-4460.

• **27 Bingo Blowout:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **27 Meet the Artist: Virgilio:** Tropical landscapes and birds. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.

• **27 Jazz in the Park:** Free concerts. Clark County Government Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

• **27 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour to an archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

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

• **27-28 Fort Churchill Civil War Encampment:** Camp life and skirmishes depicted by Confederate and Union troops. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, eight miles south of Silver Springs, 775-867-3001

• **27-28 Leave No Trace:** Low-impact camping and hiking demonstrations May 27, and easy walk to practice principles May 28. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **27-28 Triple Crown Softball Tournament:** More than 50 teams from Nevada and Idaho compete. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **27-29 Lincoln County Homecoming:** Ball games, barbecue, dances, scavenger hunts. Caliente, 775-726-3129.

• **27-29 Make the Drive:** Show and sale of porcelain and stoneware pottery. Planet X Pottery, Gerlach, 775-557-2500.

• **28-29 Memorial Weekend BBQ:** Dance to Sweet Country Air, spareribs barbecue May 29. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **28-31 Baseball Theme Slot Tournament:** John

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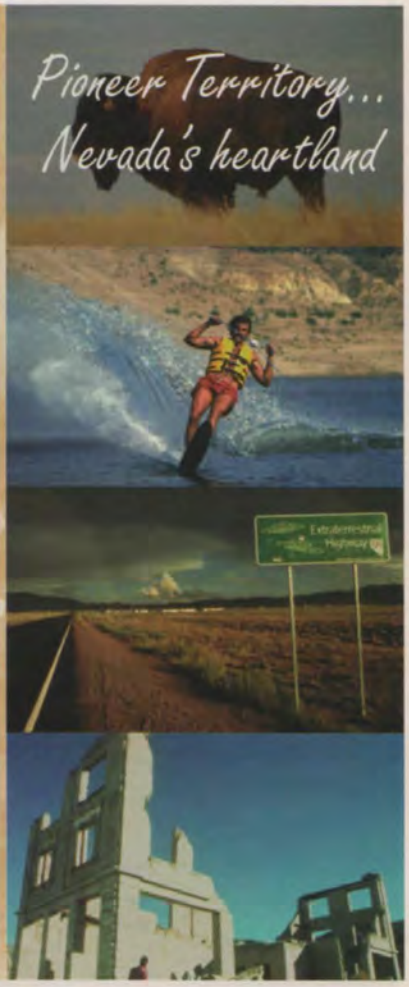


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Millennium Countdown Calendar

Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **29-31 Grand Slam Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 800-521-8767

June 2000

• **1-4 Mining History Association Conference:** Seminars and slide shows on mining in Nevada and the world, ghost town tours. Tonopah, 877-TONOPAH.

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

• **2 "Clarence Darrow: Crimes, Causes, and the Courtroom":** Eureka County Court House, Eureka, 775-237-6006 for further event information.

• **2 Southern Nevada Sports Hall of Fame 2000 Induction:** Golf tournament and banquet. Inductees include Jim Colbert, Randall Cunningham, Lionel Hollins, Johnny Tocco, and Tom Wiesner. Revere at Anthem and Las Vegas Hilton, Las Vegas, 702-386-7200.

• **2-4 Laughlin River Days:** Lightweight tunnel boats compete at speeds of 135 mph as part of the Formula One Professional Racing Outboard Performance Tour. Colorado River, Laughlin, 702-298-3321

• **2-4 Winners' Weekend Slot Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **2-4 Craps Madness Tournament:** Harrah's Reno, 775-786-3232.

• **2-4 Krazy Keno Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.

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

• **2-4 and 9-11 "Strange Snow":** Comedy-drama about Vietnam survivors and their families. Reno Little Theater, Reno, 775-331-1877

• **2-11 "The Skin of Our Teeth":** Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning fable about the survival of the Antrobus family. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-329-6553.

• **3 National Trails Day:** Maintenance on the Tahoe Rim Trail, educational displays. Tahoe City, 775-588-0686.

• **3 Build an Adobe Wall:** Assist park rangers with building a wall at the Fort Churchill ruins. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **3 Junefest VIII Music Festival:** Outdoor performances by rock bands. Silver Bowl Complex, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **3 Stargazing Program:** Legends and lore of the stars and constellations. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **3 Rainbow Springs Hike:** Strenuous hike to the top of the escarpment takes eight hours. Bring lunch, snacks, water, hiking shoes, and dress in layers. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **3 Reno Days:** Arts and crafts, food vendors, Civil War reenactments, kayak races, 5K and 10K runs. Idlewild Park, Reno, 775-334-2414.

• **3-4 Street Fever:** Car show, street dance with Poppa Clutch and the Shifters. Sturgeon's Casino,

ONGOING EVENTS

Nevada's museums, galleries, and other organizations hold long-running events throughout the year. Ongoing activities in 2000 range from drag racing in Las Vegas to lectures on Nevada history in Gold Hill. Information phone numbers are listed.

Wanamaker Wing: Ongoing permanent wildlife exhibits and Western art displays. Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, 775-738-3418.

Fine Art Shows: Ongoing exhibits by the Boulder City Art Guild at the Boulder City Airport, Alan Bible Visitor Center, Boulder City Hall, and the Boulder Dam Hotel. Boulder City, 702-293-2138.

Las Vegas Farmer's Markets: Ongoing markets on Tues. at Children's Memorial Park and Wed. at Bruce Trent Park. Las Vegas, 702-683-GROW.

Nevada Camera Club Exhibition: Juried 2000: Thru May 7 Photo exhibit from the annual print competition. Enterprise Library, Las Vegas, 702-228-4274.

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

Sierra Watercolor Society Exhibit: Thru May 10. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.

Rural Nevada: Thru May 23. Sheree Norman photo exhibit. Green Valley Library, Henderson, 702-435-1840.

Sidne Teske: Thru May 26. Pastel, gourds, and furniture. C.I.T.Y. 2000 Gallery, Reno City Hall, 775-329-2787

Fiber and Clay: Thru May 31 Basketry by Molly Gardner and pottery by Linda McKee-Douchane. Silver State Gallery, Reno, 775-324-2323.



Farmer's markets are held in Las Vegas, Reno, Sparks, and Carson.

Fred Reid: Song for My Father: Thru June 25. Ceramic trophy mounts. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

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

Kuan Chun-mai: Exhibit of Carved Eggshells: Thru July 4. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

All That Is Glorious: Paintings From the Hudson River School: Thru Sept. 3. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

Silver Ladies in Golden Splendor: Thru Sept. 4. Exhibition of gowns worn by 10 of Nevada's first ladies from 1945 through 1999. Nevada State Museum and Historical Society, Las Vegas, 702-486-5205.

Stock Car Racing: Thru Sept. Mini, pro, hobby, modified, dwarfs, and cruiser classes. Summit Raceway, Elko, 775-738-5641

The 1930s: Boom or Bust: Thru Oct. 2. Car exhibit. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Drag Racing: Fridays and Saturday, thru Nov. 19. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

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

Handed Down: Nevada's Living Folk Arts: May-July. Master artists from the Nevada's Folk Arts Appreciation Program. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

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

Nevada Wide: Panoramic Photography in the Silver State: Thru May 1-June 30. Pioneer photographers such as Carleton Watkins, Charles Gallagher, E.W. Smith, and Al Smith. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

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

Gold Hill Hotel Lectures: "Tommy Knockers, Ghosts, and Stories From Comstock Folklore, by Ron James, May 2; "Saloon Songs of the Comstock, by Chris Bayer, May 9; "Indian Artifacts, by Dennis Cassinelli, May 16; "Northern Nevada Railroads to the Mining Camps, by Stan Paher, May 23; "True Tales of the Pony Express, by Chuck Convis, June 6; "Territorial Lawmen of Nevada, by Bob Ellison, June 13; "Women Pathfinders: Pioneers of the Early West, by Mark McLaughlin, June 27· "Stories and Songs From the Old West, by John Tyson and friends, July 18.

Las Vegas Stars Baseball: The Triple-A team plays May 2-5 v. Tucson, May 15-18 v. Tacoma, May 27-30 v. Fresno, June 9-12 v. Tucson, June 13-16 v. Colorado Springs, June 26-29 v. Albuquerque, June 30-July 3 v. Salt Lake, July 7-9 v. Calgary, July 17-20 v. Sacramento, July 21-24 v. Tacoma, Aug. 3-6 v. Edmonton, Aug. 15-18 v. Oklahoma, Aug. 19-22 v. Edmonton, Aug. 28-31 v. Fresno, Sept. 1-3 v. Sacramento. Cashman Field, Las Vegas, 702-386-7200.

Asian Art Now: 2000: May 3-July 9. Exhibit by 140 artists from Japan, Taiwan, and Korea. Las Vegas Art Museum, 702-360-8000.

The Forest Within: May 5-28. Clay and earth sculptures. North Tahoe Art Center, Tahoe City, 530-581-2787

"Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead": May 5-6, 11-13, 18-20, and 25-27 Comedy by Tom Stoppard. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221

Photographs by Robert Hooper: May 5-June 17 Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History, UNLV, 702-895-3381

Beyond Borders: Enrique Chagoya: May 5-June 25. Paintings, prints, codices, and drawings. Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, 775-329-3333.

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

History Channel Great Race: May 22-Oct. 9. Exhibit of cars that have run in the History Channel Great Race. Workshop lecture by race founder Tom McRae on May 25. National Automobile Museum, Reno, 775-333-9300.

Humboldt River Canoe Trips: June-Aug. Rangers lead boaters on a nature tour along 10 miles of the Humboldt River below Rye Patch Dam. Participants must bring own canoes or other boats. Event dates may depend on water flow. Rye Patch State Recreation Area 22 miles north of Lovelock, 775-538-7321

Going With the Grain: June 2-25. Woodworking exhibit. North Tahoe Art Center, Tahoe City, 530-581-2787

Friday Night Festival and Riverside Farmer's Market: Fridays, June 16-Aug. 25. Concerts at Wingfield Park Amphitheater and produce, baked goodies, arts and crafts. West Street Plaza, Reno, 775-334-2414.

Carson Outdoor Farmer's Market: Wed. evenings June 14-Sept. 13. Produce, flowers, crafts, entertainment. Pony Express Pavilion, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

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

Annie Lee and Friends: June 30-Aug. 28. Group show of original works by nationally acclaimed African-American artists. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211

Outdoor Movie Film Festival: Wednesdays, July 5-15. Bring lawn chairs or blankets and a picnic. Nevada State Railroad Museum, Carson City, 687-6953.

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

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

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

Las Vegas History of Entertainment IV: Nov. 4-April 1 Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

Nevada 2001: A Photography Odyssey: Jan. 19-June 15, 2001 Pioneer photographers including James H. Crockwell, Al Smith, E.W. Smith, P.E. Larson, and "Northeast" Johnson. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191

Photo: Andre Stigall

Millennium Countdown Calendar

Lovelock, 775-273-3151

• **3-4 Spring Home and Garden Show:** Convention Center, Elko, 775-738-7135.

• **3-4 Mule Show and Races:** Fun races and 25-mile endurance race. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **3-4 Sports, Recreation, Health, and Travel Fair:** Cashman Center, Las Vegas, 702-614-0562.

• **3-4 Minden Spring Arts and Crafts Festival:** Esmeralda Ave., Minden, 775-324-6435.

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

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

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

• **3-4 and 10-11 Valhalla Renaissance Festival:** Knights in armor, jousting, musicians, jugglers, 100 vendors. Historic Camp Richardson Resort, Highway 89, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

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

• **4 America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride:** Bicycle ride around Lake Tahoe offers a combination boat cruise and ride and 72- and 100-mile courses. Lake Tahoe Horizon, Stateline, 775-588-9658.

• **4 Genoa Area Home and Garden Tour:** Self-guided tour. Genoa, 775-782-4951

• **4 National Trails Day:** Family event for off-highway vehicle, hiking, mountain biking, and road biking groups. Pre-registration encouraged. Sunrise Management Area Trail Head and Kiosk, Las Vegas, 702-455-5198.

• **4 Early Birds Walk:** Ranger-led walk to identify common birds. Bring a picnic breakfast. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

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

• **4-5 Keno Tournament:** Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 800-648-5966.

• **4-5 Jackpots in June Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.

• **4-6 Video Poker Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.

• **4-7 Comstock Summer Golf Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.

• **7-10 EAT'M (Emerging Artists Talent and Music Conference):** Workshops and concerts featuring more than 200 groups and artists. Separate concert ticket is $10. Rio Suite Hotel, Las Vegas, 702-837-3636.

• **8-9 Carson Valley Inn Spring Fishing Derby:** Fish for giant mackinaw on Lake Tahoe. Minden, 800-321-6983, ext. 625.

• **8-10 PRCA Wrangler Pro Rodeo Tour:** Copenhagen Cup Finale championship. MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 702-474-4000.

• **8-11 Reach for the Stars Slot Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 800-521-8767

• **9 Harold Morgan and Friends:** Native American flute concert. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **9 S.A.D. Stampede:** PRCA-approved rodeo. Proceeds go to area youth prevention programs. Fairgrounds, Ely, 775-289-3440.

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

• **9-10 Pro Mod Shoot Out:** NHRA pro and amateur drag racing. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

• **9-11 Goldfield Millennium Land Rush Festival:** Auction of 200 land parcels and memorabilia from the Goldfield Hotel. Event includes parade, vendors, food, and tours of the historic mining town. Land auction on June 10. Goldfield, 775-485-6352 or 775-485-6365.

• **9-11 Blackjack Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

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

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

• **9-11 National Wild Horse and Burro Show:** Wild horse adoption; mustang and burro competition in English, Western, and timed events; demonstrations; vendors. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-687-1400.

• **9-11 Cool Caddy Nights:** Cadillac and custom car show, entertainment. John Ascuaga's Nugget and Victorian Square, Sparks, 925-634-1188.

• **10 River Ranch Tour:** Ranger-led walking tour of the Carson River ranches. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **10 Rock Point Mill Site:** Park rangers will give a tour of the historic 1860s mill and its importance in the development of the Comstock and Tonopah and Goldfield mining booms. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **10 Gymkhana:** Caliente, 775-726-3203.

• **10 Suzanne Farace and Steven Hood:** Opera selections. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-658-6741

• **10 Where the Buffalo Roamed:** Slide program highlights the remains of ancient bison discovered in the park. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **10 Fallon Horsemen's Association Horse Show:** Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4740.

• **10 Keno Klassic Tournament:** Harrah's Reno, 775-786-3232.

• **10 Jet Fire Showdown:** Jet dragsters compete. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

• **10 Pioche Gathering:** Food, crafts, program for all present and past residents. Pioche Park, 775-962-5544.

• **10 Alumni Ball:** Sturgeon's Casino, Lovelock. 775-273-2155.

• **10 Meet the Artist: Marie Arango:** Woodcut artist. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.

• **10 and 24 Jazz in the Park:** Free concerts. Clark County Government Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

• **10 and 24 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour to an archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

• **10-11 Las Vegas International Beer Festival:** More than 150 beers compete. Dread Zeppelin performs Sat. All-Star Blues Show on Sun. Bruce Trent

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Park, Las Vegas, 800-634-6133.

• **10-11 Basque Festival:** Parade, games of strength and endurance, Holy Mass, traditional Basque picnic, softball tournament. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **10-11 Lincoln County Groundshakers Motorcycle Race:** Caliente, 775-962-5245.

• **10-11 Carson Valley Days:** Arts and crafts, food, rodeo, dance, and millennium parade. Downtown, Gardnerville, 775-265-2021

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

• **10-11 Carson Valley Days Hot-Air Balloon Race:** Gardnerville, 775-782-8144.

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

• **11 Make-A-Wish Mountain Madness:** Mountain bike race and fun ride. Scarselli Elementary School, Gardnerville, 775-265-1657

• **11 Wildflower Walk:** Ranger-led tour to identify wildflowers and shrubs. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **11 Dynamic Trombone Quartet:** Classical, ragtime, and contemporary music. Reed Whipple Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211

• **11-14 Caribbean Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111

• **11-17 PBA Reno Stadium Open:** Senior professional bowlers and players with more than a 220 average compete. National Bowling Stadium, Reno, 800-304-BOWL.



Dancers perform during Basque festivals in Elko, Las Vegas, Reno, and Winnemucca.

• **11-25 "Scapino":** Outdoor presentation of the comedy by Frank Dunlop and Jim Dale. Rainbow Library Amphitheater, Las Vegas, 702-873-0191

• **12 June Slot Tournament:** Harrah's Reno, 775-786-3232.

• **12-16 Reno Rodeo Cattle Drive:** Participants move 300 head of cattle across 60 miles of desert. Event kicks off the Reno Rodeo, June 17-25. 775-329-3877

• **14 Pony Express Re-ride:** Participants in the ride retracing the route will arrive at Genoa Courthouse Museum at approx. 12:45pm. Genoa, 775-782-4325.

• **14-17 Las Vegas Chautauqua:** Geoffrey Chaucer, Frances Bacon, and W.E.B. DuBois. Hills Park, Las Vegas, 702-229-5430.

• **14-17, 21-24, 28-July 1 Super Summer 2000: "Fiddler on the Roof":** Outdoor picnic per-

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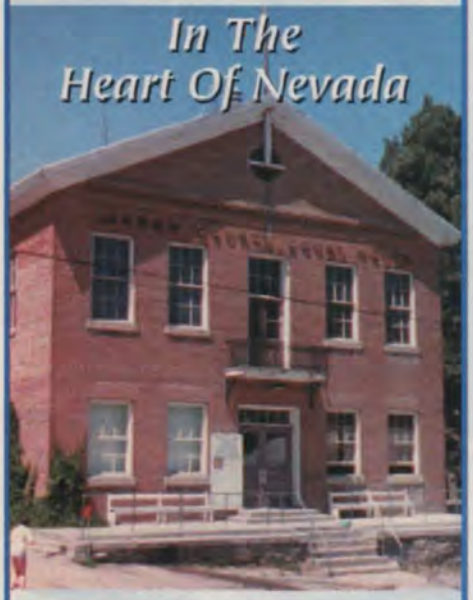
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formance of the Broadway play. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

• **14-18 Vegas Ventriloquists Festival:** Shows and workshops. Harrah's Las Vegas, 702-737-9713.

• **14-18 Nevada National High School Rodeo:** Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-1901

• **15-18 "Potpourri 2000":** Las Vegas Civic Ballet's annual performance. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211

• **15-18 14th Annual Farwest Regional and International Wheelchair Tennis Championship:** Competition among 14 divisions of men, women, juniors, and seniors. Plumas Tennis Center, Washoe County Tennis Courts, Reno Hilton, Reno, 775-852-7077 or 530-587-2108.

• **16-17 Old-Time Fiddling Championship and Jam Session:** Free spaghetti feed and jam session on the 16th at 4-Way Casino and Restaurant, fiddling contest on the 17th at Wells High School. Wells, 775-732-3682.

• **16-17 Dollar Slot Marathon:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **16-17, 22-24, and 29-30 "Cabaret":** Broadway musical. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221

• **16-18 Mesquite Motor Mania:** Show and shine, poker runs, poker walks, open headers' cruise, parade, slow drags, burn-out contests, entertainment. Mesquite, 702-643-0000.

• **16-18 $50,000 Blackjack Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 800-521-8767

• **16-18 Father's Day Powwow:** Dancers, drummers, crafters, foods, demonstrations. Stewart Indian School, Carson City, 775-882-6929.

• **16-18 Gridley Days and Rock and Bottle Show:** Parade, entertainment, exhibits, crafts, vendor booths, barbecue, pancake breakfast, and mountain bike rally commemorate the town's famous 1864 election bet, for which Reuel Gridley carried a sack of flour. Austin, 775-964-2200.

• **16-18 Quinn River Father's Day Open Rodeo:** Horse roping Friday, open rodeo Saturday and Sunday. Fort McDermitt Pai-Sho Indian Reservation, McDermitt, 775-532-8304.

• **16-18 and 23-25 "Oliver":** Western Nevada Musical Theatre Youth Company, Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **17 Moonlight Hike:** Easy walk through spires and caves. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **17 Wa-She-Shu-Way:** Help rangers and Washoe elders rebuild the traditional tribal summer home at Lake Tahoe. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-5227

• **17 A Taste of Downtown:** Street dance, walking tour with live bands at each stop, local restaurants offer food tasting. Downtown, Carson City, 775-883-7654.

• **17 Jim Maffet and His Orchestra:** Big band dance. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.

• **17 Buckland Station History Talk:** Rangers lead a discussion of the newly restored station. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

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

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

• **17-18 Carlin All-City Festival:** Art in the park and show and shine. City Park, Carlin, 775-754-6354.

• **17-18 Toast of Victorian Square:** Art, tea, and wine festival with jazz and big band music. Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291

• **17-18 VC Hillclimb: Audi Quattro:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **17-25 Reno Rodeo:** Major PRCA rodeo with a cattle drive, parade, carnival, entertainment. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-329-3877

• **18 Concert on the Green:** Picnic performance. Genoa Park, Genoa, 775-782-8696.

• **18 Geology Walk:** Easy walk to examine geological features of the park. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **18 $1,000,000 Coverall Bingo:** Showboat, Las Vegas, 800-876-2628.

• **18 Paradise Valley Father's Day Barbecue:** Paradise Valley is 40 miles north of Winnemucca via U.S. 95 and S.R. 290. 775-623-5071

• **18 Pops Party Concert:** Carson City Symphony performs with the Carson Chamber Singers. Garden of the Governor's Mansion, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

• **18-25 Quilt Exhibit:** National Quilting Association exhibit in conjunction with the convention and show at the Atlantis. Sparks Heritage Museum, Sparks, 775-355-1144.

• **June 19 Bob Feist Invitational Team Roping Classic:** Competition for $300,000 in cash and awards. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 209-333-2924.

• **20 Splishin' Splashin' Pool Concert:** Black Mountain Aquatic Complex, Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **20-23 ICRA Roping:** National competition. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **22 Norman Foote Concert:** Young Peoples' Summer Concert series. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **22-25 Just For Fun:** National Quilting Assn. annual show. Atlantis, Reno, 775-267-5503.

• **23 Sherman Dinner:** Outdoor dinner and auction. Sherman Station, Elko, 775-738-7135.

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

• **23-25 Run What Cha Brung:** More than 300 hot rods and custom cars are displayed. Fuji Park, Carson City, 775-883-0927

• **23-25 Craps Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **24 Guided Comstock Home and Garden Tour:** Historical tour by Joe Curtis. Virginia City, 775-847-0975.

• **24 Elko Days Community Picnic:** Games, music, barbecue, cultural foods, dancers, gunslingers, horse and carriage rides, guided tours, volleyball, melodrama. Sherman Station and City Park, Elko, 775-738-7135.

• **24 Wild Weeds:** Slide program on Eastern

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Fireworks and other festivities light up communities around the state during Fourth of July celebrations.

Nevada's common weeds. Cathedral Gorge State Park, Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **24 Nevada Paint Horse Club's Horse Show:** Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-867-3154.

• **24 Koyote Kruiser's Car Show:** Cars, trucks, motorcycles, and tanks displayed. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **24 Meet the Artist: Chuck Oberstein:** Clown artist. Art Encounter, Las Vegas, 702-227-0220.

• **24 Ruins Tour:** Ranger-led tour of Fort Churchill. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

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

• **24 Nevada's One-Room Schools:** Slide show and talk on one-room schools past and present. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **24-25 Nevada United Four Wheelers Convention 2000:** Show and shine, booths, excursions. Reno, 775-674-2499.

• **24-25 Snowshoe Thompson Festival:** Arts and crafts, demonstrations, entertainment, antiques, children's games, living-history programs, food. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-265-6097

• **25 Tallac Site Celebration:** Grand opening of the Tallac Historic Site and the Valhalla Arts and Music Festival offers a sampling of fine art, photography, music, hors d'oeuvres, and desserts. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **25 Pizen Switch Roundup:** Old-timers and newcomers picnic and potluck. Walker River Resort, Smith Valley, 800-446-2573 or 775-588-5372.

• **25 Lamoille Country Fair:** Arts and crafts, exhibits, food court, entertainment, and demonstrations. Lamoille Women's Club House and Grove, Lamoille, 775-738-4488.

• **25-27 Jungle Madness Slot Tournament:** Tropicana, Las Vegas, 800-521-8767

• **30 Trains, Tramps, and Traditions:** Folk music concert. Eureka Opera House, Eureka, 775-237-6006.

• **30-July 2 Super Slot Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.

• **30-July 2 37th National Basque Festival:** Entertainment, games of skill and strength, dancing, food and drink. Fairgrounds and City Park, Elko, 775-738-7135.

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

• **30-July 4 Silver State International Rodeo:** Parade, booths, high-school rodeo competitors Fairgrounds, Fallon, 775-423-4674.

• **30-July 4 RSVP Cavalcade of Spectaculars:** Fireworks, dance, carnival, midway games, arts and crafts, food booths, and entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

July 2000

• **1 Youth Camerata Orchestra:** Classical music. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **1 Sandstone Canyon Hike:** Three-hour moderate to strenuous hike. Long pants and hiking shoes advised. Bring water and snacks. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **1 Super Summer 2000: "Fiddler on the Roof":** Outdoor picnic performance of the Broadway play. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-594-PLAY.

• **1 and 6-8 "Cabaret":** Broadway musical. Bruka Theatre, Reno, 775-323-3221

• **1-2 37th National Basque Festival:** Traditional dances, games, food, drink, and contests of strength and skill. Fairgrounds and City Park, Elko, 775-738-7135.

• **1-2 Butterfly Programs:** Slide program July 1 and walk on July 2. Cathedral Gorge State Park,

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17th Annual
JUNE 9, 10, 11
MILLS PARK
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Mountain Man Encampment
Buckskins, songs and tall tales
Traders' Row - old-time crafts
Hawk & Knife Throwing Contest.
Native American Village
Traditional dancers in colorful regalia
Tepees and traditional daily life.
Native American arts and crafts.
Gunfighters
Champion gunfighter teams compete,
Stunt, skills and a trick ropin' cowboy.
Civil War Volunteers
It's the North vs. the South again!
Wander through their camp & watch skirmishes in the field.
Farriers Contest
It's hot, it's real. Watch the very best compete for time and accuracy in making horseshoes.
Food Court
Plenty of great food for everyone.
Line up early for the Indian Tacos.
Cowboy Church Service
Sunday morning under the Cottonwood trees.
Petting Zoo
Feed, pet, hug and talk to the animals.
Crafters
There's something for everyone at the Craft Court.
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Sourdough Slim, Comstock Cowboys, Cloggers and Line Dancers.
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Photo: Mark Vollmer

Millennium Countdown Calendar

Panaca, 775-728-4460.

• **1-2 Reno Millennium Truck Show:** Entertainment, show and shines, competition, contests. Fourth and Virginia streets, Reno, 775-826-6157

• **1-2 and 4 Jarbidge's Fourth of July Celebration:** Dance to Milestone July 1-2, deep-pit barbecue, parade, and bingo July 2, barbecue July 4. Outdoor Inn, Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **1-4 Tonopah Fourth of July:** Central Nevada Museum Swap Meet, boxing matches, and fireworks. Tonopah, 877-TONOPAH.

• **1-4 RSVP Cavalcade of Spectaculars:** Fireworks, dance, carnival, midway games, arts and crafts, food booths, and entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

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

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

• **1-Sept. 3 Nevada Shakespeare Festival:** The comedy "Tex, Mug, and Something Droll" plays four times daily except Monday. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-324-4198.

• **3-4 Freedom Fest 2000:** Parade, barbecue, arts and crafts, live music, and fireworks. Scobie Park, Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **4 Red, White, and Boom!:** Live entertainment, food booths, family games, fireworks display. Desert Breeze Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8200.

• **4 Family Fourth of July Celebration:** Games, food, petting zoo, dunk tank, fireworks at City Park. Day coincides with the Great Winnedducks Duck Race on the Humboldt River. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **4 Fireworks and BBQ Train:** Reservations required for a barbecue picnic and train ride on the Hiline Route for a view of the fireworks. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, East Ely, 775-289-2085.

• **4 Fourth of July Party:** Parade, street events, arena roping. Austin, 775-964-2269.

• **4 Fireworks:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-632-8422.

• **4 Independence Day Celebration:** Anything that floats can compete in the Liar's Boat Race, plus games, food, and water sports. Cliff House Beach, Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.

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

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

• **4 Damboree:** Old-fashioned celebration with parade, games, patriotic program, food, and fireworks. Central Park, Boulder City, 702-293-9256.

• **4 Parade and Fireworks:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **4 Henderson's July Fourth Celebration:** Family event highlighted by an evening of fireworks. Henderson, 702-565-2367

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

• **4 Rockets Over the River:** 22-minute fireworks display over the Colorado River. Laughlin, 702-298-2214.

• **4 Fireman's Celebration:** Fireworks, parades, ball games, kids games. Caliente, 775-726-3317

• **4 Skyfire:** Entertainment and fireworks. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 775-332-3333.

• **4 Fourth of July Celebration:** Activities at the Recreation Center, fireworks at the water tower. Mesquite, 702-346-8732.

• **5-9 ArTour 2000:** Sierra artists open their studios to the public. Catalogs and maps at North Tahoe Art Center, Tahoe City, 530-581-2787

• **6, 13, 20, and 27 Tea With Mrs. Tevis:** Afternoon tea in a 1900s garden. Reservations necessary. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-5227

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

• **7, 21, and 28 Bunkhouse Fridays:** Western music concert series. Western Folklife Center, Elko, 775-738-7508.

• **7-8 Millennium Music at Sand Harbor:** Well-known jazz and acoustic-guitar performers offer their musical salute to the millennium with Lake Tahoe as the background. Sand Harbor State Park, Incline Village, 775-832-7625.

• **7-8 and 14-15 Mex-Rock:** Songs and dances of

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the rock and roll era in Mexico. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **7-9 Traditional Fandango:** Games, gambling, dancing, free admission. Ely Shoshone Reservation, Ely, 775-289-3013.

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

• **7-9 Keno Shootout Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.

• **8 Birds of Prey:** Slide show on native and migratory birds and how animals and birds are rescued, rehabilitated, and released. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

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

• **8 Gymkhana:** Caliente, 775-726-3203.

• **8 Bingo Blowout:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **8 Rainbow Springs Hike:** Strenuous hike to the top of the escarpment takes eight hours. Bring lunch, snacks, water, hiking shoes, and dress in layers. Spring Mountain Ranch State Park, 18 miles west of Las Vegas, 702-875-4141

• **8 and 22 Hidden Cave Tours:** Guided tour to an archaeological site. Churchill County Museum, Fallon, 775-423-3677

• **8-9 Winnemucca Junior Rodeo:** Humboldt County Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071 for further information.

• **8-15 Nevada 2000:** A 2,000-mile off-road race loops around the state to celebrate the millennium. The start and finish will be in Las Vegas. Best in the Desert Racing Assn. 702-457-5775 for further information on the Nevada 2000 race event.



Royal dunkings are part of festivities at the Valhalla Renaissance Festival, June 10-11, at South Lake Tahoe.

• **9 Chili Cook-Off:** City Park, Wells, 775-752-3540.

• **9-10 Nevada 2000 Off-Road Race:** Competitors stop at the Convention Center. Ely, 775-289-8877 for further information.

• **9-11 Crazy Reels Slot Tournament:** Comstock Hotel, Reno, call 800-273-7494 for further information.

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

• **13 Lyle Cogen Concert:** Young Peoples' Summer Concert series. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

• **14, 21, and 28 Children's Summer Concert Series:** Variety of performing arts for children age five and older. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las



Photo: Howard Gold

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2000 EVENTS CALENDAR

- Fallon Air Show, TBA
- Spring Wings Bird Festival, May 12-14
- Silver State Int'l Rodeo, June 30 - July 4
- Stampede & Pioneer Days Paw Wow, July 14-16
- Hearts O' Gold Cantaloupe Festival, Sept. 1-4
- Wings Over the Valley Hunting Festival Sept. 29-Oct. 1



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Vegas, 702-229-6211 for more information.

- **14-15 Summer in the City:** Free entertainment. Fremont Street Experience, Las Vegas, 702-678-5777
- **14-15 44-Hour Softball Tournament:** More than 90 teams compete around the clock. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071
- **14-16 Big Easy:** Louisiana-style festival with food, music, dance, parades, and shopping. Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-353-2291
- **14-16 Storey County Fair and Carnival:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311
- **14-16 Fallon All-Indian Rodeo and Powwow:** Rodeo, Native American dancers, handgames, arts and crafts, dance, parade, and food booths. Annual rodeo and gathering takes place at Regional Park, Fallon, 775-423-2544.
- **15 Roundup 2000:** Sheriff's Posse barbecue, marketplace, exhibits, demonstrations, dinner, dance. Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-9937
- **15 Uncle Sugar and the Sweet Daddies:** Big band dance. Charleston Heights Arts Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6383.
- **15 Topaz Golf Tournament:** Limited to 120 entrants. Carson Valley Golf Course, Gardnerville, 775-782-7917
- **15 Funny Car Fever:** Drag races with alcohol funny cars. Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.
- **15-16 Minden Music Festival and Fine Arts Show:** Esmeralda Ave., Minden, 775-782-2444.
- **15-16 Squaw Valley World Cup Downhill:** World Cup mountain bike race featuring pro racers from 40 nations. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-582-8900.
- **15-19 The Big Time:** Largest boy's high school summer basketball tournament with 312 teams from 40 states playing 776 games. Southern Nevada high schools, Las Vegas, 702-799-5456.
- **16 Nevada Raptors:** Lecture by Nancee Goldwater on birds found in Northern Nevada. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.
- **16 Concert on the Green:** Picnic performance. Genoa Park, Genoa, 775-782-8696.
- **16-18 Fifth Birthday Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.
- **16-18 Salute to the States Slot Tournament:** Colorado Belle, Laughlin, 800-572-3553.
- **16-19 Road to Riches Slot Tournament:** MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-891-4220.
- **16-19 $190,000 Slot Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.
- **17-18 Super Star Bingo Tournament:** Showboat, Las Vegas, 800-876-2628.
- **21-23 Virginia City Rodeo 2000:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311 for further information.
- **21-23 Reno Basque Festival:** Traditional food, dance, games, Mass, barbecue. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-787-3039.
- **21-23 Blackjack Tournament:** Comstock, Reno, 800-273-7494.
- **21-23 USTRC Grassroots Team Roping:** Cowboys compete for pride and cash. Fairgrounds, Winnemucca, 775-623-5071
- **22 Keno Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427
- **22 Chautauqua: Dr. Eliza Cook:** First female doctor in the Carson Valley. Mormon Station State Historic Park, Genoa, 775-782-2590.
- **22 Mountain Run I:** The 3.6-mile uphill course follows the 1960 Olympic downhill ski route to the High Camp facility. Event includes an alternate fitness walk. Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-550-0885.
- **22-23 Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews, and Blues Festival:** Food, microbrews, music. Eldorado, Reno, 800-648-5966.
- **22-23 Fireman's Muster 2000:** Virginia City, 775-847-7500.
- **23 Street Drags:** Taylor St., Fallon, 775-423-0223.



WCs on wheels battle in Virginia City's Outhouse Races, August 19.

- **23 Celtic Festival at Valhalla:** Traditional music, dance, crafts, food, and ale from Ireland and Scotland. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.
- **25-Aug. 27 Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival:** The Bard's plays are presented on the beach with Lake Tahoe as a backdrop. Sand Harbor, Incline Village, 800-74-SHOWS.
- **26 Ice Cream Social:** Old-fashioned gathering. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191
- **26-29 Superior Livestock Auction:** Event includes golf tournament, entertainment, food. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071
- **26-29 Land Speed Opener:** World-class racing to set land speed records on the Bonneville Salt Flats. Wendover, 801-785-5364.
- **27 Rice and Renee in Concert:** Young Peoples' Summer Concert Series. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.
- **27-29 Horse Race Handicapping Tournament:** Harrah's Reno, 775-786-3232.
- **28-29 Good Times Street Drags:** Winnemucca, 775-623-5071
- **28-30 Hobo Rendezvous:** Mulligan's stew, poetry, games. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-738-4091
- **28-30 Nevada All-Around Working Cow**

Photo: Julia Lee

Horse Championship: Competition for cash and prizes. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **28-30 Fifties Fever:** Concerts, parade, street dances, poker runs, show and shine. Winnemucca, 775-623-5071

• **28-30 Wells Fun Run Car Show:** Burn outs, show and shine, poker run, street dance, fireworks. Wells, 775-752-3540.

• **28-30 Winner Take All Blackjack Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

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

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

• **28-30 Silver Dollar Car Classic:** Street dance, custom cars, poker run, barbecue, entertainment. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

• **29 Coeur d'Alene Art Auction:** Western, sporting, and wildlife art auction. Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-287-7909.

• **29 Sierra Folklife Festival:** Celebrate Nevada's cultural heritage with entertainment, crafts, food. Wingfield Park, Reno, 775-329-2787

• **29 Ruins Tour:** Ranger-led tour of Fort Churchill. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

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

• **29 Valhalla Brews and Blues Festival:** Unlimited tasting of 150 brews from 80 microbreweries and distributors. Admission includes a souvenir beer glass and a concert. Must be 21 or older to attend. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

• **29-30 VORRA Off Road Desert Race:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

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

• **29-30 Renaissance Fair:** Arts and crafts, antiques, actors, jugglers, jousters, and rapier fighters. Antiques Plus, Genoa, 775-782-4951 or 775-782-2893.

• **30-31 Children's Festival:** Mask making, T-shirt printing, and papermaking. Location TBA, North Lake Tahoe, 530-546-4602.

• **31-Aug. 5 Hot August Nights:** Hot rods, music of the '50s and '60s, dances, and concerts. Reno and Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-356-1956.

August 2000

• **1-5 Hot August Nights:** Hot rods, music of the '50s and '60s, dances, and concerts. Reno and Victorian Square, Sparks, 775-356-1956.

• **1-27 Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival:** The Bard on the beach at Lake Tahoe. Sand Harbor, Incline Village, 800-74-SHOWS.

• **1-Sept. 3 Nevada Shakespeare Festival:** The comedy "Tex, Mugs, and Something Droll" plays four times daily except Monday. "Hamlet" and "Midsummer Night's Dream" will be performed in repertory Aug. 8-20 (dark Aug. 14). Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-324-4198.

• **4 Children's Summer Concert Series:** Performing arts program for children age five and older. Reed Whipple Cultural Center, Las Vegas, 702-229-6211

• **4-5 SCORE Las Vegas Primm 300 Desert Race:** 200 vehicles compete. Free admission to grandstand seating behind Buffalo Bill's Resort in Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas on I-15. 702-735-7123.

• **4-6 $1,250,000 Maximus Slot Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.

• **5 Basque People of Nevada:** Slide show on the Basques and why they immigrated to Nevada. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

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

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

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

• **6-7 Makin' Money Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.

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

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

• **10 Linda Arnold in Concert:** Young Peoples' Summer Concert Series. Winchester Center, Las Vegas, 702-455-7340.

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

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• **11-12 Concours d' Elegance:** On-the-water boat show featuring more than 125 antique and wooden boats dating back to the 1800s. Show includes tented exhibits, presentations, clinics, food and beverages, and live music. Proceeds benefit Lake Tahoe charities. Sierra Boat Company, Lake Tahoe, 530-581-4700.

• **11-13 Fantasy Car and Truck Show:** Antique automobiles on display, games, parade. Ely, 775-289-8877

• **11-13 Jarbidge Days:** Live music in the bar on Friday and outdoor music on Saturday afternoon. Arts and crafts and food and drink booths. Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **11-13 Great Gatsby Festival:** Living-history event celebrating the 1920s includes tours, food, vintage clothing and cars, music, children's activities. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-5227

• **12 Santa Maria Day:** Italian harvest festival with music, parade, games, horseshoes, food, crafts. Volunteer Fire Department, Dayton, 775-246-7909.

• **12 Nevada's Best Cow Dog Trials:** Trained cow dogs move cows on specific field course. Lincoln County Fair, Delmue Ranch, Panaca, 775-728-4682.

• **12 Mule Deer in Nevada:** Slide show on mule deer population trends and habitat. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

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

• **12-13 NHRA Junior Dragster Race:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

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

• **12-13 Antique Engine and Tractor Show:** Tractor pulls, exhibits, food, parades. Heybourne Road and Stephanie Way, Minden, 775-267-4816.

• **12-18 Bonneville National Speed Week:** Largest and most popular event on the Bonneville Salt Flats featuring straight-track racing against the clock, with times expected in the 500-600 mph range. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 805-526-1805.

• **13-15 Dollar Slot Marathon:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

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

• **13-16 Summer Classic Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111

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

• **18 Nevada's Best Cow Dog Trials:** Trained cow dogs move cows on arena course. White Pine County Fair, Ely, 775-728-4682.

• **18-20 Asian Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111

• **18-20 Annual Valley Cruisers Main Street Event:** Car show open to all vehicles 1969 and older. Steak dinner, dancing in the street, and pancake breakfast also featured. Minden and Gardnerville, 775-265-2256.

• **19 Tonopah Town Picnic:** Annual gathering of citizens and visitors, with much storytelling. Tonopah, 877-TONOPAH.

• **19 Drag Racing:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

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

• **19 Railroads of Nevada:** Slide show on railroads significant to the development of Nevada during the Comstock and Tonopah-Goldfield booms. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **19 Outhouse Races:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **19-20 Claim Jumpers Mountain Bike Festival:** 27-mile cross-country race, barbecue, entertainment, downhill race; novice to expert racers. Austin, 775-964-2200.

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

• **20 Reggae Sunday on the Valhalla Lawn:** Music, food, and beverages on the large grassy lawn of Valhalla. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-541-4975.

• **20-23 '50s Theme Slot Tournament:** John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 800-843-2427

• **20-23 When Slots Attack Slot Tournament:** MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-891-4220.

• **21 Niel McCoy in Concert:** Singer performs a benefit for area youth prevention programs. Broadbent Park, Ely, 775-289-3440.

• **21-27 The Greens.com Open at Reno-Tahoe:** Golf tournament featuring top PGA players. Montreux Golf and Country Club, Reno, 775-322-1213.

• **23-27 Nevada State Fair:** Livestock exhibits and auction, creative living competition, food booths, carnival, and entertainment. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5767

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

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

• **26 Nevada's Best Cow Dog Trials:** Trained cow dogs move cows on arena course. Elko County Fair, Elko, 775-728-4682.

• **26 Sertoma Truck Pull:** Food, drinks, and T-shirts. Fairgrounds, Gardnerville, 775-782-1939.

• **26 Ruins Tour:** Ranger-led tour of Fort Churchill. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

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

• **26 Star Gaze:** Astronomers from the University of Nevada, Reno will guide viewers through the major constellations and explain astrological myths. Free admission. Dayton State Park, Dayton, 775-687-5678.

• **26-Sept. 4 Elko County Fair:** Quarter horse and thoroughbred racing, working cow horse competition, team-branding contests, 4-H livestock shows and sale, arts and crafts, food booths, dancing, and a carnival. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

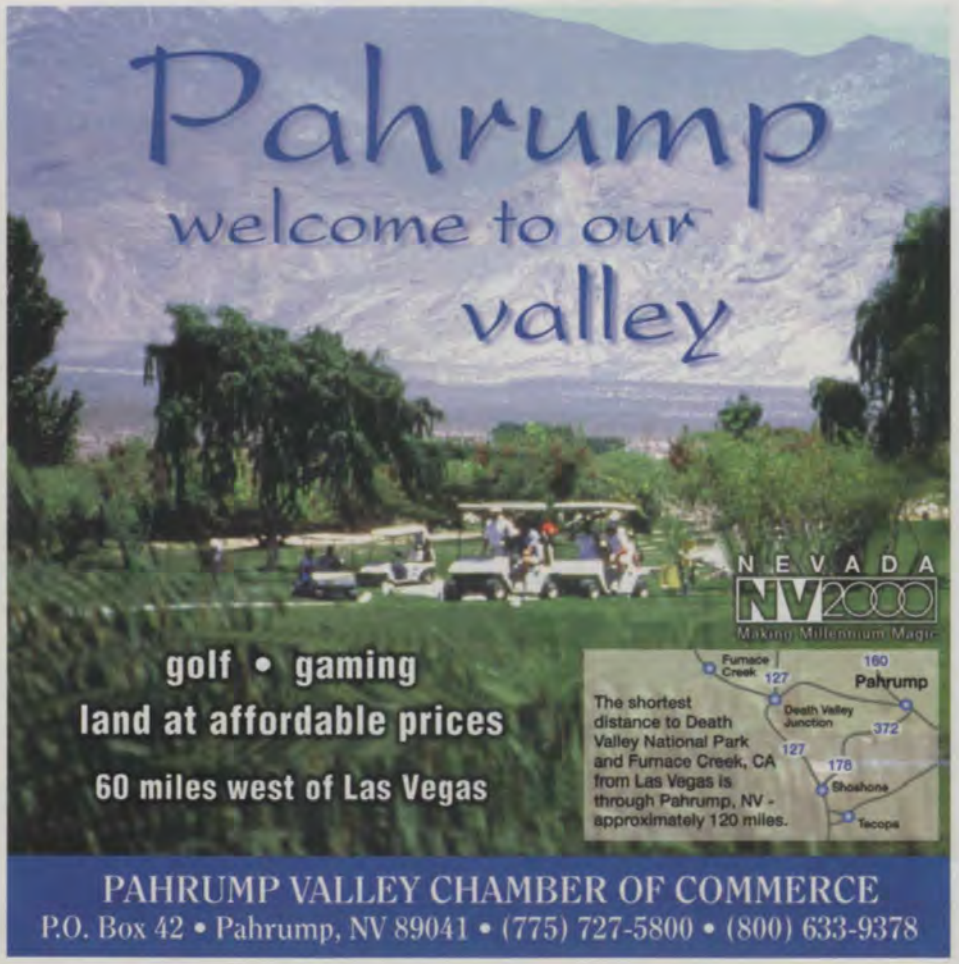
• **27-29 Valhalla Fine Quilt Exhibit:** Historic and modern quilts, demonstrations, workshops. Valhalla Estate, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

September 2000

• **1-3 Nevada Shakespeare Festival:** The comedy "Tex, Mugs, and Something Droll" plays four times daily except Monday. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-324-4198.

• **1-4 Hearts of Gold Cantaloupe Festival:** Fallon, 775-423-2544.

• **1-4 Elko County Fair:** Quarter horse and thor-





Dancers liven the Fallon All-Indian Rodeo and Powwow, July 14-16.

oughbred racing, working cow horse competitions, team-branding contest, 4H livestock show and sale, home art exhibits, food booths, carnival, and dances. Fairgrounds, Elko, 775-738-3616.

• **1-4 Pioche Labor Day Celebration:** Mining events, parades, contests, booths, dancing, and arts and crafts. Pioche, 775-962-5544.

• **1-4 Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off:** A world-class event featuring the West's best rib cookers competing for fame and the crowd's acclaim. Also featured are nightly entertainment and an arts and crafts fair. Victorian Square and John Ascuaga's Nugget, Sparks, 775-356-3300.

• **2-3 Annual Corn Feed:** Potluck dinner, live music, and bingo. Proceeds go to community needs. Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **2-3 Ultra Lite Fly-In:** Air show, hot-air balloon rides, Ultra Lite flights for the public. Yelland Air Field, Ely, 775-289-4687

• **8-9 BULLNANZA:** Top 55 pro bull riders compete. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 800-595-RIDE.

• **8-9 Boulder City Chautauqua:** History comes alive as scholars portray historical characters. Event includes arts and crafts, food booths, and musical entertainment. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-4365.

• **8-10 Virginia City International Camel Races:** Camel, ostrich, and water buffalo races, specialty acts, daily parades, and food. Camel Arena, Virginia City, 775-847-0311 or 775-329-7469.

• **8-10 Great Reno Balloon Race:** A top ballooning event that draws 120,000 people. The early morning rally has been voted as one of Northern Nevada's best events. Rancho San Rafael Park, Reno, 775-826-1181

• **8-10 High Desert Jazz Festival:** Workshops, food, drinks. Brewery Arts Center, Carson City, 775-883-1976 for more information.

• **9 Antique and Collectible Sale:** Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-265-6097

• **9 Canoe Trip:** Park rangers lead a canoe trip on the Carson River from Fort Churchill to Lahontan Reservoir. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **9 Gymkhana:** Caliente, 775-726-3203.

• **9-10 Fine Arts and Crafts Street Celebration:** Annual arts and crafts fair features live entertainment and food booths. Downtown Minden, 775-324-6435 or 775-782-8144.

• **9-10 Nevada State Museum/Carson City Mint Coin Show:** More than 35 dealers from across the U.S. showcase coins, collectibles, historical papers, books, stamps, jewelry, and medals. There will be free appraisals and free admission. Nevada State Museum, Carson City, 775-687-4810 ext. 221

• **9-11 Reunion Celebration:** Past and present residents gather in Tonopah. Tonopah, 877-TONOPAH.

• **10 Las Patrias Festival:** Entertainment on three stages, fireworks, food, crafts. Lorenzi Park, Las Vegas, 800-634-6133.

• **10 Sundae in the Park:** Art and food festival with locally produced quilts, crafts, foods, and art. Entertainment and free ice cream. Yerington, 775-463-1783.

• **11-13 Twice as Nice Twin Stakes Slot Tournament:** Fremont, Las Vegas, 702-385-3232.

• **14-17 National Championship Air Races:** Four classes of racers—Unlimited, Formula One, AT-6, and Biplane—plus military displays and aerobatics. Reno, 775-972-6663.

• **15-17 Silver State Classic Challenge:** Ninety-mile open road car race against the clock on S.R. 318 from Lund to Hiko. Pre-race activities in Ely, 775-289-8877

• **15-17 Pahrump Harvest Festival and Rodeo:** Entertainment, PRCA rodeo, vendors, dancing under the stars, deep-pit barbecue, and fair exhibits. Also includes the Tod Canada Memorial Race, with 10K, 5K, and one-mile walk. Fairgrounds, Pahrump, 775-727-8195 or 775-727-1555. Tod Canada Race, 775-751-8382.

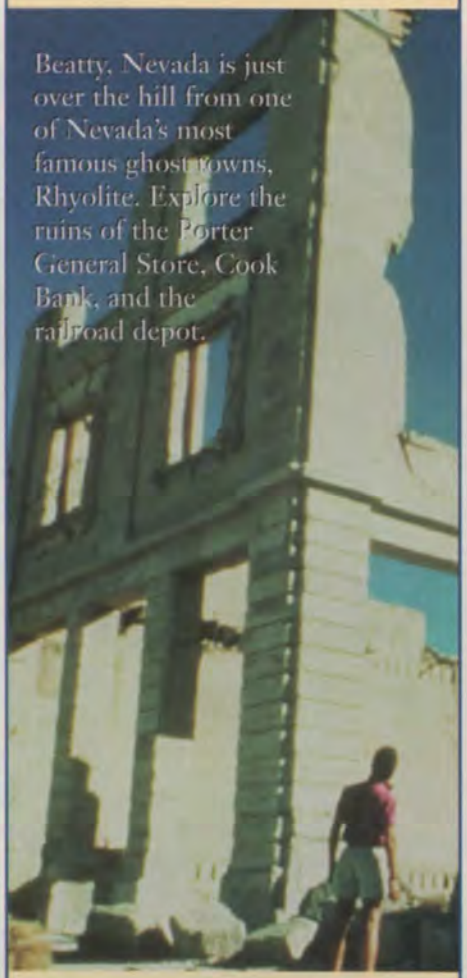
• **16 Horseback Endurance Ride:** Annual 100-mile ride in 25-mile loops around the hills of the Comstock mining town and scenic areas such as Washoe Lake. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **16 Tahoe Rim Trail Annual Hike-A-Thon:** Tahoe Rim Trail, 775-588-0686.

• **16 Buckland Station History Talk:** Rangers lead a discussion about the newly restored station. Fort

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NEVADA'S GATEWAY TO DEATH VALLEY



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

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION
775-553-2424
Beatty Chamber of Commerce
119 E. Main, Beatty, NV 89003

NEVADA NV2000
Making Millennium Magic

Photo: Gayland Anderson

Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **16-17 Dayton Valley Days:** Craft fair, quilt show, parade, food, senior pro rodeo, cowboy poetry, and art show. Old Town, Dayton, 775-246-7909.

• **17-18 Stash the Cash Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.

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

• **20-24 Las Vegas Street Fair/San Gennaro Feast:** Featuring an Italian food festival, carnival, live bands, and more than 80 vendors. Corner of Flamingo Road and Valley View, Las Vegas, 702-286-4944.

• **20-Oct. 1 Snaffle Bit Futurity:** Horses and riders compete for more than $700,000 in prize money. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5750.

• **21-23 World of Speed:** Land speed time trials and record runs. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 801-785-5364.

• **21-24 Street Vibrations Music, Metal and Motorcycles Festival:** Motorcycle tours, entertainment, ride-in shows, a parade, poker run/walk, vendors, and concerts. Various community locations, Reno, 775-329-SHOW or 800-200-4557

• **22-24 Annual Nevada Shakespeare in the Park:** Outdoor presentation of plays by the Bard. Henderson, 702-565-2367

• **22-24 Wings Over the Valley Hunting Festival:** Fallon, 800-874-0903.

• **23 Dash for Cash:** Gymkhana. Caliente, 775-726-3203.

• **23 Starving Artists Sale:** Nothing over $100. Sierra Arts Center, Reno, 775-329-1324.



• **23 Horseback Tours:** Rangers lead a tour of the new Carson River ranches. Fort Churchill Historic State Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **23 $15,000 Turkey Nationals Big Bucks Race:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

• **23-24 Ferrari Club of America Hillclimb, Parade, and Car Show:** Time trials. Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **23-24 Genoa Candy Dance:** 80th annual arts and crafts fair featuring more than 300 fine arts and crafts booths. Dinner and dance held on Saturday night. Genoa, 775-782-TOWN.

• **23-24 High Desert Classic Softball Tournament:** Coed softball tournament. Event held at Lampe Park, Gardnerville, 775-782-9828.

• **23-Oct. 31 "Macbeth":** Nevada Shakespeare Festival production in black leather. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0600.

• **24 Mountain Run II:** This event includes a 10K run and a four-mile fitness walk on a high mountain loop course following dirt roads and trails from Roller Pass and the Pacific Crest Trail. Lake Tahoe, 530-550-0885.

• **24 Stew-Doo:** Stew-cooking contest, food, arts and crafts, and a classic car show. Penny Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-3424.

• **24-30 America's Loneliest Bike Tour:** Annual camping-style ride across Nevada on U.S. 50 from Lake Tahoe to Great Basin National Park. Call 775-588-9658.

• **29-30 Great Basin Book Festival:** Readings, conversations, and book signings with authors. Downtown Reno, 775-784-6587

• **29-Oct. 1 Annual Tahoe Donner International Wheelchair Tennis Sectional Championship:** More than 80 players are expected in the 14th annual event. Tahoe Donner Tennis Club, Truckee, 530-587-2108.

• **29-Oct. 1 Wings Over the Valley Hunting Festival:** Fallon, 800-874-0903.

• **30 Ruins Tour:** Ranger-led tour of Fort Churchill. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-577-2345.

• **30-Oct. 1 Yerington Airport Fly-In:** Poker run, war bird display, static displays. Municipal Airport, Yerington, 775-463-3511

October 2000

• **1 Smith Valley Fun Days:** Show-and-shine, food, arts, crafts, Smith Valley, 775-465-2354.

• **1 Snaffle Bit Futurity:** Horses and riders compete for more than $700,000 in prize money. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-688-5750.

• **1-31 16th Annual Comstock Art Show:** Virginia City, 775-847-0311

• **1-31 "Macbeth":** Nevada Shakespeare Festival production in black leather. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0600.

• **3-8 Las Vegas International Bike Festival and Expo:** Racing, motocross, stunt shows, rock concerts, a world land speed record. Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.

• **7 Art and Earth Festival:** Art, food, crafts. Hawthorne, Walker Lake, and Schurz, 775-945-5896.

• **7 Scarecrow Festival:** Make your own life-size scarecrow or purchase a ready-made. Food, pumpkins, face- and pumpkin-painting. Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center, Gardnerville, 775-782-7629.

• **7-8 Kokanee Salmon Festival:** Migration of land-locked kokanee salmon. Event includes children's activities, shows, salmon dinners, entertainment, ex-

NEVADA
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Summer Tourism Industry News 2000

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Cal-Neva Resort: Alpine Getaway

Editorial

"Travel Update" News

We'd like to advise you about several changes that will take effect with the next edition of **"Nevada Travel Update."** Thanks to the continued support of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, and the Nevada Commission on Tourism, the frequency of "Travel Update" will increase from four times per year to six. Starting with the July/August edition, you will receive "Travel Update" with every bimonthly issue of *Nevada Magazine*.

Editorially, the content will remain the same. "Travel Update" will continue to offer site inspections, news briefs, soft and hard adventure opportunities, destination profiles, and sales tips. Design changes to keep "Travel Update" easy to read are planned. We made one concession in order to increase the frequency: The number of pages will be decreased, but we reasoned that getting more timely information, more often, would be acceptable to you.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank the 20 Nevada professionals who gather each year at the Governor's Conference on Travel and Tourism to critique "Travel Update" and offer suggestions on how we can serve you better. These representatives from convention bureaus, travel agencies, and tourism organizations give freely of their time and enthusiasm. You are appreciated.

And, to the reader, we always are grateful for your comments about "Travel Update." My fax is 702-486-2789, or e-mail ann@nevadamagazine.com. I look forward to hearing from you.—*Ann Henderson*

Situated on the north shore of Lake Tahoe, the Cal-Neva Resort Spa and Casino is a blend of mountain elegance and casual refined comfort. *Conde Nast Traveler* selected it as the "Best Small Hotel Getaway" in Nevada.



The Cal-Neva Resort offers visitors alpine vistas at North Lake Tahoe.

With the backdrop of the lake painting an indelible memory, more than 10,000 couples have been married at the Crystal Bay resort, which offers honeymooners customized vacation packages. Guests will also find a European health spa, the outdoor recreation the area is known for, and a resort that is suited for corporate meetings and conferences.

Step inside the Cal-Neva and you can sense its charm and intriguing history. Once owned by Frank Sinatra, the resort was a gathering place for Rat Pack members, the Kennedy clan, Marilyn Monroe, and other celebrities. Visitors can learn about the area's history by touring the Indian Room, which features displays on Washoe Indian culture. New additions to the Cal-Neva include a large bronze statue of Chief Joseph and two huge oil paintings of Emerald Bay and its Fannette Island. The realistic detail and sheer size of the paintings are impressive. Side by side, the two run 30 feet across the casino wall.

The Cal-Neva Resort Spa and Casino, located on the Nevada-California border, has 200 guest rooms, cabins, and chalets. Balcony suites and executive and premier rooms overlook the north end of Lake Tahoe. Terrace suites and fireplace chalets have lake views and offer more privacy.

Wedding Arrangements: From the simplest wedding to a glamorous affair, couples can choose from a variety of locations for their ceremony, including the outdoor Gazebo, Lakeview Chapel, the historic Indian Room, and the State Room. Cal-Neva wedding advisors can take care of all the details. Wedding packages include choice of reception rooms, food, beverages, flowers, music, wedding cake, and limousine service. Guests who aren't able to travel to Lake Tahoe for the wedding can watch the ceremony live online at www.calnevaresort.com.

Honeymoon arrangements can include outside activities for every season such as skiing, sleigh rides, ice skating, sailing, golf, horseback riding, hot-air ballooning, and romantic dinners at area restaurants.

Health Spa: The Cal-Neva's health spa offers skin and body treatments, herbal wraps, hydrotherapy tub, and a massage on the deck

(Continued on page 8)

Scream Test on the Ultimate Rush

By Shannon Montana

Your adventure-loving clients can combine the rush of skydiving and the thrill of hang-gliding into one memorable ride at the Reno Hilton's Ultimate Rush thrill ride. The attraction offers a free fall of 40 to 60 feet and speeds of over 65 mph, ensuring that the Ultimate Rush lives up to its name.

The ride gives the sensation of being at the end of a long pendulum as it swings back and forth, which may sound tame until you realize that the starting point of your arc is 180 feet (18 stories) in the air.

My ride begins when I'm hooked to a steel cable and lifted to the top of the tower. During the ascent, humorous warnings, painted on the flight deck below, become visible:

"Kiss your butt good-bye!"

"Do you feel lucky today?"

"I want my mommy."

The ground crew becomes smaller. My adrenaline accelerates. The anticipation of a thrill ride is usually more terrifying than the ride itself. True to form, I'm scared out of my wits by the time I reach the top.

I reach back to find the rip cord that will release me into a free fall of four to six seconds. My palms are sweating. "Three, two, one" echoes over the loudspeaker as I pull the cord. Then gravity takes over, and I'm screaming at the top of my lungs while racing toward the earth head-first.



Carl Hillstrom swings at 65 mph in midair on the Ultimate Rush at the Reno Hilton.

I'm flying near the bottom of the arc at more than 65 mph when I feel myself being gently lifted. The thoughts "I made it" and "I must be totally insane" vie for lead position in my mind. The flight deck's grinning crew members, now just six feet beneath me, are a blur as I swing past. Spectators cheer. Delirium replaces fear as I shout, "Geronimo!" and "Yee-haw!" at the onlookers below. I feel weightless at the top of the arc. By this time I'm already planning my next "flight."

My momentum slows, and the staff brings me back to the flight deck. As I get out of my suit, staff members Kevin Taylor and Brian Hamblin tell me they've seen couples get married on the ride. One time the preacher didn't want to go up, so she married the couple over the loudspeaker from the fight deck. As soon as the bride and groom said, "I do," they pulled the cord. Now that's what I call taking the plunge.

Fast Facts: The Ultimate Rush at the Reno Hilton is open to thrill seekers of all ages, but riders must be at least 42 inches tall. Staff claims to have hosted riders from ages three to 83. Each ride costs $25; visit www.funquest.com for a $10-off coupon. Credit cards (AE, MC, Visa) are accepted.

Spectators can watch the ride free of charge from the bleachers at the base of the tower or from the north side of the Reno Hilton. The ride is open 365 days per year, weather permitting. Summer hours are 10:30 a.m. to midnight. Winter hours are noon to 10 p.m. For more information on the Ultimate Rush call 775-786-7005 or check the Web site www.theultimaterush.com. Gift certificates are available.

In Las Vegas: The MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas features the SkyScreamer, a 250-foot-tall ride that is similar to the Ultimate Rush. The SkyScreamer is open weekends from May 6 to June 4 and daily from June 10 to August 20, before reverting to the weekend schedule again August 26 to September 4. Hours are 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Rides on the SkyScreamer cost $25 for triple flyers, $30 for double flyers, and $35 for single flyers. For information on the SkyScreamer at the MGM in Las Vegas call 702-891-7979. The MGM Grand's Web site is www.mgmgrand.com. —*Shannon Montana,* Nevada Magazine *editorial assistant*

NEVADA Travel Update

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Photo: Shannon Montana

Sparks Offers Plenty for Visitors

Sparks has come out from behind Reno's shadow. For the first three-quarters of the 20th century, Sparks, less than half the size of Reno, was often overwhelmed by the larger city's bigger-than-life, maverick image as a gambling and divorce mecca.

But times have changed. With its downtown Victorian Square development, 14-screen movie theater, marina with man-made lake, and water-theme park, Sparks takes a back seat to no one when it comes to providing attractions and activities for your clients.

Sparks was established in 1905 by the Southern Pacific Railroad, which moved its maintenance shops there from the town of Wadsworth, 31 miles east. While the railroad is no longer the main employer in Sparks, its influence can be seen in Victorian Square and the Victorian design theme that has been incorporated into most of the downtown businesses and public areas. Many of the buildings, including the new movie theater, have a quaint, Victorian appearance that reminds one of a turn-of-the-century train station. The old-fashioned streetlights, brick sidewalks, and outdoor gazebo and theater also reflect the theme.

In the summer, the Sparks Interactive Fountain, featuring '50s music, synchronized lights, and water jets, delights visitors—and refreshes local youngsters, who can play in the spray—with hourly water shows.

Special Events: Summer is special events time in downtown Sparks. The Sparks Hometowne Farmer's Market will be held every Thursday from June 15 to August 24 (except on August 3). Hours are 4 to 9 p.m. The market, which attracts several thousand people each week, has vendors offering fresh-picked produce, specialty foods, baked goods, cooking demonstrations, and live entertainment.

Additionally, in early August, Sparks hosts Hot August Nights, a celebration of the music, cars, and fashions of the 1950s and '60s. In early September, the smell of barbecue fills Victorian Square during the Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off. More than a dozen of the West's best barbecue chefs compete for prizes and honors at the annual event. The Sparks Hometowne Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting is held in early December. For updated special event listings, refer to the Nevada Events and Shows section of *Nevada Magazine*.



Victorian Square in downtown Sparks is the city's center for special events. The square hosts a farmer's market during the summer (above), live entertainment, and a fountain with hourly water shows.

Accommodations: The larger hotel and motel properties in Sparks include: John Ascuaga's Nugget, with 1,600 rooms, eight restaurants, and an indoor swimming pool, 800-648-1177; Western Village Inn and Casino, with 280 rooms, 800-648-1170; McCarran House/Best Western, with 220 rooms, 800-548-5798; Silver Club Hotel-Casino with 206 rooms, 800-905-7774; and InnCal, with 132 rooms, 800-550-2222.

Attractions: The **Sparks Heritage Museum** (775-355-1144) at 820 Victorian Avenue offers displays describing Sparks' rail links. Dozens of historic photographs show the railroad buildings, employees, rolling stock, and other equipment. Glass cases contain authentic early-20th century railroad uniforms, steam whistles, dining-car trays, and lanterns.

Exhibits describe other aspects of Sparks' early years. One display is devoted to the first schools in the community and another features antique clothing from the late 19th and early 20th century.

Wild Island Adventure Park (331-9453) at 250 Wild Island Court is Northern Nevada's largest family amusement complex and includes a water park, two 18-hole, miniature golf courses, and two racetracks. The water park is open between Memorial Day and Labor Day while the golf courses and two mini-car racetracks are open year-round.

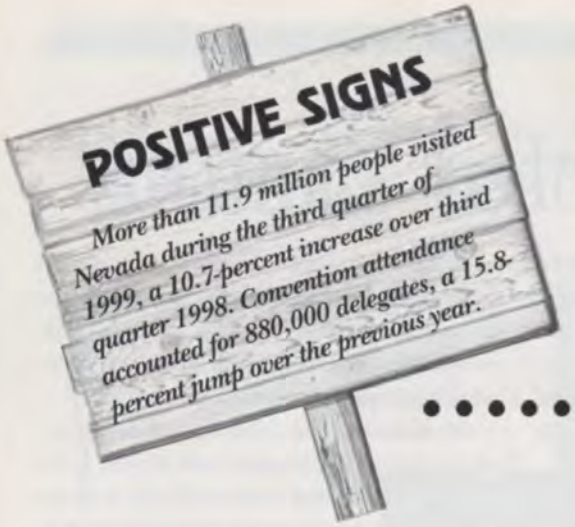
The **Sparks Marina** is the community's newest attraction. This large, man-made lake, scheduled to open this spring, features an amphitheater, beaches, a marina, walking trails, fishing, and non-motorized boats.

For more information, contact the Sparks Chamber of Commerce, 831 Victorian Avenue, Sparks, NV 89431, 775-358-1976, www.sparkschamber.org.—*Richard Moreno*



The railroad influence in Sparks can be seen in Victorian Square and most of the downtown businesses and public areas.

Photos: Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau (top), Gary Elam (bottom)



What's New

The Latest Information on Travel Around the Silver State

Las Vegas Territory

New Year's Gig

The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority reported occupancy rates of 91.5 percent and a 6.4-percent increase in visitor counts, which translates to 251,000 visitors, for the New Year's Eve weekend. Without Millennium Bug worries, the visitor volume could be higher December 31, 2000.

My Kind of Town

New York-New York on the Las Vegas Strip recently completed renovations that included improvements to more than 300 deluxe rooms, increased convention space, and relocation of the sports book and keno area.

Resort's Name Change

The Resort at Summerlin, located 11 miles northwest of the Las Vegas Strip, has changed its name to The Regent Las Vegas to reflect its affiliation with Regent International Hotels. The hotel recently opened the six-story, 225-room Grand Palms Tower, bringing the room count to 541. The property offers preferred tee times at 10 area golf courses and provides shuttle service to Angel Park, Las Vegas Paiute, Badlands, Painted Desert, and three Del Webb Sun City courses.

Racing Tickets

Race fans can go to the Internet for tickets to major events and the weekly short-track races at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. The facility entered into a multi-year agreement with Tickets.com to be the exclusive electronic ticket outlet for the speedway.

Laughlin's a Hot Spot

The number of visitors to Laughlin, 95 miles south of Las Vegas on the Colorado River, increased every month in 1999, through November, to nearly 4.2 million. The destination's combination of special events, water sports, outdoor recreation, large casinos, and small-town atmosphere have created a high repeat-visitor count.

Free Impressions

You can preview impressionist-comedian Andre-Philippe Gagnon for your clients by requesting a free video from the C2K Showroom at the Venetian. The show pays commissions to travel agents, and group rates are available. For a copy of the promotional video, fax Laurei Southam, the showroom's director of sales and marketing, at 702-932-2098, or e-mail lsoutham@clubc2k.com. The performer is profiled in the current edition of *Nevada Magazine*.

Airport Registration

Guests headed for several Strip hotels can check in before they leave the airport inLas Vegas thanks to a five-year agreement among MGM Grand, Park Place Entertainment, and McCarran International Airport. The registration desks for the MGM and the Park Place properties—Caesars Palace, Las Vegas Hilton, Flamingo Las Vegas, Bally's, and Paris—are a first for a U.S. airport. Visitors also will be able to purchase show tickets.

Hacienda Open

The Gold Strike Casino, which was destroyed by fire in 1998, has reopened as the Hacienda Hotel and Casino. The property is located between Boulder City and Hoover Dam.



Travelers who have a layover or extra time at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas can work out at the 24 Hour Fitness gym, the first of its kind located inside a major American airport. The 14,000-square-foot gym offers exercise equipment as well as showers and luggage storage. Visitors who have their own gym clothes pay $15. Those who don't can pay $25 for a "workout pack" that includes use of the gym and clothes and shoe rental.

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Renting a Mansion

The historic Lake Mansion, once the home of the family of Reno founder Myron Lake, can be rented for special events. Located on the grounds of the Reno-Sparks Convention

Center, the mansion, which was built in 1877, has period furnishings. The main floor can accommodate up to 100 people. The mansion is operated by VSA Arts of Nevada; call 775-826-6100.

More Convention Space

The Silver Legacy in Reno has expanded its convention space by 10,000 square feet, bringing the Legacy's total to 90,000 square feet. The $1.5-million expansion, combined with the hotel's neighboring properties, Circus Circus and Eldorado, gives the downtown complex 4,200 hotel rooms, 22 restaurants and nightclubs, and more than 110,000 square feet of meeting space.

Downtown Plaza

In May, construction is expected to be completed on Harrah's Reno's downtown plaza, located on the sites of the recently demolished Harolds Club and the Nevada Club. Harrah's Reno acquired the two properties last June and began construction in January on a temporary plaza, which will include landscaping, lighting, and a covered walkway into Harrah's north casino entrance. Future plans call for construction of a more elaborate, permanent plaza.

New Look for Gold Dust

The Gold Dust West Casino and Motor Lodge in Reno has completely renovated the casino of the 106-room motel property, adding a sports book. The $2-million project includes exterior improvements and additional parking.

Festive Summer

From June through September the Reno-Tahoe area draws summer visitors looking for scenic beauty, diverse outdoor recreation, cultural tourism, and unique special events. In June, it's time for the Reno Rodeo. Throughout July, Reno celebrates the arts during Uptown Downtown ARTown with more than 200 events, from plays to concerts to dance to the visual arts. Shakespeare lovers will find productions at Lake Tahoe and Virginia City. In August, hot rods roll into Reno and Sparks for Hot August Nights, and in September there are back-to-back camel, balloon, and airplane races. For details on events consult the listing in the Nevada Events and Shows section of *Nevada Magazine*.

A Nevada Moment:



Comedian Jimmy Durante shows off his coordinated wardrobe during an appearance at the Sands in Las Vegas in March 1972. The "Schnozz," who was known for singing the silly ditty "Inka Dinka Doo," opened Bugsy Siegel's Flamingo on December 26, 1946. One of the entertainer's most memorable Nevada moments was when Durante played a piano duet with President Harry Truman in 1962. The meeting occurred when Truman was in Las Vegas to address an American Legion convention.

Celebrating National Tourism Week

Las Vegas tourism officials plan special activities May 1-6 to celebrate National Tourism Week. The event, established by Congressional resolution in 1983, was created to give communities a chance to emphasize the economic impact of travel and tourism as well as to show appreciation to the visitors who make it happen.

This year's schedule includes a concert at the Fremont Street Experience, a special event on the Strip, a luncheon and participation in the Nellis Air Force Base air show, and an Internet wedding. In past years Las Vegas has held a luncheon to honor the 500th million visitor to the city, staged a Fremont Street prize giveaway, and held a celebrity relay down the Strip. Call 702-641-5822, ext. 264, for more information.

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau Archives

Guide to Nevada Golf Packages

With more than 80 beautiful and challenging golf courses, Nevada attracts those business and leisure travelers who never leave home without their clubs. The courses are reviewed in the current issue of *Nevada Magazine*, which includes "Nevada Golf 2000," an annual statewide golf guide that can help serve your golfing clients.

Following is a guide to golf-room packages offered by Nevada hotels. Unless noted otherwise, the package deals are net. Some offer pre-set amenities, but some packages can be customized and groups accommodated. Also, golf events that offer marketing opportunities for your firm include the Celebrity Golf Championship on July 7-9 at Lake Tahoe, the PGA Tour's Reno-Tahoe Open on August 21-27, the PGA's Las Vegas Invitational October 11-15, and the Las Vegas Senior Classic next spring.



A golfer takes a swing at the Incline Championship Course at Lake Tahoe.

Southern Nevada

Las Vegas

Desert Inn: The "Mulligan Package" is priced at $163 per night—single or double occupancy—and includes one round of golf for each night's stay. If both room occupants are golfers, a second tee time is available for $76. The package is available June through August. Call 877-278-7404.

Golf Reservations of Nevada: The Las Vegas firm offers golfers an on-line booking service on its Web site, golfvegas.com.

Reservations Plus: No pre-set golf packages, but room and golf arrangements can be customized for individuals, groups, and tournaments in Las Vegas, Reno, and Lake Tahoe. Rooms are commissionable to travel agents, green fees are discounted, and reservations fees are waived. Call 800-805-9528.

Rio Suite Hotel: The off-Strip property offers a three-night package from $578.90 single occupancy to $928 double occupancy midweek during peak season, September 15-June 15. Off season, June 16-September 14, the three-night package is $512.55 and $812.55. Reservations may be booked 90 days prior to arrival. The package includes two rounds of golf, cart, and use of the practice facility the day or days of play, and transportation to and from the course. The same package is available for two nights and one round of golf, priced from $327.60 to $441.70. Golfers play on the Rio Secco Golf Course, which is limited to Rio hotel guests. Call 888-867-3226.

Laughlin

Avi: The Avi golf package offers a two-night stay at $167.52 per couple midweek, $227.73 weekends and holidays, through May 31. The package includes one round of golf and one dinner buffet per person. Call 800-284-2946.

Edgewater: The "Mojave Resort-Edgewater Golf Package" offers a two-night stay at $160 per couple midweek, $210 weekends. It includes one round of golf and is available through May 31. Other package amenities include prime-rib dinners, cocktails, and logo golf towels for two people. The package is commissionable to travel agents. Call 800-67-RIVER.

Ramada Express: The train-themed hotel offers a two-night package priced at $135 per couple midweek, $225 weekends. It includes one round of golf, cart, cocktails, and a sleeve of golf balls. It is available year-round. Call 800-243-6846.

Riverside: The Riverside golf package is a two-night duffer's special priced at $142 per couple midweek, $196 weekends. It includes one round of golf and is good through 2000 except holidays and special events periods. Guests make their own tee times at either the Desert Lakes or Emerald River courses. Call 800-227-3849 for information.

Mesquite

Si Redd's Oasis: The "Deluxe Golf Vacation" is a two-night package priced at $204.50 single occupancy, $409 double. The package includes a round of golf on the Palms and Oasis courses. It is available through May 31. Call 800-621-0187.

Northern Nevada

Reno

Comstock: The Comstock features a two-night package priced at $129 per person midweek, $139 per person weekends based on double occupancy. The package, which is good through 2000, includes one round of golf. Groups have a cocktail party. Call 800-266-7862.

Flamingo Hilton Reno: "Flamingo Arrow-Creek Golf" and "Flamingo Red Hawk Golf" packages start at $72 per person midweek, $104 on the weekend, based on double occupancy. The packages include two rounds of golf and are good through 2000. Call 800-648-4882.

Harrah's Reno: The "Sweet Tee Package" is a two-night package stay for $109 per person based on double occupancy, Sunday through Thursday, with tee times available

Photo: Chris Talbot

Monday through Thursday. On weekends the price is $175 per person. The package is good through November 30 and includes 18 holes of golf, cart, and two show tickets. Call 800-HARRAHS.

Reno Hilton: The "Lake Ridge/Red Hawk Golf Packages" feature a two-night stay starting at $195 based on double occupancy and one round of golf. The rate, which is good through September 30, is commissionable to travel agents. The package is not available on weekends. Call 800-648-5080.

Rope Marketing: Customized packages for groups of 16 or more. Choice of 12 Reno and Lake Tahoe hotels. Commissionable to travel agents. Call 888-767-3658.

Silver Legacy: "Silver Legacy Golf Vacations" feature a one-night stay and one round of golf Sunday through Thursday starting at $99 per person based on double occupancy. Weekends are slightly higher. The package, which is good through October 31, includes one breakfast buffet coupon. It is commissionable to travel agents. Call 800-MUST-SEE.

Western Discovery: Customized packages for individuals and groups of 16 or more. Some pre-set packages are available, a sample of which can be seen on the Web site 4renogolf.com. Western Discovery offers a choice of 10 Reno and four Lake Tahoe hotels and 17 golf courses. Rooms and rental cars are commissionable to travel agents. Call 877-4-RENOGOLF or 775-329-9933.

Lake Tahoe

Cal-Neva Resort, Crystal Bay: "A Whole Lotta Golf" package offers a two-night stay at $169 per person based on double occupancy. It is not available on weekends. The package is good through the 2000 golf season and includes one round of golf, breakfast, use of the fitness facility, pool, tennis courts, sauna, and Jacuzzi. The room portion of the package is commissionable to travel agents. Call 800-CAL-NEVA.

Carson Area

Carson Nugget, Carson City: "The Perfect Golf Getaway" features a two-night stay for $139 per golfer. The package is good through 2000 and includes two rounds of golf, $18 food credit (per person, per day), gaming and bar coupons, golf cap, and a sleeve of golf balls. Call 775-882-1626, ext. 250.

Carson Station, Carson City: Golf packages, designed for groups of eight or more persons, feature a two-night stay and are priced at $36 per person midweek, $146 per person weekends based on double occupancy. The package, which is good through 2000, includes one round of golf, full breakfast, and gourmet banquet. The hotel portion of the package is commissionable to travel agents. Call 877-519-5567.

Carson Valley Inn, Minden: The "Mini Group Package" is designed for eight to 20 people and features a three-night stay priced from $204 per person midweek, $224 to $234 per person weekend based on double occupancy. The package is available through October 31 and includes two rounds of golf and a private group dinner. Call 800-321-6983, ext. 625.

Piñon Plaza, Carson City: "Great Golf Packages" offer a two-night stay designed for two to six persons and priced from $104 per person midweek, $109 per person weekends, through 2000. The hotel portion is commissionable to travel agents. The package features one round of golf, cart, full breakfast, two cocktails, and casino coupons. Group and tournament packages are available. Call 877-519-5567, ext. 1039.

Rural Nevada

Cactus Petes, Jackpot: The "Midweek Summer Golf Getaway" is a one-night package priced at $89 per couple through September 28. It is available Sunday through Thursday. Off season, October 1-November 30, the price is $69. The package includes one round of golf, cart, and a cocktail show. Call 800-821-1103.

Nevada Convention Update

To assist your sales and marketing efforts, the following list recaps the major conventions booked for the Las Vegas and Reno-Sparks areas through summer. (Abbreviations: LVCC=Las Vegas Convention Center, LVH= Las Vegas Hilton, RSCC=Reno-Sparks Convention Center, and Nugget=John Ascuaga's Nugget.) Numbers of attendees are noted.

For further information contact the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, 702-892-0711, or the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, 775-827-7600.

Las Vegas Area

Society for Human Resource Management • June 25-28 • 12,000. LVCC and LVH.

Associated Locksmiths of America • July 23-30 • 5,000. LVCC and LVH.

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics • July 24-28 • 2,300. Riviera.

Associated Surplus Dealers • Aug. 20-24 • 51,000. Sands Expo and Riviera.

Composites Fabricators Association • Sept. 27-30 • 8,000. LVCC and LVH.

Professional Golfers Association • Sept. 28-30 • 33,000. LVCC and Mirage.

National Mining Association • Oct. 9-12 • 75,000. LVCC and LVH.

California Grocers Association • Oct. 23-24 • 4,500. LVCC and LVH.

Association of Military Surgeons • Nov. 5-11 • 6,000. LVH.

Comdex • Nov. 13-17 • 225,000. LVCC, Sands Expo, and various hotels.

American Society of Health System Pharmacists • Dec. 3-7 • 16,000. LVCC.

Reno-Sparks Area

California Health Information Association • June 1-11 • 600. Nugget.

Western States Roofing Contractors Association • June 18-25 • 1,200. Reno Hilton.

International Association of Jim Beam Bottle and Specialties Club • July 5-16 • 600. Silver Legacy.

Premiere Food Distributors • July 13-23 • 1,000. Reno Hilton.

International Cloud Physics Conference • Aug. 13-19 • 500. Nugget.

Worldwide Distributors • Sept. 9-16 • 1,500. RSCC, Atlantis, and Peppermill.

Wild West Veterinary Conference • Oct. 13-21 • 1,100. Reno Hilton.

Farm Equipment Manufacturers Association • Nov. 3-9 • 1,000. Reno Hilton.

Geological Society of America North American Convention • Nov. 13-16 • 5,950. RSCC and Reno Hilton.

Society of Perinatal Obstetricians • Feb. 3-12, 2001 • 2,000. Reno Hilton.

American Bowling Congress 106th Annual Tournament • Feb. 9-May 30, 2001. 150,000. National Bowling Stadium.

Hyatt Regency: Elegance at Lake Las Vegas

Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas is situated on 21 acres on the shore of Nevada's largest privately owned, man-made lake. The resort is surrounded by red mountains, borders the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, and is located in a neighborhood of luxurious homes with price tags ranging from $300,000 to $1.75 million. The Mediterranean-themed property, which offers rooms and suites with both lake and mountain views, stands next to the Reflection Bay Golf Course, which was designed by Jack Nicklaus. Arched windows and ornamental ironwork accent the hotel's floor-to-ceiling windows facing the lake. For active guests, the hotel offers water sports such as wind surfing, fishing, and boating on the 320-acre lake.

The resort is located in Henderson 17 miles southeast of the Las Vegas Strip, but the distance seems much farther because of the area's peace and quiet. "The Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas, with its peaceful, majestic surroundings, provides a luxurious, relaxing alternative to the bright lights and bustle of the Strip," says Victor Lopez, divisional vice president for Hyatt Hotels Corporation.



Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas, located 17 miles east of the Strip in Henderson, offers guests a peaceful setting, water sports, and golf at the Reflection Bay course.

The Hyatt Regency features 40,000 square feet of indoor meeting space. Outdoor events can be held in the courtyards and in an open-air pavilion that overlooks the lake and Reflection Bay's eighth hole.

The casino at the Hyatt Regency is small when compared to the sprawling hotel, but it offers table games, slot machines, and a bar. Two other unique features are the two-story windows and a baby grand piano on the casino floor.

Restaurants: The Japengo restaurant offers Pacific Rim cuisine in an upscale setting. Its attractions include a sushi bar, fine wines, and, again, the view. Cafe Tajine specializes in Moroccan dishes. The poolside bar and grill offers salads and sandwiches. The Arabesque Lounge features a Moroccan trio that plays from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Golf and Recreation: Guests have access to the hotel's spa and fitness center. For the golfer, Reflection Bay is a 7,261-yard, par-72 course, which made *Golf Magazine's* "Top 10 You Can Play" list. Equipment rentals for water activities are available for guests over age 12. Kayaks rent for $13 an hour per person; $39 for a half-day. For two people the fee is $18 an hour. Paddle boats are $15 an hour. Fishing poles are $7.50 an hour; $12 per day. In order to fish you must rent a boat from the marina. Sun bathers can choose from two swimming pools or a small beach area.

Amenities: Guests can select the items they want stocked in the in-room refrigerators. There are four two- and three-bedroom bungalows, which have private entrances. A concierge is available to assist guests. For children, Camp Hyatt has supervised day and evening activities. Free shuttle service is available to and from the airport and Las Vegas.

Fast Facts: The Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas Resort has 496 rooms. Rack rates are $175 from June 31 to August. Rooms with a lake view are $200. From September 1 to December 30 rooms are $245, with lake views $270. For reservations call 702-567-1234 or visit the hotel's Web site at www.hyatt.com. —*Jason Hanson,* Nevada Magazine *editorial assistant*

Cal-Neva Resort

(Continued from page 1)

overlooking Lake Tahoe. Three Euro Spa packages range from $129 to $239.

Meetings: As a meeting location, the Cal-Neva provides more than 20,000 square feet of flexible meeting space for groups from 10 to 360. Amenities include food and beverage service, audio-visual support, banquet facilities, including the Frank Sinatra Celebrity Showroom, and outdoor meeting tents overlooking the lake.

Fast Facts: The Cal-Neva features a full-service casino, the Lakeview Dining Room, the Circle Bar, a video arcade area for the kids, a fitness facility with a sauna and Jacuzzi, a tennis court, and an outdoor pool that straddles the Nevada-California boarder. Guest-room rates at the Cal-Neva Resort range from $95 to $235. To make a reservation call 800-CAL-NEVA or visit www.cal-nevaresort.—*Carol Tanis, Reno News Bureau*

hibits, and environmental education. Forest Service Taylor Creek Visitor Center, South Lake Tahoe, 530-573-2674.

• **7-8 Art in the Park:** More than 300 booths featuring fine art and crafts for sale and browsing. Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-294-1611

• **7-8 Valhalla Book Fair:** Used books sale, children's storytelling, a book appraiser, and book signing. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **7-8 Great Italian Festival:** Activities include a grape stomp, spaghetti-eating contest, Italian food booths, and entertainment. Eldorado Hotel, Reno, 775-786-5700.



Rural Nevada images as seen through the lens of photographer Sheree Norman are on display through May 23 at the Green Valley Library in Henderson.

• **8 Las Vegas Basque Festival:** Authentic Basque food, dancing, exhibitions, including weightlifting and wood chopping. St. Viator Community Center, Las Vegas, 702-361-6834.

• **8-9 Hit the Jackpot Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.

• **8-11 The Perils of Nora Slot Tournament:** MGM Grand, Las Vegas, 800-891-4220.

• **11-15 Las Vegas Invitational:** 18th annual PGA tournament. Top pros play at TPC at Summerlin, Desert Inn Golf Club, and Las Vegas Country Club. Las Vegas, 702-242-3000.

• **13-14 Sagebrush Quilter's Millennium Quilt Show:** Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-3334.

• **13-15 Renaissance Faire:** Food, medieval games, demonstrations. Sunset Park, Las Vegas, 702-455-8289.

• **13-15 $750,000 Cleopatra Slot Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.

• **13-15 and 19-22 "Steel Magnolias":** Western Nevada Theatre Company, Black Box Theatre, Carson High School, Carson City, 775-887-3115.

• **15 Harvest Farm Auction:** Antique sale. Smith Valley, 775-465-2353.

• **15-Nov. 30 ABC/WIBC Festival of Bowling:** Amateur bowlers compete at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.

• **18-21 World Finals:** Cars and motorcycles try one last time in the year 2000 to set new land speed records. Bonneville Salt Flats, Wendover, 805-526-1805.

• **19-22 Henderson Expo:** Art show, food booths, carnival, and businesses exhibit. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951

• **20-21 Deer Widows Weekend:** Non-deer-hunting spouses head to Wendover for the weekend. Wendover, 800-426-6862 or 775-664-3414.

• **20-22 Elko Te-Moak Powwow:** Tribal Gym, Elko, 775-753-5055.

• **20-22 Gem and Mineral Fair:** Demonstrations, sales of minerals, fossils, and rocks, silent auction. Clark County Heritage Museum, Henderson, 702-455-7955.

• **21 Carson City Symphony:** Premiere of Continental Harmony Project composition by Jim Cockey. Churchill County High School, Fallon, 775-883-4371

• **21 Cemetery Tour:** Carson Valley Historical Society, Gardnerville. Call for directions, 775-782-2010.

• **21-22 Celtic New Year Celebration:** Pipe band competition, Celtic dancing, entertainment, food, crafts. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-323-3138.

• **21-22 Fort Churchill Living History:** Troop formations, apple butter making, spinners, camp cooking, and crafts. Fort Churchill State Historic Park, Silver Springs, 775-358-2284.

• **22 Carson City Symphony:** Classical music concert. Community Center, Carson City, 775-883-4154.

• **24 Shoshone Christmas Craft Bazaar:** Native American arts and crafts, food booths. Shoshone Indian Colony, Ely, 775-289-3013.

• **24-31 Nevada Day Celebration:** Parade (on Oct. 28), carnival, midway games, entertainment, food booths, arts and crafts, and dance bands. Mills Park, Carson City, 775-687-4680.

• **25-26 Haunted Grand Hall at Valhalla:** For children under 12. Valhalla Grand Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **26-29 Professional Bull Riders Bud Light Cup World Championships:** Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 800-634-6698.

• **27-29 BF Goodrich Tires Trans-Am Series:** Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 702-644-4444.

• **28 Nevada Day Halloween Drag Race:** Top Gun Raceway, Fallon, 775-423-0223.

• **28 Nevada Day Parade:** More than 250 entries celebrate Nevada's admission to the Union. Carson Street, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

• **28 Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk:** Walking home tour to hear historic tales presented by spirits of the past. Historic District, Carson City, 775-687-7410.

• **28 Black and Black Ball:** Ghosts, ghouls, live music, appetizers, and potions. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.

• **28 Pig Roast/Halloween Party:** Pig roasted on a spit on Saturday afternoon with a bake auction by Jarbidge School following the barbecue. There will also be a costume party on Saturday night. Jarbidge, 775-488-2311

• **28 Burro Races:** Race against time to pack and unpack an uncooperative burro. City Arena, Beatty,

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Photo: Sheree L. Norman

Millennium Countdown Calendar

775-553-2424 for more event information.

- **29-Nov. 1 Halloween Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **30 Kids Carnival:** Games, costumes, entertainment. Caliente, 775-726-3422.
- **30-Nov. 5 National Senior Pro Rodeo Finals:** Athletes 40 and older compete in traditional rodeo events. Livestock Events Center, Reno, 775-323-8842.

November 2000

- **1-30 ABC/WIBC Festival of Bowling:** Amateur bowlers compete at the National Bowling Stadium. Reno, 800-304-BOWL.
- **3-5 Western Heritage Festival:** Cowboy poetry gathering featuring chautauquas, Western music entertainment, vendors, arts and crafts, pickup truck display, and hot-air balloons. Community College of Southern Nevada, North Las Vegas, 702-658-4679.
- **3-5 Rhymer's Rodeer Cowboy Poetry:** Tales of the trail and Western lore. Carson Valley Inn, Minden, 775-782-9711 or 800-321-6983.
- **3-5, 10-12, and 17-19 "My Fair Lady":** Western Nevada Musical Theatre Company presents the musical comedy. Community Center, Carson City, 775-887-3115.
- **4 Las Vegas Pro Polo:** America vs. Great Britain. Location TBA, Las Vegas, 775-826-6157
- **4 Festival Americana:** Native American and pioneer crafts, demonstrations, entertainment, and food at the home of the Anasazi Indians. Lost City Museum, Overton, 702-397-2193.
- **5 Tour Las Vegas: Ride of the Century:** Fully supported bicycle rides around Las Vegas. 775-588-9658.
- **5-8 Hawaiian Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **6 Veterans Day Celebration:** Annual salute to the military. Henderson, 702-565-2367
- **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Patriotic pride on the Comstock. Virginia City, 775-847-0311
- **11 Pomegranate Art Festival:** Arts, crafts, pomegranate foods, cookbooks, entertainment, demonstrations. Moapa Valley Art Gallery, Overton, 702-397-8323.
- **11 Veterans Day Parade:** Virginia Street, Reno, 775-334-2262.
- **13 St. Anne's Holiday Bazaar:** Local crafters sale and display. Catholic Center, Yerington, 775-463-3842.
- **17-19 Valhalla Holiday Faire: A Dickens Experience:** Holiday crafters, artists, boutiques, carolers, holiday treats, Father Christmas, and characters from Charles Dickens. Tallac Historic Site, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **18-19 What a Deal Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.
- **24-26 "The Nutcracker":** Tchaikovsky's holiday ballet performed by the Pinkerton Dance Company. Community Center, Carson City, 775-882-3054.
- **25 Fisherman's Holiday Fish Derby:** Anglers compete for cash prizes. Walker Lake, Hawthorne, 775-945-5896.
- **25 Annual Thanksgiving Dinner:** R.S.V.P. and Senior Center, Caliente, 775-726-3129.
- **26-27 Scrooge's Craft Fair:** Homemade crafts, food. Caliente, 775-726-3649.
- **29 Deck the Halls of Valhalla:** Bring a non-breakable ornament for the annual Christmas decorating party. Valhalla Grand Hall, South Lake Tahoe, 530-542-4166.
- **30-Dec. 9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** Anything cowboy can be found among the 500 exhibitors. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.

December 2000

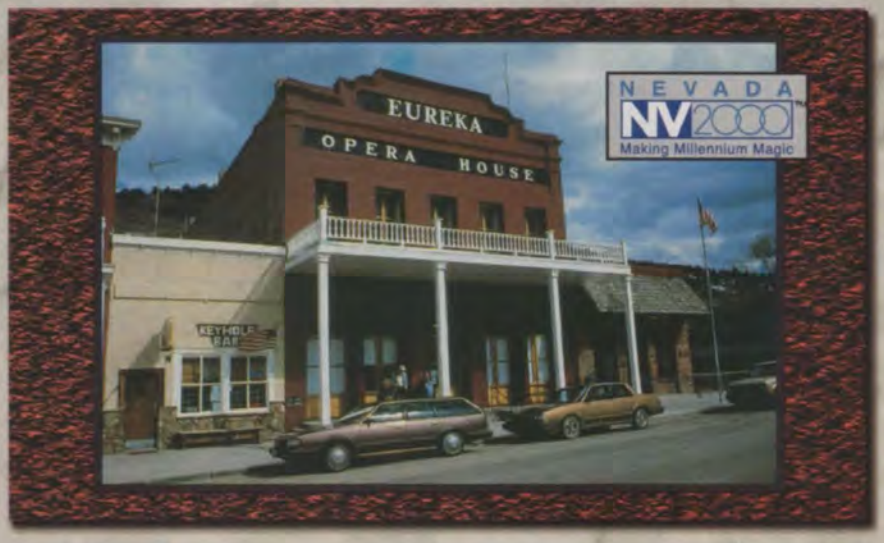
- **1-3 No Frills Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **1-9 NFR Cowboy Christmas Gift Show:** About 500 exhibitors sell their cowboy trappings. North Hall, Las Vegas Convention Center, 702-260-8605.
- **1-10 National Finals Rodeo:** Top 126 rodeo contestants compete for more than $4.2 million in prize money. Thomas and Mack Center, Las Vegas, 702-260-8605.
- **1-30 The Magical Forest:** Holiday lights and decorations create the annual winter wonderland. Opportunity Village, Las Vegas, 702-259-3700.
- **2 Crafters Christmas Bazaar:** Convention Center, Ely, 775-289-8261
- **2 Christmas on the Comstock:** Parade of lights and fireworks. Virginia City, 775-847-0311
- **2 Christmas Ghost Train Ride:** Holiday excursion aboard steam-powered train. Nevada Northern Railway Museum, Ely, 775-289-2085.
- **2 Christmas Parade:** Santa arrives at Bicentennial Park, Boulder City, 702-293-2034.

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The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar and further details on the state's 15-month celebration can be found at www.2000nevada.com.

Nevada's Millennium Web Site

The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar, devoted to the state's 15-month millennial celebration, appears in each issue of *Nevada Magazine* during the state's celebration. The Nevada Millennium Countdown Calendar also is available online at www.2000nevada.com. In addition to millennium events, the site has information on ordering "NV2000: Making Millennium Magic" merchandise, millennium travel packages, and a countdown clock. The site links to the Nevada Commission on Tourism's information site, www.travelnevada.com, which offers a wide variety of travel and vacation ideas.

- **2 Parade of Lights:** Annual parade of 50 decorated boats on Lake Mead. Lake Mead Marina, 322 Lakeshore Road, off U.S. 93, Boulder City, 702-457-2797
- **2 Sparks Hometowne Christmas:** 14th annual parade with Santa, music, arts and crafts, and a tree-lighting ceremony. Sparks, 775-353-2291
- **2-3 Festival of Trees:** Area businesses decorate trees in three themed categories for prize money. Wingfield Park and the Truckee River, Reno, 775-334-2417
- **2-3 Genoa Christmas Faire:** Arts and crafts fair, with Christmas carols and appetizers on Friday. Town Hall and Fire Bay, Genoa, 775-782-TOWN.
- **3 Victorian Home Christmas Tour:** Decorated homes. Historic District, Carson City, 775-882-1565.
- **4 Pioche Christmas Tree Lighting and Santa Visit:** Christmas lighting, bonfire, hot chocolate, Santa arrives with gifts for all the children. Pioche, 775-962-5544.
- **7 Silver and Snowflake Festival of Lights:** Christmas tree-lighting ceremony. State Capitol Building, Carson City, 775-882-1565.
- **8-9 Indian Art Market and Christmas Sale:** Artists representing the Paiute, Shoshone, and Washoe Indian tribes exhibit and sell traditional works. Reno Indian Colony, Reno, 775-786-7029.
- **9 Children's Christmas Parade:** Santa meets and greets children after parade through town. Convention Center, Henderson, 702-565-8951
- **9-10 Merry Money Slot Tournament:** Silver Legacy, Reno, 800-MUST-SEE.
- **10 Christmas Celebration on Main Street:** Parade, tree-lighting ceremony, and caroling. Yerington, 775-463-2245.
- **10-13 $140,000 Slot Tournament:** Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, 888-927-2758.
- **15-17 No Frills Slot Tournament:** Flamingo Reno, 775-322-1111
- **16 "Mark Twain Tonight":** Hal Holbrook stars in the one-man show he performed 20 years ago. Piper's Opera House, Virginia City, 775-847-0600.
- **16 Christmas Booksigning and Sale:** Local authors autograph books. Tea and cookies, music. Nevada Historical Society, Reno, 775-688-1191
- **18-21 Reebok Holiday Prep Classic:** Boys' high school basketball tournament featuring 64 teams from 17 states. Green Valley and Durango high schools, Las Vegas, 702-799-5456.
- **24 Christmas Eve Torchlight Parade:** Squaw Valley USA, Lake Tahoe, 530-583-6955.
- **31 New Year's Eve Celebrations:** Statewide.

January 2001

- **13-15 Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday Celebration:** Events will take place in Las Vegas and Reno/Sparks.

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A French Impressionist

At the Venetian, André-Philippe Gagnon makes an impression as a singer of many voices.

By Mike Weatherford



For André-Philippe Gagnon, it's all about "the element of surprise." Gagnon is the first to acknowledge that impressionists wore out their welcome over the years by rehashing the same imitations of John Wayne, Jimmy Stewart, and James Cagney. Some of the comic riffs on Sylvester Stallone as Rocky or William Shatner as Captain Kirk became so ubiquitous that "they were impressions of impressions," he says.

That's why Gagnon focused his act on singing impressions—and a wide range of singers at that. "The part that I really like is seeing the look on people's faces: 'This blonde French Canadian does Tracy Chapman or Lou Rawls.'"

He's also Barry White, or rather Bill Clinton serenading Monica Lewinsky from the Oval Office as the sexy soul man. And he's Guns 'N Roses screamer Axl Rose, yelping out the theme to *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*. Once, when he performed in Australia, Gagnon took the trouble to greet the audience with the songs of native rock heroes INXS and Men At Work.

In his new job as resident headliner of the Venetian's C2K Showroom, Gagnon takes audiences on a whiplash tour of pop-music history, from Mick Jagger to Robert Goulet, from Louis Armstrong to Boy George. Patrons have little time to ponder the fact that Gagnon pulls off all his impressions without a French accent.

"We've been influenced in Quebec by American culture for a long time," says Gagnon, who was born in Quebec City in 1960. He started imitating people when he was five years old, and by age 11, he says, "I was able to do close to 100 impressions both in French and English."

When Celine Dion became a superstar, she made Gagnon her opening act on tour.

At first, his imitations were a form of flattery to the performers—"a matter of respect," he recalls. "If you were going to sing 'Love Me Tender, you should sing it the way Elvis sang it." But he learned he could make people laugh, even if he wasn't a born showman. "I was very shy. My friends had to insist after hockey games or in the classroom that I perform something."

As an adult, however, Gagnon became a staple on the comedy club circuit. Long before he called Las Vegas home, Gagnon performed at the Comedy Store when it was headquartered in the Dunes and later the Golden Nugget. His signature piece was a rendition of "We Are the World," the 1985 famine-relief single, in which he did all 20 of the stars' voices.

That earned him a ticket to Johnny Carson's *Tonight Show* in 1985. He received the honored invitation to come sit on Johnny's sofa after his routine—rare for a debut performer—but "my English was so much worse than it is right now. I was scared. 'What am I going to say now?' I looked stupid," he recalls, as he slows his voice down to sound like a tape recorder with its batteries running low.

More recently, Gagnon's fortunes have been tied to that of fellow Canadian Celine Dion. "We started at almost the same time," he says. "Back in '81, we were doing the same telethons, the same TV shows at noon," he says. When Dion became a superstar, she made him the opening act for her "Let's Talk About Love" world tour in 1998. The announcer would introduce him as "Celine's special friend, Mr. Mick Jagger," and in a bold move he would begin the show as the most famous member of the Rolling Stones—

Photos: David Lee Waite



André-Philippe Gagnon lampoons Bill Clinton (top) and the California Raisins while creating caricatures of singers with his outrageous facial contortions.

something that didn't seem so far-fetched to the stadium audiences.

A tour stop at Las Vegas' Thomas and Mack Center led to the C2K invitation from hotel officials who saw the show. The father of two young children was happy to accept. After years of living out of a suitcase, he says, "Here, the crowd is on tour."

Dion makes a guest appearance via video screen in Gagnon's show, singing a duet of "All the Way" with him as Frank Sinatra. Since his debut last November, Gagnon has been deciding which routines work best in Las Vegas and which voices to leave "on the bench," he says.

Although current stars such as Ricky Martin are almost too popular to ignore, Gagnon is careful about how he works them in. "Sometimes the words of their songs can be effective [as punchlines]," he says. "The reference has to be funny, and then you skip to something else. If you go into an REM, you need a joke there. If the young folks are there and can tell that it sounds like [singer Michael Stipe], that's just extra."

Mostly, he's content to stick to baby boomer favorites or pop stars from the early MTV era. "Musical memory is very, very strong," he says. He recalls seeing a mother and daughter seated at the same table, each of them beaming in recognition of different songs. "They each had their own moments."

The one voice you won't hear in an André-Philippe Gagnon show is his own. Unlike veteran Las Vegas impressionist Bob Anderson, Gagnon has no desire to break out on his own as a crooner—or heavy metal screamer, soul man, or rapper. "If I sing with my own voice, I'm cheating. It's Frank, it's Phil Collins," he says. One time he was asked to sing in his own voice for the arrival of the Olympic torch in Canada. "I couldn't," he recalls. But he did sing. "I cheated"—with a little help from Robert Goulet.

Show Notes

André-Philippe Gagnon appears at 7 nightly except Monday (and Tuesday during special events) in the C2K Showroom at the Venetian on the Las Vegas Strip. Tickets cost $41, $68, and $84, excluding tax and drinks (cocktail service is available). Showgoers must be 21 years of age. Call 702-414-2001 for ticket information and reservations.

Mike Weatherford is an entertainment writer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

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Nevada Showguide

Where the stars and shows are playing in May and June.

Nevada clubs and hotels offer big-name entertainment and production shows. This summer, Natalie Cole will appear at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, Williams and Ree perform at Harrah's Reno and at Cactus Petes in Jackpot, and Jim Belushi and the Sacred Hearts headline at Harrah's Lake Tahoe in Stateline. Here, *Nevada Magazine* presents a guide to featured performers. Showrooms often fill fast, so call for show times and reservations. Las Vegas Territory's area code is 702; the rest of the state is 775.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

Hacienda • Between Boulder City and Hoover Dam, 293-5000 or 800-245-6380: Entertainment TBA.

HENDERSON

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

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

Sunset Station • 547-7777: Club Madrid: TBA. Louie Louie, Thurs.-Sat. Sunset Amphitheater: Eddie Money/John Cafferty, May 6. Boney James/Jonathan Butler, May 20. Joan Jett and the Blackhearts, May 26. Sammy Kershaw, June 30. Sunset Brewing Co.: Karaoke on Wed., bands play Thurs.-Sat.

JEAN

Gold Strike Hotel • 477-5000 or 800-634-1359: Bands play nightly except Tues.

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

LAS VEGAS

Arizona Charlie's • 258-5200: Naughty Ladies Saloon: Dale Watson, May 2-14. Sonny Charles and Sweet Louie and The Checkmates, May 16-28. Palace Grand Theatre: Bobby Blue Bland, May 17-18.

Bally's • 739-4567 or 800-237-SHOW: Jubilee Theater: "Jubilee!" (dark Fri.). George Carlin, thru May 1. "Love Him Tender," starring Elvis impressionist Steve Connolly at 2pm (dark Tues.-Wed.).

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

Bellagio • 888-987-6667: Cirque du Soleil's "O," indf. (dark Wed.-Thurs., June 23-29).

Boulder Station • 432-7777 or 800-683-7777: Railhead Lounge: Jerry Vale, May 26-27 and Oct. 20-21. Bands play nightly. Karaoke, Fri.-Sat. Margaritaville: Rocco Barbato, Thurs.

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

Caesars Palace • 731-7333 or 800-445-4544: Circus Maximus: "Smokey Joe's Cafe," starring Gladys Knight, thru June 11. Earth, Wind, and Fire, May 11-14. Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, May 18-21. Natalie Cole, May 25-28. Chuck Berry and Little Richard, June 13-15 and 17-18. Smokey Robinson, July 13-16. Howie Mandel, July 21-23. Moody Blues, Aug. 3-6. Bands play in the Forum and La Piazza lounges, Palace Court and Terrazza restaurants, and Cleopatra's Barge. Piano music in the Galleria Bar. Magicians perform Tues.-Sat. in the Secret Pagoda and Sultan's Palace theaters at Caesars Magical Empire.

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

Circus Circus • 734-0410 or 800-444-CIRCUS: Free circus acts from 11am to midnight in the casino big top.

Desert Inn • 733-4566 or 800-634-6909: Crystal Showroom: The Temptations, June 22-25. Dennis Miller, June 29-July 2. Don Rickles, July 6-9. The Golden Boys: Fabian, Frankie Avalon, and Bobby Rydell, July 14-16. Gladys Knight, July 20-23. Dennis Miller, Sept. 14-17. The Golden Boys: Fabian, Frankie Avalon, and Bobby Rydell, Oct. 13-15. Don Rickles, Oct. 19-22. Gladys Knight, Oct. 26-29. Dennis Miller, Nov. 2-5. Starlight Lounge: "Diane Ford's Midnight Martini Madness," midnight adult comedy, Fri.-Sun., thru June 4.

Excalibur • 597-7600: King Arthur's Arena: "Tournament of Kings," music-dinner show. Court Jesters Stage: Strolling entertainers 10am-10pm. Minstrels Lounge: Live bands and dancing. Music in the Lance-a-Lotta Pasta and Camelot Casual Dining restaurants.

Fitzgeralds Holiday Inn • 388-2400 or 800-274-LUCK (U.S. outside Nevada): Michael Kennedy's "Tribute to Elvis," Fri.-Mon. on the casino floor.

Flamingo Las Vegas • 733-3333 or 800-221-7299: Flamingo Showroom: "The Great Radio City Spectacular" starring the Rockettes (dark Fri.). "Voice of Magic," starring Darren Romeo, 3pm (dark Wed.). Bugsy's Celebrity Theatre: "Forever Plaid," '50s musical revue (dark Mon.).

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

Four Seasons • 632-5000: Piano entertainment during High Tea in the Verandah, 2-5pm daily.

Gold Coast • 367-7111 or 888-402-6278 (U.S. outside Nevada): East Lounge: Kinda Dixie Jazz Band, noon to 6pm Mon.-Fri. Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke nightly in the West Lounge. Gold Coast Showroom: "Honky Tonk Angels: Dolly Parton, Reba McEntire, Patsy Cline," impersonator revue, thru May 8 (dark Tues.). "Original Tribute to Patsy Cline and the Jordanaires," May 10-May 29, Aug. 30-Sept. 24, Oct. 18-Nov. 12 (dark Tues.). "Country Heroes and Honky Tonk Angels: Tammy Wynette, George Jones, Loretta Lynn, Conway Twitty, Dolly Parton, and Kenny Rogers," impersonator revue, Sept. 27-Oct. 15 and Nov. 15-30 (dark Mon.-Tues.). Salsa All Stars, Sat. Ballroom dancing with DJ Larry Taylor Tues. and Sun.

Golden Nugget • 385-7111: Bands play in the lounge nightly except Mon.

Hard Rock Hotel • 226-4650: The Joint: Entertainment TBA.

Harrah's Las Vegas • 369-5222 or 800-392-9002: Clint Holmes Theatre: "Takin' It Uptown," starring Clint Holmes, musical variety show (dark Wed. and June 5-10). Improv Showroom: Comedy club nightly except Mon. Mac King Comedy Magic Show, 1 and 3pm, Tues.-Sat. Carnival Court: Outdoor entertainment 6-11pm. Music nightly in the La Playa Lounge and Range Steakhouse Lounge.



The Gang's All Here

Showgoers have a choice of several afternoon shows, such as "Stars of the Strip" at the Lady Luck in Las Vegas. The impersonator show stars the Walkers (above), who perform as Sonny and Cher, Rod Stewart, Dolly Parton, Liberace, and Michael Jackson.

Holiday Inn Boardwalk • 730-3194: Lighthouse Showroom: "The Dream King Show," show starring Elvis impersonator Trent Carlini.

Imperial Palace • 794-3261: Imperial Theatre: "Legends in Concert," celebrity impersonator show, from Elvis to Madonna (dark Sun.). Kabuki Lounge: Bands play 4:30pm-1:40am. Poolside: "Hawaiian Hot Luau," Polynesian revue and buffet, Tues. and Thurs. at 6:30pm.

Jackie Gaughan's Plaza • 386-2110 or 800-634-6575 (U.S. outside Nevada): Plaza Theater: "Kenny Kerr's Boylesque," female impersonator revue, 8 and 10pm (dark Sun.-Mon.). "Houdini Lives Again," starring magician Dixie Dooley, 4pm Wed.-Sat. and 8 and 10pm Sun.-Mon. Omaha Lounge: Dusty Barron and the Sunspots play daily except Mon.

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

Lady Luck • 477-3000 or 800-523-9582: Lady Luck Theater: "Stars of the Strip," comedy impersonators, 2 and 3:30pm Mon.-Fri.

Las Vegas Hilton • 732-5755 or 800-222-5361: Hilton Theater: Trisha Yearwood, May 5-6. Johnny Mathis, May 12-13. Wynonna, May 19-21. The NightClub: Entertainment nightly.

Luxor • 262-4400: Live Theatre: Blue Man Group, percussion theater (dark Tues.). "Lasting Impressions With Bill Acosta," 7:30pm (dark Mon.). "Midnight Fantasy," production show at 10pm, also midnight on Sat. (dark Tues.).

Main Street Station • 387-1896 or 800-713-8933: 777 BrewPub: Entertainment TBA.

Mandalay Bay • 877-632-7400: Mandalay Bay Theatre: Barry Manilow, May 25-28. Mandalay Bay Events Center: Ricky Martin, July 22. House of Blues: Entertainment nightly. Gospel Brunch, 10am and 1pm Sun. Bands play in the Island, Orchid, and Coral Reef lounges.

MGM Grand • 891-7777 or 800-929-1111: Hollywood Theatre: Grand Theatre: "EFX" starring Tommy Tune (dark Sun.-Mon.). Grand Garden Arena: Britney Spears, Aug. 4. Hollywood Theatre: "Grease," thru May 31. Carrot Top, June 22-July 5. Grand Adventures Theme Park: Society of Seven, May 12. Wheel of Fortune Theatre: Stage version of the TV game show, Wheel of Fortune. Studio 54: Dancing nightly. Live entertainment in the Show Bar Lounge, Brown Derby, Betty Boop Bar, and Gatsby's.

The Mirage • 792-7777: Siegfried and Roy Theater: "Siegfried and Roy," magic spectacular (dark Wed.-Thurs. and June 5-22). Paul Anka, June 8-20 (dark June 11, 14, and 18). Danny Gans Theatre: Impressionist Danny Gans performs nightly except Fri. and Mon. Ray Romano, June 19-20 and 26-27 at 10:30pm. Bands play in the Lagoon Saloon and Baccarat Bar (piano bar).

Monte Carlo • 730-7000: Lance Burton Theatre: "Lance Burton, Master Magician" (dark Sun.-Mon. and May 31-June 12). Top 40, disco, country, and classic-rock dance music nightly in the Monte Carlo Pub and Brewery.

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

New York-New York • 740-6969: Broadway Theatre: "Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance" (dark Sun.-Mon.). Bands play in the Empire Bar. The N.Y.P.D. (New York Piano Duos) dueling pianos play 8pm-2:15am nightly in the Bar at Times Square.

The Orleans • 800-ORLEANS: Orleans Showroom: Kansas, May 5-7. Neil Sedaka, May 9-14. Peter, Paul, and Mary, May 19-21. Air Supply, May 26-28. Average White Band, June 2-4. Doobie Brothers, June 9-11. Righteous Brothers, June 14-25 (dark June 19). Robert Goulet, June 29-July 2. Bourbon Street Cabaret: Bands play nightly (dark Mon.).

Palace Station • 367-2411 or 800-634-3101: Trax Nightclub: Warren Hill, May 12. Jonathan Butler, May 20. The Yellowjackets, Aug. 4. Bands play in Trax and Fri.-Sat. in the Palace Saloon.

Paris Las Vegas • 800-237-SHOW: Le Theatre de Arts: "Notre Dame de Paris" theatrical show (dark Sun.-Mon.). Paris Ballroom: TBA. Entertainment in Le Cabaret Show Lounge. Paris Theatre: Entertainment TBA.

Rio Suite • 252-7776 or 800-PLAYRIO (U.S. and Canada):



Copacabana Entertainment Complex: "David Cassidy at the Copa," musical variety show. Masquerade Show in the Sky: Carnival-themed parade with exotic floats and costumes above the casino, every two hours beginning at 2pm Sun.-Tues. and 1pm Thurs.-Sat. (dark Wed.). RioBamba Cabaret: Earl Turner. Live entertainment in the Ipanema Piano Bar and Voodoo Lounge. Club Rio: Dance nightclub Wed.-Sat.

Riviera • 794-9301: Splash Theatre: "Splash," production show. Royale Pavilion: Bobby Vinton, Aug. 4-5. Tony Orlando, Oct. 13-14. Top of the Riv: D.L. Hughley, May 26-28. Jackie "The Joke Man" Martling, Oct. 20-21. La Cage Theatre (third floor): "An Evening at La Cage," celebrity female impersonators revue (dark Tues.). Count Basie Orchestra, June 2. Mardi Gras Plaza (second level): "Crazy Girls: Sensuality and Passion," adult revue (dark Mon.). "Riviera Comedy Club," comedians appear nightly. Le Bistro Lounge: "Tribute to Elvis" with Billy Ortiz from 4-7:30pm Sat.-Sun.; Jazz on the Strip, Mon.; Lon Bronson's All-Star Band, Fri. and Sat. at 1am Fri.-Sat.; bands play Tues.-Sun.

Sahara • 737-2515: Sahara Theatre: Magician Steve Wyrick. Congo Room: "The Rat Pack Is Back," tribute revue (dark Mon.). Bands play in the Casbar Lounge.

Sam's Town • 454-8048: Western Dance Hall: Bands play 9pm-3am. Roxy's Saloon: Entertainers play 4pm-2:30am Mon.-Thurs., noon-4am Fri.-Sun. Mystic Falls Park: Laser and water show at 2, 6, 8, and 10pm.

San Remo • 739-9000 or 800-522-7366: Parisian Cabaret: "Les Trix," starring the Showgirls of Magic. Bon Chance Lounge: Entertainers perform nightly.

Santa Fe • 658-4900: Ice Lounge: Groups perform nightly. Pavilion: Jazz noon-3:30pm Wed.-Sat. and Sun. and piano Sun.-Tues.

Showboat • 383-9232 or 800-826-2800: Mardi Gras Room: Entertainment nightly except Mon.

Silverton • 263-7777 or 800-588-7711: Rattlesnake Rickey's Saloon: Bands play nightly.

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RENO

Stardust • 732-6111 or 800-824-6033: Wayne Newton Theatre: Wayne Newton, May 1-28 and June 12-Aug. 13 (dark Fri.). Stardust Ballroom: Thunder From Down Under, May 26-June 16, male revue. Tommy Dorsey Orchestra, June 3. Bands play in the Starlight Lounge.

Stratosphere • 382-4446 or 800-99-TOWER: Broadway Showroom: "American Superstars," impersonator revue (dark Thurs.). "Viva Las Vegas," musical revue 2 and 4pm daily except Sun. Entertainment in the Top of the World and Oasis lounges.

Treasure Island • 894-7111: Cirque du Soleil in "Mystére" (dark Mon.-Tues. and June 7-13). Music in Captain Morgan's piano bar.

Tropicana • 739-2411: Tiffany Theatre: "The Best of the Folies Bergere...Sexier Than Ever" (dark Thurs.). "The Magic of Rick Thomas," 2 and 4pm daily except Fri. Celebration Lounge: Entertainment TBA. Tropics Lounge: T. Fox and the Fox City Show. Comedy Stop Theatre: "The Comedy Stop," stand-up comedy nightly.

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

Venetian • 733-5000: C2K Showroom: André-Philippe Gagnon, impressionist, indf. (dark Mon.). Entertainment daily in the Rialto Bar and La Scena Lounge at the Venetian.

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

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

World Trade Center • 369-5750: International Showroom: Michael La Rocca Show, indf.

LAUGHLIN

Avi • 535-5555: Bands play nightly.

Colorado Belle • 298-4000: "D" Deck: Riverboat Ramblers, strolling musicians. Bands like John Earl and Boogey Man and karaoke with Rockin' Jimmy D play in the Boiler Room Brew Pub.

Edgewater • 298-2453: Kokopelli's Lounge: Bands like Steel Breeze play nightly.

Flamingo Laughlin • 298-5028 or 800-435-8469: Silver Bullet Showroom: "Dancing to the Hitz," revue (dark Fri.). Engelbert Humperdinck, May 13. Righteous Brothers, May 20. Center Stage Experience: Bands play nightly.

Golden Nugget Laughlin • 298-7111 or 800-237-1739: Tarzan's Lounge: Bands like Stinger and Catch 22 play Thurs.-Sun., DJ Tues.-Wed., karaoke Tues. (dark Mon.).

Harrah's Laughlin • 298-4600 or 800-447-8700: Fiesta Showroom: The Pendragons, magic production show, May 1-June 25. Rio Vista Outdoor Amphitheater: Paul Anka, May 13-14. Glen Campbell, May 22.

Ramada Express • 298-4200 or 800-243-6846: Pavilion Theater: "South Pacific," Broadway musical, May 7-14. "Shout: A Tribute to the '50s" featuring the Swing Sisters, May 15, May 17-18, May 29-June 1, and June 19-22. Arizona Jamboree, May 21-25, June 11-15, and June 26-29. The Platters starring Sonny Turner, May 27-28. On the Edge, comedy jugglers, June 3-8. Jeff Dunham, June 24-25. Back to the 1940s Speakers, Tues. at 1:15pm, free. "On the Wings of Eagles: A Tribute to American Heroes," multimedia show, daily on the hour beginning at 9am. Caboose Lounge: Bands play nightly except Mon. Karaoke Madness, Mon. Swing and Latin dance contests, 5pm daily. Train rides also are available.

River Palms • 298-2242 or 800-835-7904: Crystal Sands Showroom: "Diamonds and Pearls," revue, nightly except Fri., matinee 4pm Sun. DJ music or bands perform nightly in the Bermuda Club Lounge. Karaoke with Don West, 4-7pm Wed.

Riverside Resort • 298-2535 or 800-227-3849 ext. 616: Don's Celebrity Theatre: Gallagher, June 30-July 2.

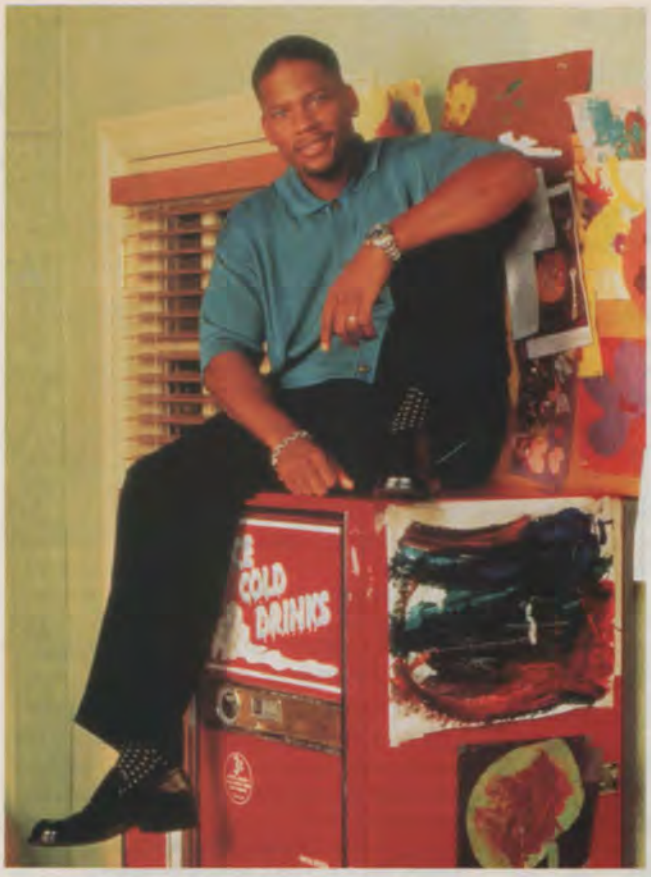
MESQUITE

CasaBlanca • 346-7529 or 800-459-7529: CasaBlanca Theatre: Entertainment TBA. Bands play nightly except Mon. in the Cascades Lounge; piano bar is scheduled for afternoons.

Eureka (formerly Rancho Mesquite) • 346-4646: Live entertainment in the Wild Cactus and Scorpion lounges.

Mesquite Star • 346-1177: Bands play in the Shooters Bar.

Si Redd's Oasis • 346-5232 or 800-621-0187: Redd Boot



Hughley's Back in Town

Comedian D.L. Hughley appears May 26-28 at the Riviera in Las Vegas. The entertainer is returning to his stand-up comedy roots during filming breaks of his ABC-TV sitcom, *The Hughleys*.

Saloon: Dancing to video and live DJ, Fri. and Sat. Sandy Hackett's Comedy Club on Sat. Cabaret Lounge: Bands play nightly.

Virgin River • 346-7777 or 800-346-7721: Bands play in the casino lounge nightly except Mon.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Fiesta Casino • 631-7000: Roxy's Theatre: Headliners TBA. Pipe organ music 5-10pm except Tues. Bands play nightly in the Cabo Lounge. Festival Buffet: Hot Lava plays 4:30-8:30pm Mon. Gardunos Restaurant: Mariachis play 10:30am-2:30pm Sun.

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

Texas Station • 631-1000: South Padre: Entertainment TBA. Armadillo Lounge: Dancing to Sunday Swing with Jerry Tiffe 4-8pm, karaoke Thurs. Bands play Fri.-Sat.

PRIMM

Buffalo Bill's Resort • 382-1111 or 800-FUN-STOP: Star of the Desert Arena: Clint Black, Aug. 24. Stage Bar: Bands play Thurs.-Sun. Carolee's Comedy Club: Michael Rapport hosts guest comedians.

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

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

Reno-Tahoe Territory

RENO/SPARKS

Atlantis • 825-4700 or 800-723-6500: Grand Ballroom: Thunder From Down Under, May 9-13, male revue. Danny Marona, May 26-28. Bands play nightly in the Center Stage Cabaret.

Boomtown • 345-6000: Boomtown Cabaret: Entertainers play nightly except Mon.

Cal-Neva Virginian • 323-1046, 877-777-7303.

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

Comstock • 329-1880.

Eldorado • 786-5700, 800-648-5966 (U.S. outside Nevada) or 800-648-3024 (Canada): Eldorado Showroom: "Spirit of the Dance: The New Millennium," Irish dance production show (dark Mon.). Brew Brothers: Rock, blues, and swing bands play nightly at the microbrewery. Piano music in Bistro Roxy. BuBinga Lounge: Dance to DJs and live music.

Eddie's Fabulous '50s • 329-1950: Lounge entertainment. Also DJ music at Reno Live at Eddie's.

Fitzgeralds • 785-3300 or 800-648-5022 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands like Whiskey Ridge perform nightly.

Flamingo Reno • 785-7080: Flamingo Showroom: "Carnival of Wonders," magic production (dark Tues.). Entertainment at the Top of the Flamingo restaurant (dark Tues.).

Harrah's Reno • 788-3773 or 800-HARRAHS: Sammy's Showroom: "Dancin' in the Streets," revue, 7:30pm Sun.-Fri. and 7 and 9pm Sat., followed by "Skintight" at 10pm Sun.-Fri. and 11:30pm Sat. (dark Thurs.). Society of Seven, May 4-7. Williams and Ree, June 22-25. Smothers Brothers/Gary Mule Deer, June 30-July 4. Lil' Elmo and the Cosmos, Aug. 3. Vonda Shepard, Sept. 15-17.

John Ascuaga's Nugget • Sparks, 356-3304 or 800-648-1177: Rose Ballroom: Jeff Foxworthy, June 16-17. Celebrity Showroom: Ty Herndon, May 11-17. David Brenner, May 18-24. Tony Orlando/Chris Bliss, May 25-June 7. Glen Campbell/Kelly Monteith, June 8-21. Herb Reed and the Platters, July 6-19. Charo/Sammy King, July 20-Aug. 2. Brenda Lee/Billy Garan, Aug. 3-16. Bands play nightly in the Casino Cabaret and Trader Dick's restaurant.

Peppermill • 826-2121 or 800-648-6992: Tahoe Grand Showroom: Charlie Daniels Band, July 29. Bands like Louie Fontaine and Joy Riders play in the Cabaret Lounge.

Rail City Casino • Sparks, 359-9440: Entertainers play on weekends in Rail City's Side Track Lounge.

Ramada Inn and Speakeasy Casino • 329-7400: Pretty Boy Floyd's Bar features live entertainment.

Reno Hilton • 789-2285 or 800-648-3568 (U.S. outside Nevada): Hilton Theatre: "Work That Skirt," musical revue. Grand Ballroom: Les Brown plays May 14 for a big band dinner dance. The Garage: Bands play nightly. The Improv Comedy Club: Stand-up comedy nightly except Mon. Aspen Lounge: Mon. night jazz; live music and dancing.

Riverboat • 323-8877.

Silver Club • Sparks, 358-4771 or 800-648-1137 (U.S. outside Nevada).

Silver Legacy • 329-4777 or 800-225-BASS (U.S., Canada, and Mexico): Grande Exposition Hall: Paul Rodriguez with Yo Quiero Comedy Jam, May 6. Teen Idols, May 27-28. Wayne Newton, June 9-10. Johnny Mathis, June 23-24. Carrot Top, Sept. 2-3. Loretta Lynn, Sept. 9. Doobie Brothers, Sept. 22-23. Tony Bennett, Oct. 6-7. Comedians perform at the Catch a Rising Star comedy club (dark Sun.-Mon.). Silver Baron Lounge: Piano music.

Western Village • Sparks, 331-1069 or 800-648-1170.

CARSON AREA

Carson Nugget • Carson City, 882-1626 or 800-426-5239 (continental U.S. including Nevada): Nugget Show Bar: Bands play nightly.

Carson Station • Carson City, 883-0900: Bands play in the



casino lounge nightly in the Carson City hotel-casino.
Carson Valley Inn • Minden, 782-9711 or 800-321-6983: Shannon Ballroom: Entertainment TBA. Bands play in the Cabaret Lounge for dancing nightly except DJ night on Mon.
Ormsby House • Carson City, 882-1890: Mark Twain Lounge: Bands play nightly.
Piñon Plaza • Carson City, 885-9000: Sports Book Lounge: Bands play Fri.-Sat.
Sharkey's Nugget • Gardnerville, 782-3133: Live music and dancing Fri. and Sat. Also, extensive displays of boxing, circus, and rodeo memorabilia.
Topaz Lodge • Topaz Lake, 266-3339.

STATELINE, LAKE TAHOE

Bill's Lake Tahoe • 588-2455.
Caesars Tahoe • 588-3515 or 800-648-3353: Circus Maximus: Wynonna, May 26-27. Clint Black, Sept. 15-16. The Temptations, Oct. 13-14. Nero's 2000 nightclub presents live music. Cleo's Bar and Entertainment Lounge: Pianist Arthur Hervey appears indf.
Harrah's Lake Tahoe • 800-HARRAHS: South Shore Room: "Imagine," production show, thru May 8. Tower of Power, May 25-28. Three Dog Night, June 1-4. Jim Belushi and the Sacred Hearts, June 9-11. Rain: A Tribute to the Beatles, June 22-25. The Everly Brothers, June 29-July 2. Smokey Robinson/Tom Dreesen, July 6-9. Bands play nightly in the Casino Center Stage.
Harveys • 588-2411 or 800-553-1022 ext. 2883: Cabaret: "Passion 2000," adults only (dark Mon.).
Lake Tahoe Horizon • 588-6211 or 800-322-7723: Golden Cabaret: "Carnival Cabaret," female impersonator-comedy revue (dark Mon.). Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.
Lakeside Inn • 588-7777: Entertainment TBA.

NORTH LAKE TAHOE

Cal-Neva Resort • Crystal Bay, 832-4000 or 800-225-6382: Frank Sinatra Celebrity Showroom: Entertainment TBA.
Crystal Bay Club • Crystal Bay, 831-0512: Bands play nightly in the Crystal Bar.
Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe • Incline Village, 832-1234: Regency Ballroom: TBA. Casino Stage Bar: Performers play nightly except Mon.
Jim Kelley's Tahoe Nugget • Crystal Bay, 831-7157.
Tahoe Biltmore • Crystal Bay, 831-0660: Nevada Room: Entertainment TBA. Bands play in the Aspen Lounge.

Cowboy Country

ELKO

Commercial Hotel • 738-3181: Comedy on Wed. at the Commercial.
Gold Country • 800-621-1332: J.R.'s Lounge: Entertainment Tues.-Sat.
High Desert Inn • 738-8425: Comedy show, Fri.
Red Lion • 738-2111 or 800-545-0044 (Western U.S. outside Nevada): Club Max Showroom: Lonnie Lawless and the Desert Thunder Band.
Stockmen's Hotel • 738-5141 or 800-648-2345 (U.S. and Nevada): Bands play in the lounge.

JACKPOT

Barton's Club 93 • 755-2341.
Cactus Petes • 800-821-1103: Gala Showroom: Danny Marona, May 2-7 and 9-14. Sherrie Austin, May 16-21. Michael Martin Murphy, May 23-28. Eddy Raven, May 30-June 4. Williams and Ree, June 7-10. Johnny Rodriguez, June 20-25. Sons of the Pioneers, July 4-9. Danny Marona, July 11-16 and 18-23. The Pendragons, July 25-30 and Aug. 1-6.
Horseshu Casino • 755-2321.

MILL CITY

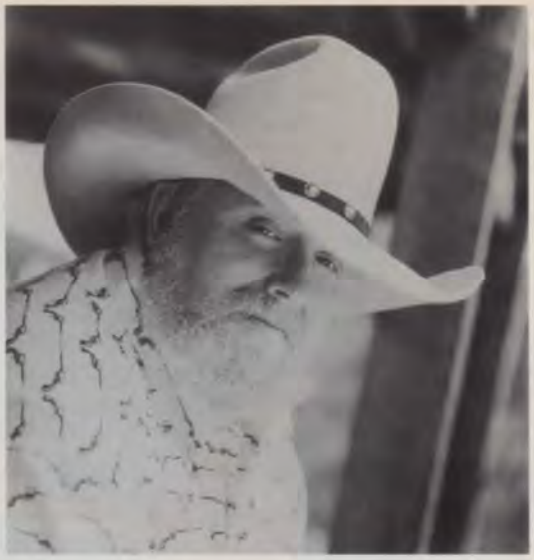
Burns Bros. Casino • 538-7306.

WENDOVER

Peppermill • 664-2255 or 800-648-9660 (U.S. outside Nevada): Bands play nightly.
Red Garter • 664-2111 or 800-982-2111 (continental U.S. outside Nevada).
Silver Smith • 664-2231 or 800-354-3671: Jim's Bar: Live entertainment nightly.
State Line • 664-2221, 800-354-3671: Stateliner Lounge: Entertainment TBA.

WINNEMUCCA

Winners Hotel • 623-2511: Bands play nightly.
Model T Hotel • 623-2588.
Holiday Inn Express • 800-HOLIDAY.
Sundance Casino • 623-3336.
Red Lion • 800-633-6435.



Orange Blossoms

Fiddle strings smoke when Charlie Daniels appears July 29 at the Peppermill in Reno.



Pony Express Territory

ELY

Hotel Nevada • 289-6665.

FALLON

Bonanza Inn • 423-3111 ext. 47.
Fallon Nugget • 423-3111.

Pioneer Territory

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn • 372-1777: Weekend entertainment.

BEATTY

Stagecoach • 553-2419 or 800-4-BIGWIN (U.S. outside Nevada): Nightly entertainment.
Exchange Club • 553-2368: Weekend entertainment.

HAWTHORNE

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

PAHRUMP

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

TONOPAH

Banc Club • 482-5409: Entertainment TBA.
Mizpah Hotel • 482-6200.
Station House • 482-9777: Bands play nightly.

YERINGTON

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

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

Dining Directory

The following Nevada dining directory includes current magazine advertisers. Each listing gives sample dishes, whether breakfast, lunch, or dinner (B, L, D) are served, and general price range. Price ranges refer to typical entree price per person: up to $10 ($), $11 to $20 ($$), $21 to $30 ($$$), and more than $30 ($$$$). Nevada's area codes are 702 in the Las Vegas area and 775 in the rest of the state. Major credit cards are accepted at the restaurants unless otherwise noted.

Las Vegas Area

AMERICAN

Circus Circus/Circus Buffet—734-0410. B, L, D. $.
Circus Circus/Pink Pony Cafe—734-0410. A 24-hour cafe with a Chinese menu from 5-11pm. L, D. $.
Imperial Palace/Betty's Diner—794-3261. Shakes, malts, and sundaes as well as sandwiches, soup, breakfast bakery. B, L, D. $.
Imperial Palace/Burger Palace—794-3261. Burgers, fries, and other fast-food items. B, L, D. $.
Imperial Palace/Emperor's Buffet—731-3311. Carving station, roast baron of beef. B, L, D. $.
Imperial Palace/Imperial Buffet—794-3261. Prime rib and champagne dinner nightly. B, L, D. $.
Imperial Palace/Rib House—794-3261. Barbecued ribs, chicken, blackened entrees. D. $$.
Imperial Palace/Teahouse—731-3311. Carving station with prime rib. Weekend brunch. B, L, D. $.
Riviera/Kady's Coffee Shop—794-9403. $-$$.
Stratosphere/Roxy's Diner—380-7777. A '50s themed diner with thick shakes, big sandwiches, burgers, and blue plate specials. B, L, D. $.
Stratosphere/Stratosphere Buffet—380-7777. Seafood night on Friday and Saturday. B, L ,D. $.
Stratosphere/Triple Crown Deli—780-7777. Sub sandwiches. L, D. $.

INTERNATIONAL

Riviera Hotel/Mardi Gras Food Court—734-5110. Nine quick-service eateries featuring international cuisine. B, L, D. $, no credit cards.
Riviera Hotel/World's Fare Buffet—794-9400. International cuisines plus prime rib. B, L, D. $.

ITALIAN

Circus Circus/Stivali Italian Restaurant—734-0410. Pasta, seafood, and steaks. D. $-$$.
Imperial Palace/Pizza Palace—794-3261. Pizza, pasta, salads. L, D. $.
Riviera Hotel/Ristorante Italiano—794-9363. Italian eatery serves lobster Francaise, fresh seafood. D. $-$$$$.
Stratosphere/Fellini's Tower of Pasta—380-7777. Italian cuisine is presented in an Old World setting. L, D. $$.

ASIAN

Imperial Palace/Ming Terrace—794-3261. Mandarin and Cantonese cuisine, abalone, kung pao shrimp, roast duck. D. $$.
Riviera Hotel/Rik' Shaw—794-9537. Pineapple duck, orange roughy with black pepper sauce. D. $-$$.

MEXICAN

Circus Circus/Blue Iguana—734-0410. Fajitas, quesadillas, authentic meals from south of the border. D. $.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Circus Circus/The Steak House—794-3767. Award-winning restaurant features steaks cooked over an exhibition-style mesquite grill, prime rib, and lobster. D. $$$.
Imperial Palace/Embers—794-3261. Steaks and continental dishes, 28 menu choices. D. $$.
Imperial Palace/Seahouse—794-3261. Alaskan crab legs, seafood salads. D, $$.
Riviera Hotel/Kristofer's—794-9233. Steak, seafood, and chicken. D. $$.
Stratosphere/Montana's Café and Grille—380-7777. Steaks, seafood, pasta, and desserts. B, L, D. $.
Stratosphere/Top of the World—380-7777. Steaks, fish, and lobster. D. $$$$.

Reno-Carson Area

AMERICAN

Atlantis/Purple Parrot—Reno, 825-4700. Breakfast and American favorites served 24 hours a day. B, L, D. $-$$.
Atlantis/Toucan Charlie's Buffet—Reno, 825-4700. Friday-night seafood buffet and Sunday champagne brunch. B, L, D. $-$$.
Best Western Piñon Plaza Resort/Branding Iron Cafe and Margarita Saloon—Carson City, 885-9000. Western favorites at moderate prices. B, L, D. $-$$.
Carson Nugget/Buffet—882-1626. Sunday champagne brunch, Saturday breakfast buffet, Friday seafood buffet. B, L, D. $.
Carson Nugget/Coffee Shop—882-1626. Open 24 hours. B, L, D. $.
Carson Station/Station Grill and Rotisserie—883-8400. Baby back ribs, fish specials. L, D. $$.
Carson Station/Station Restaurant—883-0900. Homestyle cooking. B, L, D. $.
Carson Valley Inn/Fiona's—Minden, 783-6650. Steaks, seafood, and nightly specials. D, $$.
Carson Valley Inn/Katie's—Minden, 782-9711. Four-course prime rib dinner, steak and lobster, half-pound burgers, and breakfast specials. B, L, D. $-$$.
Carson Valley Inn/Michael's—Minden, 782-9711. Rack of lamb and seafood creations. D. $-$$.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Farm House Coffee Shop—Sparks, 356-3300. Old-fashioned home cooking including omelettes, pancakes, fried chicken. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Gabe's Pub and Deli—Sparks, 356-3300. Snacks, sandwiches, desserts, pastries. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/General Store—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, giant apple pancake, seafood Louis, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. $.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Rotisserie—Sparks, 356-3300. Buffet, Sunday brunch. B, L, D. $-$$.
Silver Legacy/Fresh Express Food Court—Reno, 329-7400. A variety of menus, including Chinese noodle kitchen. B, L, D. $.
Silver Legacy/Legacy Saloon and Deli Exchange—Reno, 329-4777. Roast garlic Rosemary chicken with spinach pizza, chicken. B, L, D. $.
Silver Legacy/Victorian Buffet—Reno, 329-4777. Shrimp and crab cioppino, homemade ravioli. B, L, D. $.



Llewellyn's at Harveys offers scenic dining.

ITALIAN

Atlantis/Café Alfresco—Reno, 825-4700. Brick-oven pizzas, pastas. L, D. $.
Atlantis/Monte Vigna—Reno, 825-4700. Tuscan-style Italian cuisine, 4,000-bottle wine cellar. D. $$$.
Eldorado/La Strada—Reno, 786-5700. Northern Italian cuisine with veal, chicken, and seafood entrees. Award-winning wine list. D. $$.

INTERNATIONAL

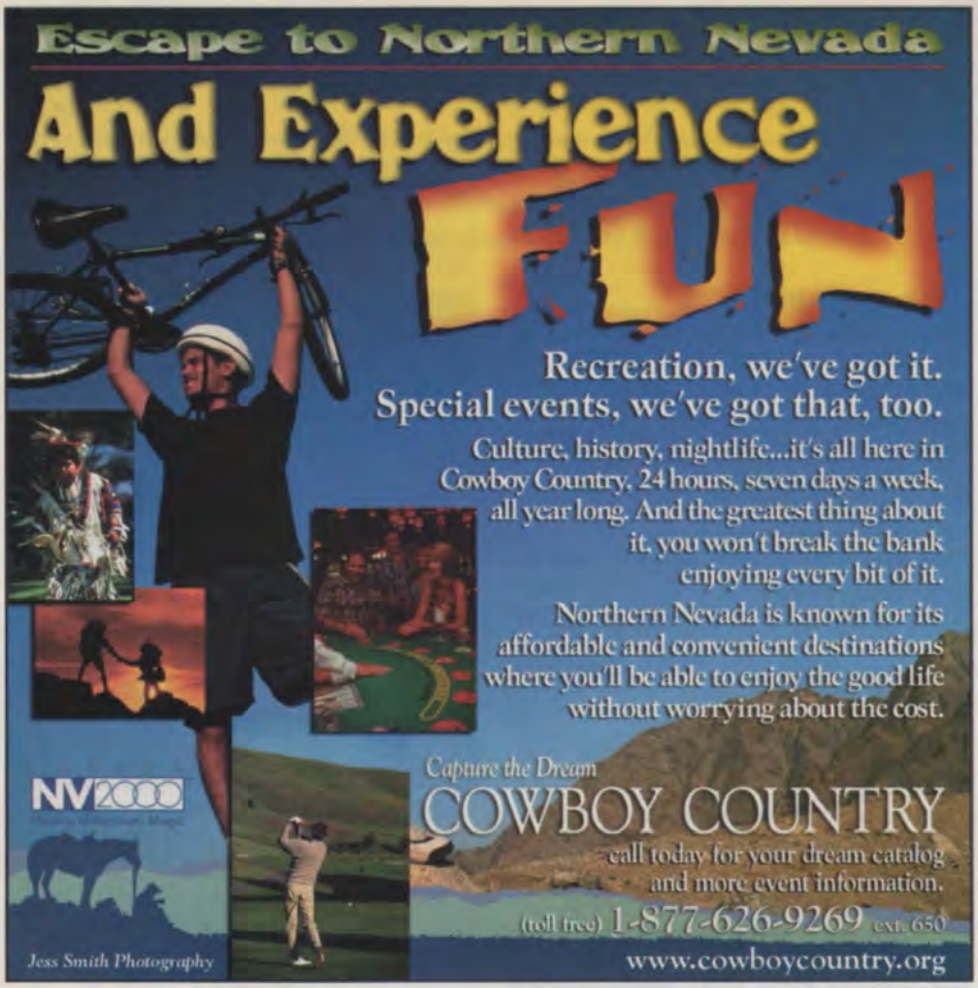
Eldorado/Bistro Roxy—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet dishes include Chilean sea bass with Yukon gold potatoes and creamed spinach. D. $$.
Eldorado/Chefs' Buffet—Reno, 786-5700. USDA prime rib, homemade pastas, Mongolian grill, salad bar, dessert bar. B, L, D. $.
Eldorado/Choices—Reno, 786-5700. Deli, espresso bar, bakery, Asian Noodle Kitchen. B, L, D. $.
Eldorado/Tivoli Gardens—Reno, 786-5700. Multi-ethnic, 24-hour restaurant. B, L, D. $.

BASQUE

Louis' Basque Corner—301 E. Fourth St., Reno, 323-7203. Sweetbreads, tripe, paella, other seafood dishes. L, D. $$.

ASIAN

Eldorado/Golden Fortune—Reno, 786-5700. Hong Kong-style cuisine. D. $$.
John Ascuaga's Nugget/Trader Dick's—Sparks, 356-3300. Cashew chicken, Szechwan specialties, flaming dagger brochette. L, D. $$.
Silver Legacy/Sweetwater Cafe—Reno, 329-4777. Baked homemade tortellini, fried shrimp, prime rib, Cantonese pepper steak. B, L, D. $.





STEAK & SEAFOOD

Atlantis/Atlantis Seafood Steakhouse—Reno, 825-4700. Steaks, prime rib, seafood, and pastas. D. $$$.

Atlantis/Oyster Bar on the Sky Terrace—Reno, 825-4700. Fresh oysters, clams, shrimp, and lobster. L, D. $$.

Carson Nugget/Oyster Bar—882-1626. Clam chowder, fish and chips, and pan roasts. L, D. $.

Carson Nugget/Steak House—882-1626. Veal scaloppini, scampi in dill sauce, and more. D. $$.

Eldorado/The Grill Steakhouse—Reno, 786-5700. Prime rib, seafood, and grilled entrees. D. $$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Oyster Bar—Sparks, 356-3300. Lazyman's cioppino, seafood stews. L, D. $$.

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Steak House—Sparks, 356-3300. Prime rib, steak, and lobster. L, D. $$.

Silver Legacy/Fairchild's Oyster Bar—Reno, 329-4777. Crab cakes, oyster pan roast. L, D. $$.

Silver Legacy/Sterling's Seafood and Steakhouse—Reno, 329-4777. Entrees include medallions of filet mignon, spicy roast chicken. D. $$.

MEDITERRANEAN

John Ascuaga's Nugget/Restaurante Orozko—356-3300. Veal Medallions Saltimbocca, braised lamb shank, paella valenciana. D. $.

BREW PUBS

Eldorado/The Brew Brothers—Reno, 786-5700. Gourmet pizzas, ribs, barbecue shrimp, sausage sampler. L, D. $.

Lake Tahoe

AMERICAN

Caesars Tahoe/Cafe Roma—Stateline, 588-3515. Lamb chops, prime rib. B, L, D. $-$$.

ITALIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Primavera—Stateline, 588-3515. Linguini carbonara, tenderloin pizzaiola. D. $$.

ASIAN

Caesars Tahoe/Empress Court—Stateline, 588-3515. Szechwan, Mandarin. D. $$.

MEXICAN

Harveys Tahoe/El Vaquero—588-2411. Traditional Mexican dishes and gourmet Southwestern specialties. D. $$.

CONTINENTAL

Harveys Tahoe/Llewellyn's—588-2411. Lake Tahoe views and contemporary cuisine. L, D. $$.

STEAK & SEAFOOD

Caesars Tahoe/Broiler Room—Stateline, 588-3515. Prime rib, seafood, Cajun specialties. D. $$.

Harveys Tahoe/Sage Room—588-2411. Western-themed steak house, tableside preparation. D. $$.

Harveys Tahoe/Seafood Grotto—588-2411.

Around the State

LOVELOCK: Ramada Inn/Sturgeon's—273-2971. Coffee shop open 24 hours, family dining room. Fiesta Room supper club Tuesday-Saturday. Steaks, seafood, Mexican dishes. B, L, D. $-$$$.

WINNEMUCCA: Model T/Casino Restaurant—623-2588. Chicken strips, chicken-fried steak, prime rib special, ribeye steak, fried prawns. B, L, D. $.



Attractions, Tours & Museums

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

Visitors can explore Nevada's diverse attractions when they visit the Silver State's many museums, hotels, and state and national parks. The area code for Las Vegas Territory is 702, while the remainder of the state is 775.

Las Vegas Territory

BOULDER CITY

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

HENDERSON

City of Henderson Bird Viewing Preserve • Self-guided or guided tours for more than 10 people of the 80-acre preserve. 2400 Moser Street off Sunset, Henderson, 565-4264.
Clark County Heritage Museum • 1830 S. Boulder Hwy., 455-7955.
Cranberry World West • Tours of Ocean Spray facility. 1301 American Pacific Dr., 566-7160.
Ethel M Chocolate Factory and Cactus Garden • Tours. 2 Cactus Garden Dr., 458-8864.
Mountasia Family Fun Center • 2050 Olympic, 898-7777.
Ron Lee's World of Clowns • 330 Carousel Pkwy., 434-1700.

LAS VEGAS

Adventuredome • Adventure park with rides and attractions. Next to Circus Circus, 800-444-CIRCUS.
A.J. Hackett Bungy • 810 Circus Circus, 385-4321.
All-American Sportpark • Golf, baseball, in-line skating, and NASCAR racing, corner of Las Vegas Blvd. and Sunset Road, 798-7777.
Bellagio • Art gallery, fountain shows, 693-7111.
Caesars Palace • Dining, magic shows, and special effects at Caesars Magical Empire, 731-7333.
Crystal Palace In-Line Skating and Hockey Complex • 9295 W. Flamingo, 253-9832.
Elvis-A-Rama Museum • 3401 Industrial, Las Vegas, 309-7200.
Excalibur • Dragon battle in front moat, motion simulators, 597-7777.
Flamingo Las Vegas • Wildlife sanctuary. 733-3111.
Floyd Lamb State Park • Picnicking and fishing. 9200 Tule Springs Rd., 486-5413.
Flyaway Indoor Skydiving • 200 Convention Center Dr., 731-4768.
Forum Shops at Caesars • "Race for Atlantis" IMAX 3D motion simulator. Caesars Palace, 893-4800.
Fremont Street Experience • Light show on the hour from dusk to midnight. Downtown Las Vegas, 678-5600.
Gameworks • Climbing wall and arcade. Showcase Mall, 597-3122.
Guinness World of Records Museum • 2780 Las Vegas Blvd. S., 792-3766.
Harley-Davidson Cafe • Motorcycle memorabilia, Harleys and other items on display. Las Vegas Strip, 740-4555.
Holy Cow! Casino • Brewery tours, 732-2697.
Horseshoe Casino • $1 million on display, 382-1600.
Imperial Palace Auto Collection • Classic and antique vehicles, 794-3174.
Laser Quest • 7361 West Lake Mead, Las Vegas, 243-8881.
Las Vegas Art Museum • 9600 W. Sahara Ave., 647-4300.
Las Vegas Club • Sports memorabilia. Downtown, 385-1664.
Las Vegas Motor Speedway • Guided tours. 644-4444.
Las Vegas Natural History Museum • From dinosaurs to desert creatures. 900 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 384-DINO.
Liberace Museum • Pianos and memorabilia. 1775 E. Tropicana, 798-5595.
Lied Discovery Children's Museum • Science and other learning exhibits. 833 Las Vegas Blvd. N., 382-KIDS.
Luxor • Motion rides, IMAX Theatre, and King Tut's Tomb and Museum, 262-4000.
M&M's World • Showcase Mall, 736-7611.
Marjorie Barrick Museum of Natural History • 4505 Maryland Pkwy., UNLV, 895-3381.
MGM Grand • Lion habitat open daily. MGM Grand Adventures Theme Park open weekends May 6-June 4, daily June 10-Aug. 20, then weekends till Sept. 4, 891-7979.
Mirage • Dolphin habitat, volcano, and Secret Garden with tigers, elephant, lions, and panthers, 791-7111.
Motown Cafe • Memorabilia and entertainment, New York-New York, 740-6440.
Mount Charleston • Recreation info., 222-1597.
NASCAR Cafe • Race cars displayed. Sahara Hotel, 734-7223.
Nevada State Museum and Historical Society • Lorenzi Park, 700 Twin Lakes Dr., 486-5205.



All Aboard For Nevada Railroad Tours

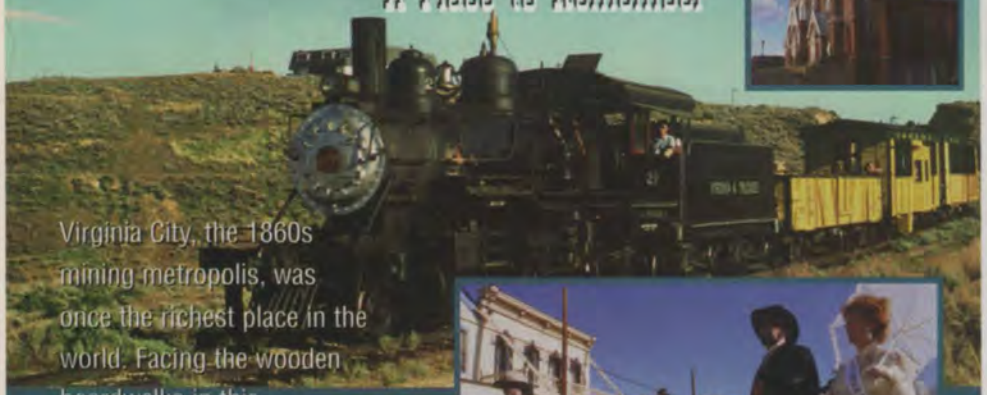
Visitors can board old-fashioned trains in Carson City, Ely, and Virginia City. The Nevada State Railroad Museum in Carson and the Nevada Northern Railway Museum in Ely offer rides on selected summer weekends. In Virginia City, the Virginia and Truckee Railroad features daily excursions.

Photo: Jens Peerman

Virginia City

A Place to Remember





Virginia City, the 1860s mining metropolis, was once the richest place in the world. Facing the wooden boardwalks in this mountainside town are museums, restaurants, old west saloons, and a historic railroad, all surmounted by ancient balconies, antique stores, and historic mansions.



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Virginia City Convention & Tourism Authority

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FAX: (702)735-8577



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

New York-New York • Roller coaster, 740-6969.
Old Las Vegas Mormon Fort Historic State Park • Site of 1855 settlement. 908 Las Vegas Blvd. North at Washington Avenue, 486-3511.
Omnimax Theatre • Caesars Palace, 731-7900.
Race Rock Cafe • Race cars and monster trucks. Fremont Street Experience, 382-7223.
Rainforest Cafe • Bird habitat and animated creatures. MGM Grand, 891-8580.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area • 363-1921.
Rio Suite Hotel • Free carnival-themed sky parade, exhibition of artifacts from the *Titanic*, 252-7777.
Sahara Hotel • Speed: The Ride roller coaster, NASCAR Cafe, virtual-reality car racing, 737-2735.
Sam's Town • Water and laser show, 456-7777.
Santa Fe Hotel • Ice arena. 4949 N. Rancho Dr., 658-4993.
Shelby American • Shelby Cobra auto museum and factory tour. Las Vegas Motor Speedway, 643-3000.
Southern Nevada Zoological Park • Home of 150 species, from apes to peacocks. 1775 N. Rancho Dr., 648-5955.
Spring Mountain Ranch State Park • Red Rock Canyon, 875-4141.
Star Trek: The Experience • Las Vegas Hilton, 697-8751.
Stratosphere • Roller coaster and Big Shot ride, 380-7777.
Treasure Island • Sea battle every 90 minutes from 4 to 11:30 p.m., 894-7111.
Tropicana • Birds, tiger habitat, and gambling museum, 739-2222.
Venetian Hotel • Madame Tussaud's Celebrity Encounter wax museum, gondola rides, 733-5000.
Walker African-American Museum and Research Center • Exhibits and records, by appointment only, 647-2242.
Wet 'n Wild • Water theme park open weekends in May, then daily May 20-Oct. 1, 734-0088.

LAUGHLIN

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

MESQUITE

Desert Valley Museum • 346-5705.
Si Redd's Oasis • Gun club, hayrides, ATV and horseback rides, 346-5232.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

The Planetarium • Community College of Southern Nevada, 651-5059.
U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds • Tour of demonstration squadron facility, 2pm Tues. and Thurs. Nellis Air Force Base, North Las Vegas, 652-4018.

OVERTON

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

PRIMM

Primadonna Resorts • Roller coaster, water flume, cyber coaster, and Turbo Drop rides at Buffalo Bill's; cars belonging to Bonnie and Clyde and Dutch Schultz and Clyde's bullet-riddled shirt at Whiskey Pete's, 382-1111.

SEARCHLIGHT

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

Reno-Tahoe Territory

CARSON CITY

Brewery Arts Center • 449 W. King St., 883-1976.

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

DAYTON

Dayton State Park • 687-5678.
Dayton Historic Society Museum • Open weekends on Shady Lane.

GARDNERVILLE

Carson Valley Museum and Cultural Center • Old Douglas County High School on U.S. 395, 782-2555.
Sharkey's Nugget • Boxing, rodeo memorabilia. 782-3133.

GENOA

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

LAKE TAHOE

Hard Rock Cafe • Harveys, Stateline, 588-2411.
Heavenly Aerial Tram • Seasonal. Stateline, 586-7000.
Lake Tahoe Nevada State Park • Sand Harbor, 2005 Hwy. 28, Incline Village, 831-0494.
M.S. Dixie II Sternwheeler • Zephyr Cove, 588-3508.
Ponderosa Ranch • Open through October. Incline Village, 831-0691.
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Tahoe Rim Trail • 150-mile system, 588-0686.
Tallac Historic Site • Tours daily Memorial Day through Sept., South Lake Tahoe, 530-544-3029.
U.S. Forest Service Visitors Center • Stream-profile chamber, 530-573-2600.
Vikingsholm • Tours, 530-525-7232.
Zephyr Cove Resort • Cruises, boat rentals. 588-5021.

RENO

Animal Ark • Open until Oct. 31, 10 mi. north of Reno on U.S. 395, then 12 mi. on Red Rock Road to reach Animal Ark, 969-3111.
Bartley Ranch Regional Park • Hiking, horse arena, and one-room Huffaker schoolhouse. Reno, 828-6612.
Earth Window Museum • Native American artifacts, 100 N. Sierra St., Town Center Mall, 333-2828.
Fleischmann Planetarium • Stargazing programs, U of N campus, 784-4811.
Galena Creek Regional Park • Mount Rose Hwy., 785-4319.
Liberty Belle Slot Collection • Liberty Belle Saloon, 4250 S. Virginia St., 825-1776.
National Automobile Museum (the Harrah Collection) • 10 Lake St. S., 333-9300.
National Bowling Stadium • Tournaments and IMAX theater. 300 N. Center St., 334-2695.
Nevada Historical Society Museum • 1650 N. Virginia St., 688-1190.
Nevada Museum of Art, E.L. Wiegand Gallery • 160 W. Liberty St., 329-3333.
Playland • Rides, picnicking. Idlewild Park, 329-6008.
Raymond I. Smith Truckee River Walk • 334-2077.
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Reno Tahoe Gaming Academy • Tours. 215 S. Wells Ave., 329-5665.
Sierra Arts Center Gallery • Gallery and offices, 200 Flint St., 329-2787.
Sierra Safari Zoo • 10 mi. north of Reno at Red Rock Rd., 677-1101.
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Wilbur D. May Arboretum and Botanical Garden • Rancho San Rafael Park, 785-4153.
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Territorial Enterprise Mark Twain Museum • 847-0525.
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Virginia City Radio Museum • 847-9047.
Virginia City Tours • 786-0866.
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Boomtown Family Fun Center • Motion theater, Ferris wheel, and miniature golf, 345-8668.

WASHOE VALLEY

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

Cowboy Country

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Trail of the 49ers Interpretive Center • Pioneer exhibits, research room, 453 N. Second St., 635-5720.

ELKO

Jarbidge Wilderness Area • North of Elko, 208-543-4129.
Northeastern Nevada Museum • 1515 Idaho St., 738-3418.
Sherman Station Complex • Restored 1875 ranch, tours. Visitor information, 738-7135.
Western Folklife Center • 501 Railroad St., 738-7508.
Wild Horse State Recreation Area • 65 miles north of Elko, 758-6493.

LOVELOCK

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

WENDOVER

Bonneville Salt Flats • 801-977-4300.

WINNEMUCCA

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

Pony Express Territory

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Hickison Petroglyph Recreation Site • Self-guided tour with interpretive signs, 24 miles east of Austin on U.S. 50.

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Nevada Northern Railway Museum • Train rides on historic locomotives. 1100 Ave. A, East Ely, 289-2085.
Ward Charcoal Ovens State Historic Site • 16 miles (11 dirt) south of Ely, 728-4467.
White Pine Public Museum • Exhibits on history of Ely area. 2000 Aultman St., 289-4710.

EUREKA

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

FALLON

Churchill County Museum and Hidden Cave • Tours. 1050 S. Maine St., 423-3677.
Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345.
Sand Mountain • Giant sand dune, 20 miles east of Fallon, 885-6000.
Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge • 15 miles east of Fallon, 423-5128.

SILVER SPRINGS

Fort Churchill State Historic Park • Eight miles south of Silver Springs, 577-2345.

Pioneer Territory

BEATTY

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

GABBS

Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park • Dinosaur fossils and ghost town, 23 miles east of Gabbs, 964-2440.

HAWTHORNE

Mineral County Historical Museum • Exhibits on the history of the Hawthorne area, 400 10th St., 945-5142.
Walker Lake State Recreation Area • Fishing, camping, and birdwatching, 945-5896.

PAHRUMP

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

PIOCHE/CALIENTE

Box Car Museum • Railroad and local history. Caliente, 726-3129.
Cathedral Gorge State Park • South of Pioche, 728-4460.
Elgin Living History Schoolhouse Museum • Opens May 27 for weekend tours or by appointment. Located 21 miles south of Caliente via Rainbow Canyon. Write Lynn Wood, Box 266, Caliente, NV 89008.
Kershaw-Ryan State Park • South of Caliente, 728-4460.
Lincoln County Historical Museum • Pioche, 962-5207.
Million Dollar Courthouse • Pioche, 962-5207.
Spring Valley State Park • 728-4460.
Stone Cabin Living History Museum • One mile north of Spring Valley State Park near Pioche, seasonal, 728-4460.

ROUND MOUNTAIN

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

TONOPAH

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

YERINGTON

Lyon County Museum • Exhibits and photos on the history of the Yerington area, 463-2245.

A Reminder: To confirm hours of operation, please use the phone number listed with each attraction. The area code is 702 in the Las Vegas area, and the rest of the state is 775.

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Nevada Commission on Tourism: Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; www.travelnevada.com; 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8 anywhere in U.S. and Canada.

Las Vegas Territory

African American Activities: 3838 Raymert Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89121; 702-456-3838.

Boulder City C of C: 1305 Arizona, Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-293-2034.

Boulder City Visitor Center: 100 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; 702-294-1252.

Henderson C of C: 590 S. Boulder Hwy., Henderson, NV 89015; www.hendersonchamber.com; 702-565-8951.

Henderson Convention and Visitors Bureau: 200 Water St., Henderson, NV 89015; 702-565-2171.

Hoover Dam Visitors Services: Box 60400, Boulder City, NV 89006; www.hooverdam.com; 702-294-3523.

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Las Vegas C of C: 3720 Howard Hughes Pkwy., Las Vegas, NV 89109; lvchamber.com; 702-735-1616.

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Latin C of C: 829 S. Sixth St., Las Vegas, NV 89125; LasVegasLatincc.com; 702-385-7367.

Laughlin C of C: Box 77777, Laughlin, NV 89028; www.laughlinchamber.com; 702-298-2214 or 800-227-5245 outside Nevada.

Laughlin Visitor Center: 1555 Casino Dr., Laughlin, NV 89029; www.visitlaughlin.com; 702-298-3321 or 800-4LAUGHLIN.

Mesquite Area C of C: 850 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; 702-346-2902.

Mesquite Visitor Center: Interstate 15 Exit 122, 460 Sandhill Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027; 702-346-2702 or 877-MESQUITE.

Moapa Valley C of C: Hwy. 169, Box 361, Overton, NV 89040; 702-397-2160.

North Las Vegas C of C: 2290 McDaniel, North Las Vegas, NV 89030; www.vegas.com/nlvcofc; 702-642-9595.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

Carson City C of C: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 100, Carson City, NV 89701; carsoncitychamber.com; 775-882-1565.

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau: 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701; www.carson-city.org; 775-687-7410 or 800-NEVADA-1 in U.S.

Carson Valley C of C and Visitors Authority: 1512 Hwy. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410-5283; www.carsonvalley-nv.org; 775-782-8144 or 800-727-7677 in U.S.

Dayton Area C of C: 720 Hwy. 50 E., Dayton, NV 89403; 775-246-7909 (open Tues. and Fri. afternoon).

Greater Reno-Sparks C of C: 1 East First St., Reno, NV 89501; www.reno-sparkschamber.org; 775-686-3030.

Incline Village/Crystal Bay C of C: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; www.laketahoechamber.com, 775-831-4440.

Lake Tahoe, Incline Village/Crystal Bay Visitors and Convention Bureau: 969 Tahoe Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451; www.gotahoe.com; 775-832-1606 or 800-GO-TAHOE anywhere in U.S.

Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority: 1156 Ski Run Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; www.virtualtahoe.com; 530-544-5050, 800-AT-TAHOE in U.S.

North Lake Tahoe C of C: 245 N. Lake Blvd., Tahoe City, CA 96145; 530-581-6900.

North Lake Tahoe Resort Association: Box 5459, Tahoe City, CA 96145; www.tahoefun.org; 530-583-3494 or 800-824-6348 for travel information on the North Lake Tahoe area.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority: 4590 S. Virginia St., Reno, NV 89502; www.playreno.com; 775-827-7600 or 800-FOR-RENO in U.S.

Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Tribal Council: 98 Colony Rd., Reno, NV 89502; 775-329-2936.

South Lake Tahoe C of C: 3066 Lake Tahoe Blvd., South



Angling For the Big One

The Silver State's fishing hot spots, such as Spooner Lake (above), on the east side of Lake Tahoe, or Hawthorne's Walker Lake, Ely's Cave Lake, and Elko's Ruby Mountains, offer scenic getaways for anglers.

Photo: Larry Prosor

Lake Tahoe, CA 96150; www.tahoe.com; 530-541-5255.
Sparks C of C: 831 Victorian Ave., Sparks, NV 89431; www.sparkschamber.org; 775-358-1976.
Tahoe-Douglas C of C: Box 7139, Stateline, NV 89449; www.tahoechamber.org; 775-588-4591.
Virginia City C of C: V&T Railroad Car, C St., Virginia City, NV 89440; 775-847-0311.

Cowboy Country

Battle Mountain C of C: Box 333, Battle Mountain, NV 89820; 775-635-8245.
Elko C of C: 1405 Idaho St., Elko, NV 89801; www.elko-nevada.com; 775-738-7135.
Elko Convention and Visitors Authority: 700 Moren Way, Elko, NV 89801; 775-738-4091, 800-248-3556 outside Nevada.
Jarbidge Community Association: c/o Trading Post, Box 260072, Jarbidge, NV 89826; e-mail Jarbidge@aol.com; 775-488-2315.
Lovelock C of C: Box 821, Lovelock, NV 89419; 775-273-7213.
McDermitt Information: Box 278, McDermitt, NV 89421; 775-532-8742.
Wells C of C: Box 615, Wells, NV 89835; 775-752-3540.
Wendover Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism: Box 2468, West Wendover, NV 89883; www.wendover-usa.org; 775-664-3414 or 877-WENDOVER.
Winnemucca C of C: 30 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; 775-623-2225.
Winnemucca Convention and Visitors Bureau: 50 W. Winnemucca Blvd., Winnemucca, NV 89445; www.winnemucca.nv.us; 775-623-5071 or 800-WMCA-NEV.

Pony Express Territory

Austin C of C: Box 212, Austin, NV 89310; 775-964-2200.
Ely's Bristlecone Convention Center: 150 Sixth St., Box 958, Ely, NV 89301; 289-3720.
Eureka County C of C: Box 14, Eureka, NV 89316; 775-237-5484.
Fallon Convention and Tourism Authority: 100 Campus Way, Fallon, NV 89406; www.fallon.net; 775-423-4556 or 800-874-0903.
Fernley C of C: 70 N. West St., Box 1606, Fernley, NV 89408; fernleynevada.com; 775-575-4459.
Great Basin Business and Tourism Council: Information on Baker and Great Basin National Park. Box 166, Baker, NV 89311; 775-234-7323.
Greater Fallon Area C of C: 65 S. Maine St., No. B, Fallon, NV 89406; www.fallonchamberofcommerce.com; 775-423-2544.
Silver Springs EDASS (Econ. Dev. Authority of Silver Springs): Box 269, Silver Springs, NV 89429; 775-577-5094.
White Pine C of C: 636 Aultman, Ely, NV 89301; 775-289-8877.

Pioneer Territory

Amargosa C of C: HCR 69-2, Box 401W, Amargosa, NV 89020; 775-372-5459.
Beatty C of C: Box 956, Beatty, NV 89003; 775-553-2424.
Caliente C of C: Depot Building, Box 553, Caliente, NV 89008; 775-726-3129.
Gabbs, City of: Box 176, Gabbs, NV 89409; 775-285-4019.
Goldfield C of C: Box 219, Goldfield, NV 89013; members.xcom.com/gfldchamber; 775-485-3560.
Greater Smoky Valley C of C: Box 1977, State Route 376 at Carver's Station, Round Mountain, NV 89045; 775-377-2490.
Mason Valley C of C: 227 S. Main St., Yerington, NV 89447-2536; www.tele-net.net/lceda; 775-463-2245.
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Tonopah C of C: 301 Brougher Ave., Box 869, Tonopah, NV 89049; 775-482-3859.
Tonopah Convention Center: Box 408, Tonopah, NV 89049; www.tonopahminingpark.org; 775-482-3558.

Indian Territory

Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada: 680 Greenbrae, Sparks, NV 89431; 775-355-0600 for Inter-Tribal Council information.
Indian Territory: Nevada Commission on Tourism, Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710; 775-687-4322 or 800-NEVADA-8.

State and National Parks

Death Valley National Park: Beatty Visitor Center: 307 Main St., Beatty, NV 89003; 775-553-2200. Park: Death Valley, CA 92328; 760-786-2331.
Great Basin National Park: Baker, NV 89311; www.nps.gov/grba; 775-234-7331.
Lake Mead National Recreation Area: 601 Nevada Hwy., Boulder City, NV 89005; www.nps/gov/lame; 702-293-8907.
Nevada Division of State Parks: 1300 South Curry St., Carson City, NV 89710; 775-687-4370.
Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area: HCR 33, Box 5500, Las Vegas, NV 89124; 702-363-1921.

More Outdoor Activities

Bicycling in Nevada: Nevada Department of Transportation: 1263 S. Stewart St., Carson City, NV 89712; e-mail: bicycle@dot.state.nv.us; 775-888-RIDE for information on bike paths and other bicycling opportunities.
Bureau of Land Management: Main office, Reno, www.nv.blm.gov, 775-861-6400; Las Vegas, 702-647-5000; Elko, 775-753-0200; Winnemucca, 775-623-1500; Carson City, 775-885-6000; Ely, 775-289-1800; Caliente, 775-726-8100; Battle Mountain, 775-635-4000; Tonopah, 775-482-7800.
Nevada Division of Wildlife: Main: Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520; www.state.nv.us/cnr/nvwildlife/, 775-688-1500; Southern Nevada: State Mail Complex, Las Vegas, NV 89158; 702-486-5127.
Pyramid Lake Fisheries: Star Route, Sutcliffe, NV 89510; 775-476-0500.
Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest: www.fs.fed.us/htnf/; 1200 Franklin Way, Sparks, NV 89431; 775-331-6444; 2881 S. Valley View, Suite 16, Las Vegas, NV 89102; 702-873-8800; 2035 Last Chance Rd., Elko, NV 89801; 775-738-5171 for information on national forest activities.





'Splash' on Ice



The cast of "Splash" shows off new costumes and specialty acts on the *Titanic* set that opens the long-running production show at the Riviera Hotel.

The new edition of the Riviera show mixes old-fashioned variety and Las Vegas dazzle. **By Kathy Espin**

Vaudeville is alive and well in Las Vegas. Five decades ago vaudeville transformed itself into the television variety show. In turn, TV variety shows like Ed Sullivan's have faded from the scene, but vaudeville survives in yet another form. Now it is known as the "Las Vegas stage spectacular," and the something-for-everyone format remains as much fun as it was 50 years ago.

The newly revamped "Splash" at the Riviera Hotel is a consummate example of the Las Vegas stage spectacular. I must confess a personal connection to "Splash." I worked as a publicist at the Riviera when "Splash" opened in 1985. I recently saw the new show. In many ways "Splash" has changed a great deal, while in others it's just the same.

One major change is that there are a lot more bare bosoms than there were in 1985. The original producer, Jeff Kutash, was proud that his show was hardly nude at all. Now there's lots and lots of female upper-body nudity, and the nudes actually dance. Traditionally, nudes in the French-style revues served only as mannequins who posed with arms held high to give their breasts an attractive lift. The thinking was that having topless performers dance would give the show a demeaning "gentleman's club" look.

No such concerns here. New York fashion designer Stephen Yearick has crafted costumes to minimize the jiggles, but the entire female ensemble dances away with charms in view.



Carrie Wright and Smokey Jr. are lead singers in "Splash."

Also, the show's theme has changed completely. Formerly, a huge glass-front water tank served as the centerpiece, and diving and swimming were important parts of "Splash." The tank is gone now. It has been replaced with an ice surface, and skating is the focus.

Most of the show is a salute to modern music, movies, and musicals. Cher, Madonna, and Michael Jackson acts honor the big names without using garish look-a-likes. Large screens show clips from movies such as *Saturday Night Fever, Dirty Dancing,* and *Evita* while the performers dance and sing. The music is canned, and one suspects that a lot of the singing is, too,

but the overall effect is still entertaining.

The specialty acts appear in combinations rarely seen. The Richard Brothers' juggling act doubles as a dance routine, and the ubiquitous Argentinian gaucho act, here called "Los Latin Cowboys," includes comedy.

Ice skaters Mikhail Panin and Victoria Bilyeu team up for a stunning ice adagio for the opening number. Then Panin returns with Irina Grigorian in a skating routine that ends with the couple flying above the ice a la "Cirque du Soleil." Later, Grigorian goes solo as a topless, ice-skating, flying, burning-hula-hoop-twirling acrobat in an act that defies description. I saw her routine with my own eyes, and I still don't believe it.

The death-defying motorcycle act, a longtime staple of the show, is bigger than ever. Originally only two daredevils zoomed around the interior of a globe-shaped cage. Now four motorcyclists compete for space in a larger dome as "Bela Tabak's Riders of the Thunderdome."

Imagine vaudeville with laser effects, fiber-optic feathers, and topless dancers, and you've got "Splash." In a fast-paced hour and 40 minutes the show goes from ballet to disco to hip hop, from opera to Broadway to rock and roll. It's hard to find more entertainment for the money since Ed Sullivan went off the air.

Making a 'Splash'

"Splash" appears nightly in the 765-seat Splash Theatre in the Riviera Hotel on the Las Vegas Strip. Show times are 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. Both shows are adults-only (18 and older) most of the year, but covered shows are offered during summer and other family holiday periods. Tickets cost $46.75 general and $57.75 for VIP seating. Drinks are extra. Call 800-634-6753 or 775-794-9433 for reservations.

Kathy Espin is a Las Vegas writer.



Irina Grigorian makes a splash with her ice-skating, burning-hula-hoop-twirling, flying acrobat act.



Casino Notes

News from hotel-casinoland. **By Ann Henderson**

Las Vegas Territory

In the Running: Boulder Station in Las Vegas has been named the Nevada finalist for "Casino of the Year" by the Academy of Country Music. The winner, which will be announced during the organization's annual awards show May 3, is selected on the quality and quantity of performers and the showroom in which they perform.

Happy Anniversary: The Desert Inn, the fifth property to open on the Las Vegas Strip, celebrated its 50th birthday April 24. The $3.5-million hotel was opened in 1950 by Wilbur Clark. Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy were the first act booked into the 450-seat Painted Desert Showroom. One of the hotel's most famous owners was Howard Hughes, who bought the resort in March 1967. Lore has it that Hughes, who was staying at the D.I., became angry when his suite was needed for other guests and he was asked to leave, so he simply bought the place for $13.25 million.

Poker Place: Sunset Station's poker room received a Four-Star Poker Room Award by readers of *Poker Digest Magazine*. Readers chose the Henderson hotel based on how much they enjoyed the experience and how well they were treated.

Reno-Tahoe Territory

A Paragon of Praise: Caesars Tahoe was given the Paragon Award for the second consecutive year by readers of *Corporate Meetings and Incentive Magazine*. Readers rated how hotels, resorts, and conference centers handled their meetings and incentive programs and evaluated overall atmosphere, services, and recreational amenities. The quality of guest rooms, meeting rooms, food and beverage service, and convention services were considered.

Good for the Soul: The Top of the Flamingo, the restaurant on the 21st floor of the Flamingo Reno, has been voted "Reno's Most Romantic" by readers of *Entertainment* magazine and selected as having one of Reno's best views by *Casino Player Magazine*.



Images of sunbathing beauties helped publicize the Desert Inn, which celebrated its 50th birthday in April.

The Latest Award: For the 10th consecutive year, the Summit restaurant at Harrah's Lake Tahoe has received the Four Diamond Award from the American Automobile Association. The Summit, which features continental cuisine, was moved in 1991 to the split-level Star Suite, the penthouse used by such headliners as Sammy Davis Jr., Frank Sinatra, and Wayne Newton.

New Poker Action: John Ascuaga's Nugget in Sparks has introduced High Country Poker to its casino games. High Country Poker is similar to Texas Hold 'Em, but instead of competing against other players, gamblers play against the dealer in High Country Poker.

Good Deals

Fun Book for Bowlers: WIBC members in Reno for the tournament at the National Bowling Stadium can pick up their Flamingo WIBC Fun Book at the stadium. The book includes two-for-one admission to the Flamingo Reno's production show, "Carnival of Wonders," a 15-percent discount at the Benihana Japanese Steakhouse, and gaming coupons.

Save on Magic: Visitors can sign up for a Total Gold Card at Harrah's Laughlin and save $2 on tickets to see the Pendragons perform their magic show nightly except Thursdays. The show is $15.95 without the card.

Dinner and Show Deals: Visitors can have dinner and see the impersonator show "Legends in Concert" at the Imperial Palace for $39.50 per person. Showgoers who prefer outdoor entertainment can check out the hotel's Polynesian buffet and revue, "Hawaiian Hot Luau," which plays poolside through the summer.

Golf Packages: The Atlantis and Eldorado in Reno and the Colorado Belle in Laughlin have two-night golf packages ranging from $103 to $159 per person, based upon double occupancy.

Lucky $20: At the Tropicana in Las Vegas, gamblers can receive $50 in slot play for $20 at designated machines. The promotion is available 9 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and until 11:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday.

Photo: Las Vegas News Bureau


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Casino Classes

(Continued from page 23)

Sahara: Classes weekdays. Craps 11 a.m., blackjack noon. Call 800-634-1010.
Stardust: Classes are offered Mon.-Fri. on request for any game. Call 702-732-6111, instructor Kim Rusch.
Sunset Station: Classes in craps are held at 3:15 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. and 4 p.m. Fri.-Sun. Call 702-547-7777.
Tropicana: Blackjack, craps, and roulette are taught from 10 a.m. to noon Wed.-Sat. Call 702-739-5422, instructor Nick Kovalevsky.

Laughlin

Edgewater: Craps classes are held at 10:30 a.m. Mon.-Fri. Call 702-298-2453.
Flamingo Hilton Laughlin: Classes daily. Blackjack 10 a.m., craps 10:30 a.m., roulette 11 a.m. Call 702-298-5028, instructor Big John.
Ramada Express: Classes weekdays. Blackjack and craps 10 a.m. Call 702-298-4200.

Mesquite

Si Redd's Oasis: Classes in blackjack, craps, and roulette are offered at 4 p.m. on Mon. Call 702-346-5232.

Reno-Sparks

Atlantis: Blackjack and craps classes are offered daily in spring and summer. Ask about class times at the hotel desk. Call 775-825-4700.
John Ascuaga's Nugget: Classes daily. Blackjack 11 a.m., craps 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Call 775-356-3300.
Reno Hilton: Steve Fierro, casino operations instructor, teaches classes on all table games. Mon.-Fri. schedule varies, with classes on baccarat, pai-gow, blackjack, roulette, craps, poker, and keno. Horse-racing classes on weekends. Call 775-789-2568 for Steve Fierro, 775-789-2000 ext. 4488 for taped message of schedule.
Silver Legacy: Games instructor Valerie Phillips teaches classes from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, with two sessions each of blackjack, craps, roulette, and pai-gow poker. Class schedules are available at the hotel desk and pit stand. Call 800-MUST-SEE.

Carson City

Piñon Plaza: Instruction is offered on request. Call 775-885-9000.

Lake Tahoe

Caesars Tahoe: Classes are held during conventions and for special groups. Call 775-586-2044.
Harrah's Lake Tahoe: Craps classes are taught daily at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Blackjack, pai-gow poker, and Caribbean stud lessons are available upon request. Convention groups may request private instruction. Call 775-588-6611.
Harveys: Classes are offered daily. Craps 5 and 7 p.m.; blackjack, roulette, baccarat, and poker (pai-gow, Caribbean stud, Let It Ride) 1 p.m. Call 775-588-2411.
Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe: Classes are offered daily in summer. Blackjack and craps, both at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Schedules are usually posted at the main door of the casino. Call 775-832-1234.

Wilma LaRocca of Carson City is an editorial assistant at Nevada Magazine.



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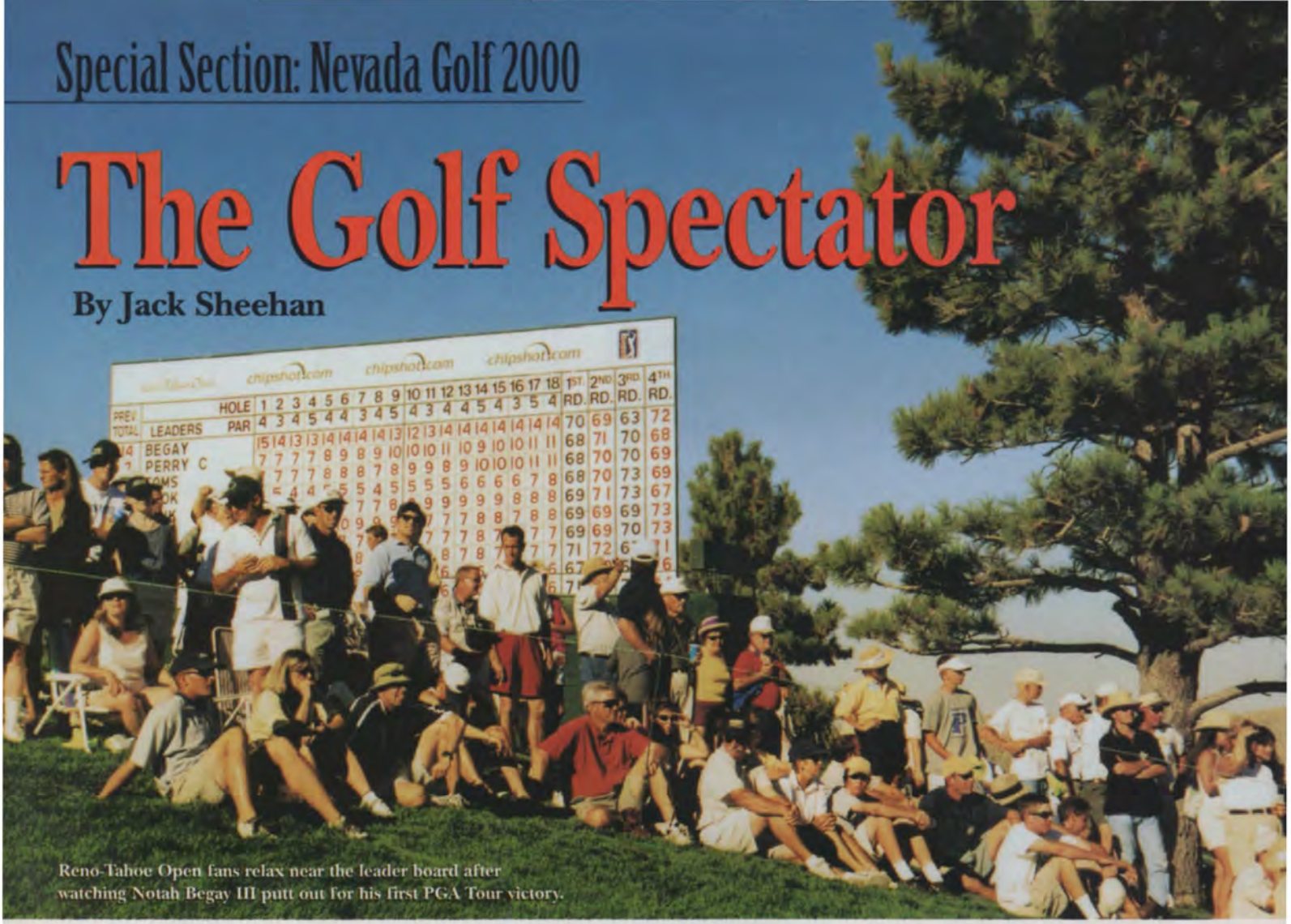
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The Golf Spectator

By Jack Sheehan



Reno-Tahoe Open fans relax near the leader board after watching Notah Begay III putt out for his first PGA Tour victory.

Even the novice observer will find thrills, lessons, long drives, and sometimes Tiger at Nevada's professional golf tournaments.

A few years ago, my wife, Carol, asked me how I could possibly watch so much golf on television. I told her if she would attend a professional tournament with me in Las Vegas, she would understand.

She did, and now she does.

We attended the Las Vegas Invitational in 1996, coincidentally the year that 20-year-old Tiger Woods beat Davis Love III in a sudden-death playoff for his first PGA Tour victory.

"Those guys are cute," she remarked as Woods and Love headed for their playoff. "And it's so pretty out here."

Some 17 victories and $13 million in earnings later, Tiger Woods is arguably the biggest name in sports, and Carol never questions my sanity when a golf tournament is on. In fact, her first words are usually, "Is Tiger leading?"

Last summer, when Notah Begay III became the first Native American to win a Tour event at the Reno-Tahoe Open, Carol offered this unsolicited piece of trivia: "Wasn't he a teammate of Tiger's at Stanford?"

Of course he was, but she would never have known or cared had I not dragged her out to watch professional golf four years ago. The downside is that I now have to fight to get my hands on the sports page.

Fans can see not only the world's best golfers but also celebrities.

From the early days of the Tournament of Champions at the Desert Inn back in the mid-1950s, Nevada residents and visitors have loved watching professional golf in our state, knowing they would see not only the best golfers in the world but a healthy sprinkling of celebrities as well. Hollywood always sent an A-list of celebs to the T of C, including Bob Hope, Bing Crosby, Dean Martin, and Jimmy Durante.

That tradition has continued, and Nevada golf watchers can expect to see the likes of Sean Connery and Kevin Costner and Michael Jordan. Last year Las Vegans even saw Celine Dion caddying for her husband in the LVI. And why not? Celebs can play all day and work the showrooms or gambling halls all night.

For the person taking his or her first peek at the world of professional golf, or for the already entrenched golfophile, here are a few pointers to maximize your viewing pleasure at one of Nevada's pro golf tournaments.

If you have a strong constitution and enjoy long walks, choose your favorite player and follow him or her for nine holes. The number of excellent vantage

Photo: Chris Talbot

points you get for each shot will be in direct proportion to how charismatic or famous your golfer is. If you just have to follow Tiger, the throngs that surround him will afford you excellent positioning for no more than three or four shots in two hours. But for lesser-knowns, you should be able to get a decent position for nearly every shot. The experience of staying with one group will offer insight to the emotional challenges a professional faces in a day at the office. You'll witness the ebb and flow of a round in competition, observe how a player deals with bad breaks, watch the way he catches a wave of momentum, and appreciate why golf psychologists have become as necessary to tour players as their personal swing coaches.



Julie Inkster putts before a hushed gallery on the Desert Inn's 17th green during the PageNet event.

If you prefer sitting to walking, choose a mounded or banked area that provides views of two or three different holes, and plant yourself there for the duration. Within an hour, you'll understand the breaks of the green and where not to land an approach shot. Particularly sadistic fans enjoy lingering around greens with water hazards and counting the number of balls that become fish fodder.

This is especially true at the 16th green of the Tournament Players Club at Summerlin. Number 16 is a par-five with a large water hazard in front of the green. In 1994, local favorite Robert Gamez, who grew up in Las Vegas, had birdied the last five holes to position himself for a win at the LVI. Veteran Bruce Lietzke stood in the fairway, contemplating a 220-yard shot over water. He elected to go for the green, and when his ball landed a mere foot over the water and rolled up close for an easy eagle putt, Gamez's hopes for victory were dashed. Had Lietzke's shot landed in the water, the result would have cost him nearly $200,000. That's the kind of drama golf spectators live for.

All Tournament Players Clubs, such as the two in Las Vegas that play host to the PGA and Senior PGA Tours, are designed to provide stadium seating for golf fans. This allows families and older spectators to congregate on hillsides that overlook two or three different holes, providing everyone an excellent view.

Surely the best place to view golfing excellence en masse is on the driving range, where you'll see as many as 20 or 30 professionals standing in a row. A touring pro will typically hit range balls for 30 to 45 minutes before every round as a way of loosening up, establishing a fluid tempo, and getting in the right frame of mind for competition. Then he'll usually complete his warm-up with another 20 minutes around the practice putting green, which is another excellent venue for picking up pointers and hearing the idle chatter that takes place between player and caddie.

Standing behind the driving range after a tournament round is completed is even more educational, as you'll hear the players reliving their adventures of the previous four hours, often in a colorful and relaxed manner. You might catch something like this:

"Hey, Fuzzy, could you believe that pin on 14? That green was slicker than a baby's butt in a bubble bath. I got it above the hole there and three-wiggled it from six feet."

"Yeah, Pal, well, don't cry to me. I shot 73 and never had it outside 15 feet all day. Unless they make that cup bigger by next month, I'll be askin' folks if they prefer paper or plastic."

Most true golf fans relish instruction (note the rapid growth of the 24-hour Golf Channel), and there is no better way to pick up pointers than by watching the best in person. Even the casual observer who doesn't play golf can gain insight into the intricacies of the game by paying attention to players' pre-shot routines and rituals. You will not see players taking three practice swings one time and one the next. Rather, you will probably see them take a relaxed half- or partial swing before



Fans use TPC Summerlin's stadium seating to watch Hale Irwin in the Las Vegas Senior Classic.

Photos: Rick Martin

they strike the ball. That is because rather than expending physical energy, they are mentally visualizing the shot they wish to execute. I once asked Tom Watson what he considered the most important shot in golf, and he said, "the next one."

As a spectator you'll see the way professionals try to position their shots on every hole. While a weekend golfer will typically hit a driver off the tee, the pros often use fairway woods or long irons. They are willing to sacrifice distance for position. They want the best angle to the pin for their second shot and a comfortable distance from the green that will play to their strengths. For instance, on a 380-yard hole, tour players will often use a one-iron off the tee to increase their likelihood of hitting the fairway and knowing that they will have a comfortable eight- or nine-iron to the pin.

Laying up, however, does not always work. Ask Bill Laimbeer, former center for the Detroit Pistons, who several years ago came to the 18th hole in a major celebrity championship at Edgewood Tahoe and, trying to hang onto his lead, laid up short of the water the final hole. Because a half-wedge shot was uncomfortable for him under pressure, he ended up hitting a small bucket of wedges into the water hazard fronting the green and made an 11 on the hole. He thus blew the tournament and earned razzing from fans who disliked the "bad boy" Pistons.

Spectators who golf often see their scores improve after watching a professional tournament because they subliminally absorb good swing habits and behaviors. Interestingly, many amateur men golfers find they learn more from watching women professionals because the distances the women hit their various clubs, and their general range of motion, are easier to relate to. Reno's Patty Sheehan, who is a two-time U.S. Open champion and a member of the LPGA Hall of Fame, told me that she gets far more lesson requests from male golfers than from women.

Here are a few other tips that should help you enjoy a day, or long weekend, of

The Putts Stop Here

Golf fans can watch top men and women pros at these tournaments in Las Vegas, Reno, and Tahoe. **By Kevin Iole**

The hillside surrounding the 18th green at the Tournament Players Club at Summerlin was blanketed with people. Little did the legion of fans attending the final round of the 1996 Las Vegas Invitational know that they were about to become part of PGA Tour history.

It was on that sunny October afternoon that Tiger Woods began his march to the top of the golfing world. Woods shot a final-round 64 that day to come from well back and force a playoff with veteran Davis Love III. Woods won the playoff for his first professional victory, a win that marked his ascent to superstardom.

The **Las Vegas Invitational** is the best known of the state's major professional golf tournaments. The 2000 event, which will be held October 11-15 at TPC Summerlin, the Desert Inn Golf Club, and Las Vegas Country Club, will be its 17th annual. The 90-hole tournament runs five days as players vie for the $2.6-million purse. Last year's winner, Jim Furyk, also won in 1995 and 1998. Call 702-242-3000 for information on LVI tickets and activities.

Nevada, however, is rich with other opportunities to watch golf's best. In addition to the LVI, the PGA Tour visits Nevada for the **Greens.com Open at Reno-Tahoe** on August 24-27. Last summer tour rookie Notah Begay III won the inaugural Reno-Tahoe event at the tree-lined Montreux Golf and Country Club, which was designed by Jack Nicklaus. Players raved about Montreux during last year's tournament and promised to return for the 2000 event, which should guarantee a strong field. Call 775-322-1213 for ticket information.

The stars of the LPGA Tour conclude their season in Nevada when the top 30 money winners gather at the Desert Inn for the **PageNet Tour Championship** in November. The event was begun in 1996 in an effort to showcase the women's tour, and perhaps the four biggest names among active women golfers—Karrie Webb, Annika Sorenstam, Laura Davies, and Se Ri Pak—have won the Las Vegas tournament in its first four years. Twice the event has been decided in a playoff, with Sorenstam prevailing in 1997 and Pak in 1999. Phone 702-733-4653 for ticket information.



A feathered foursome greets three-time LVI winner Jim Furyk.

Nostalgia buffs come out in force each spring for the **Las Vegas Senior Classic**, where Senior PGA players such as Chi Chi Rodriguez and Jim Colbert compete at TPC Summerlin. The top senior golfers in the world, age 50 and over, play the tournament each spring. The 2001 Las Vegas Senior Classic will be held April 16-22. Call 702-242-3000 for ticket information.

Another Southern Nevada event featuring top professional players is the **Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge** at Lake Las Vegas in Henderson. The annual event featuring players from the three tours—men's, seniors', and women's—takes place October 23-24 at Reflection Bay, a course designed by Jack Nicklaus. Phone 702-740-4653 for details on the event.

For those who like to mingle with celebrities, there's the **American Century Celebrity Golf Championship** at the lakeside Edgewood Tahoe Golf Course at Stateline on Lake Tahoe's south shore. The tournament, held July 7-9, attracts some of the biggest stars in sports and entertainment, with Michael Jordan, Mario Lemieux, Oscar De La Hoya, and John Elway among past participants.

Former Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Rick Rhoden has won the event five times. His first victory, in 1991, came when ex-Detroit Pistons star Bill Laimbeer dunked five balls into the 18th hole's water hazard, subsequently dubbed Lake Laimbeer, allowing Rhoden to win. Phone 800-288-2463 for tickets to this summer's celebrity championship.

Spectators will find ticket prices at most of Nevada's pro tournaments similar to those at this year's Las Vegas Invitational. Daily tickets at the LVI cost $15 in advance and $20 at the gate, an all-tournament badge runs $50, and a VIP package with four badges and a parking pass costs $175. Juniors and seniors can take advantage of discounts to watch the pros play.

Kevin Iole covers golf and other sports for the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Photo: Rick Martin

tournament spectating in the Silver State:

- **Dress comfortably,** in accordance with the temperatures. Wear sunscreen and appropriate headgear. Woe to the spectator in Las Vegas, or Lake Tahoe in July, who underestimates the damage and discomfort the sun can inflict. On days when the weather might turn chilly, it's wise to bring an extra sweater or windbreaker. (Note: Avoid the temptation to dress too much like a golfer since you're there to watch, not compete. In other words, don't wear plus-fours.)
- **You'll find daily programs and tee-time rosters near the first and 10th tees** at all professional tournaments in Nevada. A program will help you keep track of your favorite golfers and other players.
- **Cameras are all right around the clubhouse,** if you must take a photo of your favorite player or celebrity, but cameras are not allowed on the course. A clicking camera during a backswing is about as welcome to a professional golfer as a case of the shanks.
- **While the PGA Tour has changed its policy on autograph-seeking a few times in recent years, it is generally forbidden** during competition or before a player tees off. If you can catch a golfer after the round, or on the way to the luncheon tent, it's acceptable to request a signature. Women and senior pros tend to be more accommodating in this regard than the men's tour players.
- **Nearly all tournaments on the men's and ladies' tours are 72 holes and run Thursday through Sunday.** The seniors generally play 54 holes and begin on Friday. While the excitement reaches its peak on Sunday, you'll often find the best spectating during the early rounds. The crowds aren't as large, the players are more relaxed, and yet each stroke has as much value on Thursday as it does on the weekend.

One final thought: If you are more interested in star-gazing on the golf course than picking up pointers, follow the celebrity of your choice during the pro-am portion of the tournament and don't worry about chasing the big-name golfers. You'll see that the celebs laugh more readily at their bad shots than the pros, and that's because, like you, they don't have to make their living at this crazy game.

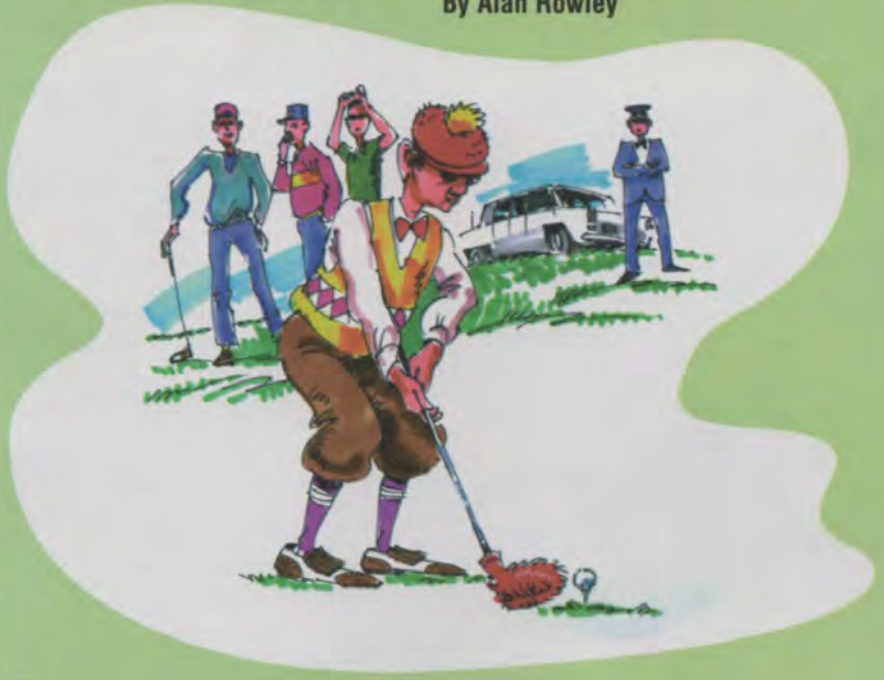
Las Vegas writer Jack Sheehan has been writing about golf, and many other topics, for more than 25 years. He coauthored the bestseller Buried Lies, *with PGA Tour pro Peter Jacobsen, and wrote two chapters for* Chicken Soup for the Golfer's Soul, *which was the best-selling sports book in the U.S. in 1999.*

Illustration: John Bardwell

Driving for Golf

A beginner takes a swing at playing team golf in Wendover.

By Alan Rowley



The company I work for in Wendover sponsored a golf tournament last summer, and a coworker suggested I enter. Since I am not a golfer, I was a bit reluctant, but I was assured the experience would be fun. The Toana Vista Golf Course in Wendover is beautiful, the weather was going to be good, and I figured the exercise and social intercourse would be welcome. My friend even offered to lend me clubs, but he told me I'd need a driver. Dressed in what I considered golf attire, I had the driver I'd hired take me to Toana Vista for my first competition.

Four of us were assigned as a team. My teammates were very distinctive. Jackie had an average score of about 30 under par. Ace, the 16-year-old kid, hit the ball about three miles every swing (oh, how I loathed this boy by the third hole), and Greg played with yellow balls. As we climbed into our carts, the golf pro asked if our team had a handicap, and the other three guys looked at me. As if I knew the answer.

My turn to tee off came, and I put the first of the 38 balls I would use during the day on the tee and approached with my fuzzy club. After the kid showed me how to take the knitted cover off the club, I found it easier to hit the ball. My shots caused little damage to the beautiful greens. I even hit one in the area where the cows had been grazing, so I got to make my first chip shot.

The tournament organizers held a contest for the longest drive. I think they spoiled the spirit of the competition by excluding drives that bounced off boulders and rolled down adjacent streets.

I felt I was getting in the spirit of the event, and my teammates seemed pleased when I scored something they call a bogey. I figured that if a bogey was good, then a double bogey must be something special. When I made my first one, no one slapped me on the rump and congratulated me, although I did hear one of the guys say he'd like to kick my butt, which must be the golf equivalent.

By the time we got to the 14th hole, the wind began to really blow. It affected my play. I could have had a 9, but a gust caught my drive and the team said it was now unplayable. I didn't think the water looked that deep.

We anxiously awaited the results in the clubhouse. While they were posting the scores, I realized I had been seared by the sun. We almost won a trophy, but the tournament organizers only gave awards to the top nine teams. I tried to say good-bye to my teammates, but they disappeared, so I returned to the car and had the driver take me home. The driver cost me 75 bucks and a $20 tip, and I still don't know why it was necessary.

Alan Rowley lives and sometimes golfs in Wendover. He is director of purchasing for the State Line Hotel.

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Nevada Golf 2000

Nevada Magazine's annual links guide to the Silver State.



Palms sway near the eighth green at Reflection Bay Golf Club, the Jack Nicklaus-designed resort course in the Lake Las Vegas community in Henderson.

Nevada Golf 2000

is **NEVADA MAGAZINE's** annual guide to golf courses in all corners of the Silver State. Nevada's links range from major courses in Las Vegas, Reno, and Lake Tahoe to friendly rural courses in Yerington and Wells. This year's guide includes Internet addresses, yardage, busy-season fees, course distinctions, pros's picks, and where to send for more information on Nevada golf.

Golfers will discover more than 100 courses in Nevada, around Lake Tahoe, and along the state's border. The courses in this guide are open year-round unless otherwise noted. Green fees, which are subject to change, generally represent the highest 18-hole rate—spring and fall in the south, summer in the north. Most courses offer twilight and off-season rates. Green fees vary widely by season, so call ahead to confirm prices. Weekend rates often apply to holidays. Early reservations are highly recommended. Most clubs have a pro shop, driving range, restaurant, and bar. Also, you can call up many courses on the Internet.

Southern Nevada

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Boulder City Municipal Golf Course—The all-grass course is popular not only with local golfers but also with the endangered fish—spiny chub and razorback sucker—raised by the Nevada Division of Wildlife in the course's five lakes. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1972. Manager Bob Conrad, Pro Tony Fiorentini, 1 Clubhouse Dr., Boulder City, NV 89005. Call 702-293-9236. Back tees: 6,561 yards, par 72. Walk $27, cart $36. Club rental $15.

DEATH VALLEY

Furnace Creek Golf Course—Tall date palms and green grass contrast with the desert scenery of Death Valley National Park. World's lowest golf course—214 feet below sea level. Temps reach 120s in mid-summer, when play slows. Originally designed by William P. Bell, Furnace Creek was redesigned by Perry Dye in 1997. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1933. Director of Golf Kip Freeman, Death Valley,

Photo: Rick Martin

CA 92328. Call 760-786-2301, www.furnacecreekresort.com. Back tees: 6,215 yards, par 72. Green fees: $50. Carts $20. Furnace Creek Resort, National Park Service visitor center, and campgrounds are nearby.

HENDERSON/GREEN VALLEY

Anthem Country Club—Private 18-hole course opened in 1999 as part of a Del Webb master-planned community. Designed by Keith Foster and Hale Irwin. Director of Golf Jeff Seman, 25 Anthem Club Dr., Henderson, NV 89014. Call 702-914-7888, 888-882-6843, 702-914-3000 (membership), www.delwebb.com. Back tees: 7,267 yards, par 72. Green fees: Limited public play until summer 2000. Rate is $200, June-Aug. $100. Spikeless.

Black Mountain Golf and Country Club—Desert course has lots of sand bunkers and undulating greens. Designed by Bob Baldock. Home of America's Favorite Golf School. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1959. General Manager Jim Stanfill, Head Pro Ross Beamer, 500 Greenway Rd., Henderson, NV 89015. Call 702-565-7933. Back tees: 6,541 yards, par 72. Green fees include carts: $70 weekdays, $80 weekend. Club rental $13. Spikeless.

Desert Willow Golf Club—Executive course designed by Billy Casper and Greg Nash is part of Sun City McDonalds Ranch planned community. Longest par-4 is 349 yards; longest par-3 is 209. Semi-private, 18-hole executive, estab. 1996. Manager Jan Neitzert, Director of Golf Shane Sanchez, 2020 W. Horizon Ridge Pkwy., Henderson NV 89012. Call 702-263-GOLF. Back tees: 3,811 yards, par 60. Green fees: $45 to walk, $55 with cart. Club rentals $25. Spikeless.

Legacy Golf Club—With special tee boxes on the 10th hole—hearts, spades, diamonds, and clubs—this Arthur Hills-designed course is a U.S. Open qualifying site and corporate tournament host. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1989. O.B. Sports, Director of Operations Phil Green, Director of Golf Tom Vold, 130 Par Excellence Dr., Henderson, NV 89014. Call 702-897-2187; 897-2200. Back tees: 7,233 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $140. Call for summer and twilight rates. Club rental $35. Spikeless.

Reflection Bay Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—Last year Reflection Bay was named one of the "Top 10 You Can Play" by *Golf Magazine* and sixth best New Upscale Daily Fee Course by *Golf Digest*. Five holes of the Jack Nicklaus-designed course play on man-made Lake Las Vegas. Site of a Nicklaus/Flick Golf School. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Manager John Herndon (PGA), Head Pro Brian Jensen. 75 MonteLago Blvd., Henderson, NV 89011. Call 702-740-4653. Back tees: 7,261 yards, par 72. Green fees includes cart and range: $225. Discount for Hyatt Regency Lake Las Vegas guests: $190 until May 31, 2000. Spikeless.

The Revere at Anthem—Picturesque desert course, which winds through three canyons, was designed by Billy Casper and Greg Nash. The Revere at Anthem earned honorable mention as one of *Golf Magazine's* "Top 10 You Can Play" in 2000. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1999. General Manager Clay Meininger, Head Pro Thom Blinkensop, 2600 Evergreen Oaks Dr., Henderson NV 89012. Call 702-259-4653, www.delwebb.com. Back tees: 7,143 yards, par 72. Green fees including carts: Seasonal. Club rentals $55.

Rio Secco Golf and Country Club—Designed by Rees Jones, Rio Secco was named one of the country's Best New Upscale Public Courses by *Golf Digest* in 1998 and received honorable mention in *Golf Magazine's* reader poll of America's Best Resorts. The course, owned by Harrah's, hosts the Butch Harmon School of Golf. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Director of Golf Frank Campagna, Head Pro Ken Wright, 2851 Grand Hills Dr., Henderson, NV 89012. Call 702-889-2400, 888-TO-SECCO, www.playrio.com. Back tees: 7,332 yards, par 72. Green fees include carts: Guests at Rio Suite Hotel and Harrah's Las Vegas $190 S-Th, $225 F-S. Clark County residents $300. Caddy service and club rentals are available. Spikeless.

SouthShore Golf Club at Lake Las Vegas Resort—This Jack Nicklaus-designed course was voted one of the Best New Private Courses by *Golf Digest* in 1996. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1995. Manager John Herndon (PGA), Head Pro Dale Akridge, 29 Grand Mediterra, Henderson, NV 89011. Call 702-558-0022. Back tees: 6,917 yards, par 71. Members and guests only.

Wildhorse Golf Club—Wildhorse is an established course with rolling terrain. The former Paradise Valley and Showboat Country Club was redesigned by Hubert Green and Robert Cupp. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1958. American Golf Corp., Manager Chuck Afualo, Head Pro Brady Kannon, 2100 Warm Springs Rd., Henderson, NV 89014. Call 702-434-9000. Back tees: 7,041 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: $100 M-Th, $135 F-S. Club rental $40. Shoe rental $10. Nonmetal spikes only.

LAS VEGAS

Angel Park Golf Club—Angel Park has two championship courses designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay and an executive layout designed by Robert Cupp and John Fought. The complex includes Resort Golf Schools and Academies as well as a night-lighted driving range and 18-hole putting course. Resort courses, 48 holes, estab. 1989. Cargill Investments, O.B. Sports, Project Manager Phil

Golf Groups

Nevada's golf associations are active in organizing amateur events and junior programs as well as course ratings. For more information contact the Northern Nevada Golf Association, Box 5630, Sparks, NV 89432 (775-673-4653 or www.nnga.org) or the Southern Nevada Golf Association, 506 Fragrant Orchard St., Henderson, NV 89015 (702-566-9297).



Nevada Golf Courses

Golfers will find challenging courses in rural Nevada as well as the Las Vegas, Reno, Carson, and Lake Tahoe areas.

Golf Getaways

You can obtain additional information on Nevada courses and hotels' golf-vacation packages from the following sources:

Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority, Information Center, 3150 Paradise Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Call 702-892-7575. Web www.lasvegas24hours.com. The LVCVA has a map and listing of area courses.

Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority, Golf Information, 4590 S. Virginia, Reno, NV 89502. Call 800-FOR-RENO. Web www.playreno.com. The RSCVA, which operates Wildcreek and Northgate, has information on courses and hotel golf packages.

Carson City Convention and Visitors Bureau, 1900 S. Carson St., Suite 200, Carson City, NV 89701. Call 800-NEVADA-1. Web www.carson-city.org. Carson has a color brochure on the area's "Divine 9" courses. The CCCVB can transfer your call directly to area courses for tee times and information.

Carson Valley Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Authority, 1512 U.S. 395, No. 1, Gardnerville, NV 89410. Call 800-727-7677. Web www.carson-vallleynv.org. Ask for the color golf brochure on the area's "Divine 9" courses.

For more copies of this "Nevada Golf" guide, as well as general tourist information, write the **Nevada Commission on Tourism,** Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710, or call 800-NEVADA-8. This guide also is on the **Nevada Magazine Web Site** at www.nevada-magazine.com. For information about Nevada's millennium activities and the **Millennium Countdown Calendar,** see the Nevada Commission on Tourism's online site, www.2000-nevada.com, for details on events, travel information, and merchandise.

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The Desert Inn Golf Club brought resort golf to the Las Vegas Strip in the 1950s. The D.I. course has hosted PGA, Senior PGA, and LPGA Tour events.

Green, Director of Golf Carl von Hake, 100 S. Rampart Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89145. Call 702-254-4653, 888-4GOLFLV, www.angelpark.com. Green fees: Seasonal. Club rental $30-$50. **Mountain Course:** The Mountain Course has subtle changes in elevation, challenging greens, and views of Spring Mountains, Red Rock Canyon, and Las Vegas Strip. Back tees: 6,722 yards, par 71. **Palm Course:** The Palm Course has gently rolling terrain with desert bordering many holes, challenging par-3s, and fast greens. Back tees: 6,530 yards, par 70. **Cloud Nine:** This 12-hole course replicates famous par-3s from around the world. Longest hole is 146 yards. In summer, nine holes are lighted till midnight. Tees: 1,341 yards, par 27 for nine.

Badlands Golf Club—This 27-hole, Scottsdale-style resort course was voted "Best of Las Vegas" by readers of the *Las Vegas Review-Journal* in 1997 and 1998. The Johnny Miller-designed course incorporates canyons and arroyos and hosts a Ken Venturi Golf Academy. Resort course, estab. 1995. Manager Jeff Muller, Head Pro Charles Packard, 9119 Alta Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89128. Call 702-242-GOLF. Back tees: 6,926 yards, par 72. Green fees: Seasonal. Nonmetal spikes.

Callaway Golf Center/Divine Nine—Desert-style executive course designed by Robert Cupp is located in the All-American Sportpark at the south end of the Strip. Longest hole is 185 yards. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1997. Manager John Boreta, 6730 Las Vegas Blvd. S., Las Vegas NV 89119. Call 702-896-4100. Back tees: 1,230 yards, par 27. Green fees: $37, carts $7. Club rental $12.

Canyon Gate Country Club—Private course designed by Ted Robinson has lots of water, narrow fairways, and fast greens. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Manager Chuck Fedderson, Director of Golf Andy Anderson, Pros Cary Soares and Joe Roth, 2001 Canyon Gate Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89117. Call 702-363-0303; pro shop 702-363-0481. Back tees: 6,742 yards, par 72. Canyon Gate Country Club homeowners and

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Primm Valley has two courses designed by Tom Fazio.

The Pros' Picks

Recently, *Nevada Magazine* asked Nevada's golf professionals to rate their 10 favorite courses in the Silver State. Forty-eight club pros and managers responded, including 28 from the Las Vegas area, 18 from the Reno-Tahoe area, and two from rural Nevada. In all, 64 courses received mention. Following are the experts' top picks in 2000, noting the courses' total votes (and first-place votes when two or more).

Edgewood Tahoe, Stateline: 28 (7)
Desert Inn, Las Vegas: 20 (5)
Reflection Bay, Lake Las Vegas: 19 (3)
Genoa Lakes, Carson Valley: 17 (4)
TPC Canyons, Las Vegas: 15
TPC Summerlin, Las Vegas (private): 15
Montreux, Reno (private): 14 (2)
Primm Valley (Lakes): 12
Dayton Valley Country Club: 12
Red Hawk, Sparks: 12
Las Vegas Paiute Resort (Snow Mt.): 11
Las Vegas Country Club (private): 10 (2)
SouthShore, Lake Las Vegas (private): 10 (2)
Incline Championship, Lake Tahoe: 10
Badlands, Las Vegas: 9
Revere at Anthem, Henderson: 9
Hidden Valley, Reno (private): 8
Las Vegas Paiute Resort (Sun Mt.): 8
Spanish Trail, Las Vegas (private): 7
Thunder Canyon, Washoe Valley (private): 7
Oasis, Mesquite: 7
Royal Links, Las Vegas: 6
Wolf Run, Reno: 6
Shadow Creek, North Las Vegas: 4 (2)

nonhomeowners may join the club for $32,500. Guests of members pay $85. Club rental $35. Spikeless.

Desert Inn Golf Club—The first Strip hotel course, designed by Lawrence Hughes, hosted the Tournament of Champions in the '50s and '60s and current tourneys like the PGA's Las Vegas Invitational and the LPGA's PageNet Tour Championship. A recent *Golf Magazine* article noted the D.I. course's tranquility: "Interior holes make you forget you are only a pitch and a putt away from the Strip." Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1952. Director of Golf Dave Johnson, Head Pro Kevin Paulsen, 3145 Las Vegas Blvd. South, Las Vegas, NV 89109. Call 702-733-4290 or 800-634-6909. Back tees: 7,193 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: Desert Inn lodgers $165, nonlodgers $250. Club rental $50. Reservations recommended, taken one year in advance for hotel guests. Prefer spikeless shoes.

Desert Pines Golf Club—A Carolina-type course near downtown Las Vegas, Desert Pines has more than 4,000 pine trees and a fully automated golf center with 58 heated (in winter) and misted (in summer) hitting bays. The target greens are replicas of famous PGA Tour par-3s. Designed by Perry Dye. Public course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Owner Bill Walters, Director of Golf Joe Kelley, Head Pro Charles Fahy, 3415 E. Bonanza Rd., Las Vegas 89101. Call 702-450-8000 or 888-397-2499; pro shop 702-388-4400; www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 6,810 yards, par 71. Green fees: Thru June 13: $115 M-Th, $140 F-S. Summer rates. Fall rates start in Sept.: $135 M-Th, $155 F-S.

Desert Rose Golf Course—An established course of moderate length, with flat terrain and good fairways. Dress code requires shirts with collars. County course, 18 holes, estab. 1960. American Golf Corp., General Manager Paul Kikuta, Head Pro Eric Eubanks, 5483 Club House Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89122. Call 702-431-4653. Back tees: 6,511 yards, par 71. Green fees include carts: Nonresidents $65 M-Th, $75 F-S. Clark County residents $43 M-F, $45 S-S. Club rental $20.

Las Vegas Country Club—A favorite among local pros, this private course has cohosted the PGA's Las Vegas Invitational. Designed by Edmund Ault, with redesign by Ron Garl. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1967. Manager Ray Hazzard, Director of Golf John Creaney, 3000 Joe W. Brown Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Back tees: 7,164 yards, par 72. Members and guests only. Spikeless.

Las Vegas Golf Club—City course has a night-lighted driving range and a new Nike Golf Learning Center that specializes in group lessons. The grounds are mature with lots of trees and little water. Designed by Tom Bell. City course, 18 holes, estab. 1949. General Manager Jeff Curran, 4300 W. Washington, Las Vegas, NV 89107. Call 702-646-3003. Back tees: 6,631 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: Nonresidents $69 M-Th, $89 F-S; Las Vegas residents $24 to walk, $33 to ride. Club rental $15.

Las Vegas National Golf Club—A past host to many PGA and LPGA tour events, course was the site of Tiger Woods' first pro win in 1996. Championship layout, well bunkered, with night-lighted driving range. Designed by Bert Stamps. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1961. American Golf, Manager Vince Tascano, Head Pro Rich Howarth, 1911 E. Desert Inn Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89109. Call 702-382-GOLF. Back tees: 6,815 yards, par 71. Green fees include mandatory carts: spring and fall $130-$140 M-Th, $150-$180 F-S. June 1-Sept 1, $70-$90. Club rental $40-$55. Soft spikes.

Las Vegas Paiute Resort—Two resort courses, owned by the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe, were designed by Pete Dye. Resort has a new 50,000-square-foot clubhouse with a 3,100-square-foot pro shop, restaurant, bar, and driving range. Resort courses, 36 holes. General Manager Dick Huff, Pro Shop Manager Terry Hizon, Snow Mountain Exit off U.S. 95 near Mount Charleston, 20 miles north of downtown Las Vegas, 10325 Nu-Wav Kaiv Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89124. Call 702-658-1400, 800-711-2833, www.lvpaiutegolf.com. Green fees include mandatory cart: $140 M-Th, $155 F-S through June, lower in summer. Club rental $40-$50. **Snow Mountain (Nu-Wav Kaiv):** The first Las Vegas Paiute course, opened in 1995, has desert and mountain views. Back tees: 7,158 yards, par 72. No walking. **Sun Mountain (Tav-ai Kaiv):** The second Pete Dye-designed course opened in 1996. Back tees: 7,112 yards, par 72. Home of the Pure Shot Golf Academy.

Los Prados Country Club—The short, tight course is surrounded by houses, so control is important. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1985. Head Pro Keith Flatt, 5150 Los Prados Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89130. Call 702-645-5696. Back tees: 5,348 yards, par 70. Green fees include carts: Nonhomeowners $35 M-Th, $45 F-S. Club rental $20.

Painted Desert Golf Course—Touring pro Robert Gamez holds course record of 62. The target-design course by Jay Morrish features lush fairway landing areas amid natural desert landscape. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1987. American Golf Corp., Manager Jim Stone, Director of Golf Tate Stull. Steve Pfefferle manages the Nike Golf Learning Center at Painted Desert. 5555 Painted Mirage Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89129. Call 702-645-2570 or 800-GOTRY18. Back tees: 6,840 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts and vary from $100-$130 M-Th, $120-$160 F-S. Club rental $40-$50.

Red Rock Country Club—Private club has a year-old course and a second 18 under construction. Designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay. Private, 18 holes, 1999. Director of Golf Kris Klabik, Head Pro Rob Blackburn, 2250 Red Springs Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89135. Call 702-360-5959 for pro shop, 702-360-2223 for membership. The existing course includes holes from both planned courses: 6,965 yards, par 72. Members and guests.

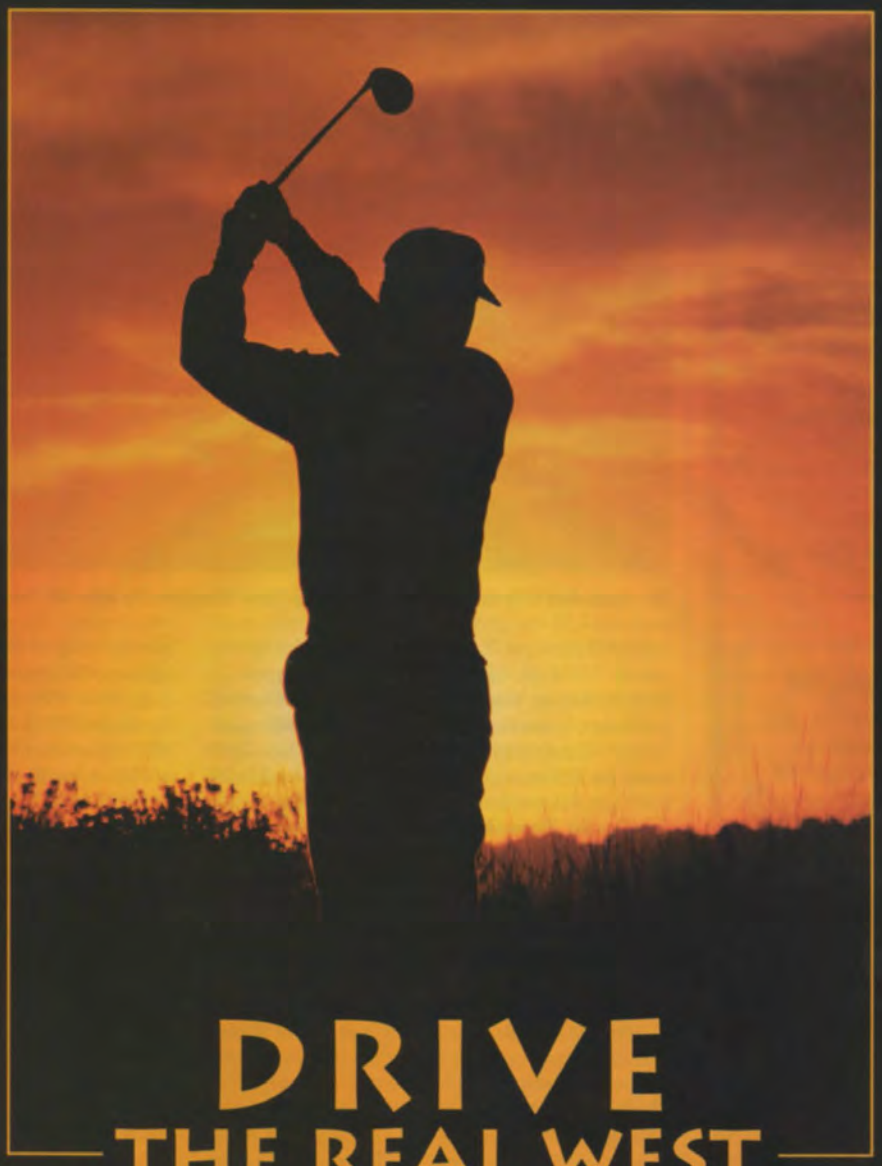
Rhodes Ranch Country Club—Course designer Ted Robinson says Rhodes Ranch has the best par-3s he's ever designed. The course in the southwest corner of Las Vegas has water on seven holes. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. General Manager Craig Smith, Head Pro Matthew Grobe, 20 Rhodes Ranch Pkwy., Las Vegas NV 89148. Call 702-740-4114, 888-311-TEES, www.rhodesranch.com. Back tees: 6,909 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: Nonresidents $120 M-Th, $145 F-S. Clark County residents $85 every day. Club rental $40.

Royal Links Golf Club—Named one of "Top 10 You Can Play" by *Golf Magazine* in 1999, Royal Links was conceived by owner Bill Walters and designed by Perry Dye. Each hole was inspired by a famous golf hole on a course where the British Open has been played. For example, No. 10 was modeled after the Road Hole at St. Andrews. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Owner Bill Walters, Head Pro Joe Dahlstrom, 5995 Vegas Valley Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89122. Call 702-450-8000, 888-397-2499, 702-450-8123 (pro shop), www.waltersgolf.com. Back tees: 7,029 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart or caddy: $225 M-Th, $250 F-S in spring and fall. Club rentals $50.

Spanish Trail Country Club—Private course designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr. has fast greens, undulating fairways, and lakes. Private, 27 holes, estab. 1984. Manager Jesse Thorpe, Head Pro Jerry Roberts, 5050 Spanish Trail Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89113. Call 702-364-0357. Back tees: Longest combination 7,107 yards, par 72. Private membership; guests of members pay $87. Spikeless.

Stallion Mountain Country Club—Private courses may be played by guests at more than 25 Las Vegas hotels that maintain corporate memberships. The three 18s are owned by Bill Walters and managed by Joe Kelley. Site of the John Jacobs Golf School, Stallion Mountain courses hosted the 1998 Frank Sinatra Celebrity Classic. 5500 E. Flamingo Rd., Las Vegas, NV 89122. Call 702-450-8000, 888-397-2499, www.waltersgolf.com. **Citation:** Traditional-style course was designed by Jim Colbert and Gary Bickler and opened in 1991. Head Pro Chris Card. Formerly the North Course. Back tees: 6,676 yards, par 72. **Man O' War:** Modern course by Colbert and Bickler has a links flare with more rolling terrain and elevation changes than Citation. Players must carry bunkers and water to reach small greens. Chip Beck shot a 59 here during the Las Vegas Invitational. Opened in 1991; former South Course. Back

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The Oasis Golf Club in Mesquite includes the Oasis championship links and the nine-hole Vista course.

tees: 6,849 yards, par 72. Man O' War and Citation fees run approx. $105-$120 M-Th, $120-$150 F-S in spring and fall, lower in summer. **Secretariat:** Designed by Jim Colbert and Jeff Brauer, Secretariat has more water and out-of-bounds. Former West Course opened in 1995. Back tees: 7,223 yards, par 72. Secretariat green fees run approx. $20-$35 more than Citation and Man O' War. Spikeless.

Sun City Las Vegas Golf Club—Semi-private courses are open to the public, but residents are given preference. Part of Del Webb's Sun City community, the courses were designed by Billy Casper and Greg Nash. Director of Golf Sean Connet. **Palm Valley:** Rolling terrain with bunkers crowding fast greens. Great views—you can see all of Las Vegas from the 7th tee. 18 holes, estab. 1989. Head Pro Jim Neighbors, 9201-B Del Webb Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89128. Call 702-363-4373. Back tees: 6,849 yards, par 72. **Highland Falls:** Hilly course sits at the highest elevation in the valley at more than 3,000 feet, with scenic waterfalls on 17th and 18th holes. 18 holes, estab. 1993. Head Pro Nelson Mascarenas, 10201 Sun City Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89134. Call 702-254-7010. Back tees: 6,512 yards, par 72. Palm Valley and Highland Falls green fees: Nonresidents $105. After 1 p.m. $65. Clark County residents $65 and $45. Club rental $30. **Eagle Crest:** This executive course has rolling terrain and good views. 18-hole executive, estab. 1995. Head Pro Mike Starks, 2203 Thomas Ryan Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89134. Call 702-240-1320. Back tees: 4,067 yards, par 60. Green fees include mandatory cart: Nonhomeowners $58. After 1:30 p.m. $40. Clark County residents $42 and $28. Club rentals $20. Spikeless.

Tournament Players Club at Summerlin—Built to accommodate spectators, the private, desert-style TPC stadium course is the weekend host of the PGA's Las Vegas Invitational and cohosts the Las Vegas Senior Classic. Designed by Bobby Weed and Fuzzy Zoeller. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1991. Howard Hughes Corp., Manager Curt Hudek, Head Pro Brian Hawthorne, 1700 Village Center Circle, Las Vegas, NV 89134. Call 702-256-0111. Back tees: 7,243 yards, par 72. Members' guests pay $95, carts $20. Clubs available.

Tournament Players Club at the Canyons—Built using desert canyons, the high-end public TPC course cohosts the Las Vegas Senior Classic. Designed by Bobby Weed and Raymond Floyd. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Howard Hughes Corp., General Manager Chuck Bombard, Head Pro Dan Hammell, 9851 Canyon Run Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89144. Call 702-256-2000, www.pgatour.com. Back tees: 7,063 yards, par 71. Green fees include cart: $160 M-W, $210 Th-S. Spikeless preferred.

LAUGHLIN

Emerald River Country Club—Course south of Laughlin's hotel-casinos has several holes on the Colorado River. The target course was designed by Ault and Clark, the Maryland firm that designed the Las Vegas Country Club. Scenic with saguaro cacti, mountains, and the river. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1990. American Golf Corp., Manager Chuck Afualo, Head Pro John Duckett, 1155 West Casino Dr., Box 32220, Laughlin, NV 89029. Call 702-298-0061. Back tees: 6,572 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: $70 M-Th, $85 F-S. Seniors $60 all week. Club rental $20. Laughlin hotel golf packages.

Mojave Resort Golf Club—Located across from the Avi Casino on the Mojave Indian Reservation, 10 miles south of Laughlin casinos, this links-style course has more than 80 sand bunkers, water on nine holes, wide fairways, and big, undulating greens. Designed by Landmark/Brian Curley and Grant Hesero. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. CNC Entertainment Nevada, General Manager-Head Pro Eric Fisher, 9905 Aha Macav Pkwy., Laughlin, NV 89029. Call 702-535-4653. Back tees: 6,939 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart and practice range: May: $75 M-Th, $85 F-S. June-Aug.: $35 and $45. Discount for Laughlin hotel guests. Club rentals $25.

MESQUITE

CasaBlanca Golf Club—Course encourages walkers. Every green is different. Architect Cal Olson is disciple of Dr. Allister MacKensie, who designed Cypress Point and Augusta National. Each hole is described at www.CasaBlancaResort.com. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1996. CasaBlanca Hotel-Casino, Director of Golf Bob Ault, Head Pro Chris Orchard, 950 W. Mesquite Blvd., Mesquite, NV 89027. Call 702-346-6781, 888-711-GOLF, or 800-459-PLAY. Back tees: 7,011 yards, par 72. Green fees: CasaBlanca hotel guests $75 M-F, $85 S-S. Nonguests $85 M-Th, $95 F-S. Carts optional. Club rental $15-$20. Course will be closed for overseeding from Sept. 6 to Oct. 1.

Oasis Golf Club—The 18-hole Oasis was named one of the "Top 10 You Can Play" by *Golf Magazine* in 1996. Located in a canyon in the foothills of the Virgin Mountains, this desert course designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay has lots of elevated tees and views. Home to Resorts Golf Schools of Scottsdale, Arizona. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1995. Si Redd's Oasis Hotel-Casino, Director of Golf Rick Williams, Head Pro Randy Tickner, 2200 Hillside Dr., Mesquite, NV 89024. Call 702-346-7820 or 800-621-0187. Back tees: 6,982 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: Si Redd's Oasis hotel guests $110, nonguests $135. Golf packages. The nine-hole **Vista Course**, estab. 1995, is 3,524 yards, par 37. Green fees: Hotel guests $35 for 9 holes, nonguests $40. Club rental $20.

Palms Golf Club—Also operated by Si Redd's Oasis, the Palms was designed by William Hull. The front nine has desert landscaping and 27 acres of water. The back nine is hilly with up to 114-foot drops from some tees to fairways. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Si Redd's Oasis, Director of Golf Rick Williams, Head Pro Ed Stanfill, 2200

Photo: Lin Alder

Hillside Dr., Mesquite, NV 89024. Call 702-346-5232 or 800-621-0187. Back tees: 7,008 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: Si Redd's Oasis hotel guests $90, nonguests $110. Golf packages. Club rental $20.

NORTH LAS VEGAS

Craig Ranch Golf Course—Short, narrow course with 7,000 trees was designed by owner J.C. Stimson. Craig Ranch has no sand bunkers and small greens. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1963. Manager Brent Atwood, Head Pro Henry Sandler, 628 W. Craig Rd., North Las Vegas, NV 89030. Call 702-642-9700. Back tees: 6,001 yards, par 70. Green fees: $17 to walk, $25 to ride. Club rental $10. Spikeless.

North Las Vegas Golf Course—This par-3 layout, where green fees are a fraction of other links, was the first course in Nevada lighted for night play. Golfers on the 9th hole enjoy spectacular city views. City course, 9 holes, estab. 1971. Manager Mike Buttell, Head Pro Henry Sandler, 324 E. Brooks, North Las Vegas, NV 89036-4086. Call 702-633-1833. Back tees: 1,128 yards, par 27. Green fees: $6 weekdays, $6.50 weekends. Night golf under the lights: $7.50. Club rental $10 with pull cart.

Shadow Creek—This exclusive course has, in recent years, opened for play by golf vacationers staying at the four Mirage resorts in Las Vegas. Conceived by Mirage Resorts founder Steve Wynn and designed by Tom Fazio, Shadow Creek was ranked the 15th best course in the U.S. by *Golf Digest* in 1997. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1989. Head Pro Wes Weston. Call 702-791-7111 or 888-778-3387 for golf-room packages and tee times. Back tees: 7,239 yards, par 72. Weekend golf packages, which include suite, limousine service to and from the course, golf cart, and caddy, start at $700 per night for Golden Nugget guests, $800 for Treasure Island guests, $1,150 for Mirage guests, and $1,200 for Bellagio guests. Spikeless.

Sunrise Vista Golf Course—Located on Nellis Air Force Base, the long, flat course has four artificial lakes. Open to active-duty and retired military men and women and Dept. of Defense civilian employees. Other civilians must be guests of active-duty or retired military personnel. Military course, 27 holes, estab. 1972 (first nine in 1967). A fourth nine is due to open in fall 2000. Director of Golf Leo Van Wart, 2841 Kinley Dr., Nellis AFB, NV 89191. Call 702-652-2602, ext. 10. Back tees: Longest combination 7,051 yards, par 72. Green fees: Guests $40. Military $10-$18. Juniors $8. Carts $9 per person. Clubs $5 and $15.

PAHRUMP

Willow Creek Golf Course—Formerly known as Calvada Valley Championship Course, this course in Pahrump, 65 miles west of Las Vegas, has large greens, grass bunkers instead of sand, and a long, gently rolling layout with water on 13 holes. Designed by William Bell. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1980. General Manager-Head Pro Jim Kirwan, 1500 Red Butte Dr., Pahrump, NV 89048. Call 775-727-4653, 877-779-4653. Back tees: 7,025 yards, par 71. Green fees include mandatory carts: $50. Seasonal rates. Club rental $15. Spikeless.

Pahrump Executive Course—The former Calvada Valley Executive Course has four lakes and five par-4s that are more than 255 yards long. Designed by William Bell. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1984. General Manager-Head Pro Jim Kirwan, 1471 Mount Charleston Dr., Pahrump, NV 89048. Call 775-727-6388. Back tees: 3,583 yards, par 59. Green fees: $25. Seasonal rates. Pull carts $2. Club rental $15. Spikeless.

PRIMM

Primm Valley Golf Club—Golfers can play two public courses designed by Tom Fazio in Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas on I-15 at the state line. Lush and dotted with pine trees, the Lakes Course contrasts strongly with the Desert Course, which is landscaped to blend with cacti and other desert plants. Primm Valley also hosts the CompuSport Academy of Golf. Courses were featured in a 1998 article in *Golf Magazine*. Resort courses, 36 holes. MGM Grand Corp., Director of Golf Mark Yelenich, Head Pro John Carranza, Box 19119, Primm, NV 89019. Call 800-386-7867 or 702-679-5510. Web www.primadonna.com. **Lakes Course:** 18 holes, estab. 1997. Back tees: 6,945 yards, par 71. **Desert Course:** 18 holes, estab. 1998. Back tees: 7,088 yards, par 72. Green fees include carts: Seasonal. Club rentals $40. Shoe rentals $10. Golf packages with Buffalo Bills, Whiskey Petes, and Primm Valley hotel-casinos. Spikeless.

Reno/Tahoe Area

CARSON CITY

Eagle Valley Golf Course—Two city courses offer contrasting styles of play. East Course is wide-open and suitable for all levels of golfers. Designed by Homer Flynt, the course is one of Nevada's greenest because it is watered with treated effluent. The West is a links course, hilly and very narrow, with fast and undulating greens and challenging water hazards on last holes. Carson City Municipal Golf Corp., General Manager Michael McGehee, Head Pro Greg Carter, 3999 Centennial Park Dr., Carson City, NV 89706. Phone 775-887-2380. **East Course:** 18 holes, estab. 1976. Back tees: 6,658 yards, par 72. Green fees: $21. After 2 p.m. $12. Carts $18. Club rental $15. **West Course:** 18 holes, estab. 1987. Back tees: 6,851 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: $37.50 until 2 p.m., $25 from 2-4 p.m., $18 after 4 p.m. Club rental $15. Night-lighted driving range.

Empire Ranch Golf Course—The 27-hole, Gary Bickler-designed layout is set among protected wetlands between bluffs overlooking the Carson River. Water makes several par-3s tough targets. Public, 27 holes, estab. 1997. General Manager-Head Pro Jeff Sparks, 1875 Fair Way, Carson City, NV 89701. Phone 775-885-2100, 888-227-1335, www.empireranchgolf.com. Back tees: Longest combination 6,840 yards, par 72. Green fees include carts: $35 M-Th, $39 F-S. Club rental $20. Spikeless.

Silver Oak Golf Course—New course at north end of Carson City in Silver Oak planned community. The back nine, which winds into the mountains, is a little more difficult than the front due to intriguing drops and upward fair-



ways. Designed by Tom Duncan and Sid Salomon. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1998-99. Head Pro Tom Duncan, 1251 Country Club Dr., Carson City NV 89703. Phone 775-841-7000, fax 775-841-7002. Back tees: 6,564 yards, par 71. Green fees include cart: $40. Ten-play punch cards $300.

CARSON VALLEY

Carson Valley Golf Course—Course south of Gardnerville winds through the tall cottonwood trees planted by settlers more than a century ago near the Carson River. The Country Club Basque restaurant is on the grounds. Course was built by developer Red Swift in 1960. Public, 18 holes. Manager Tom Brooks, Superintendent Ron Fukuyama, Head Pro Brian Smith, 1027 Riverview Dr., Gardnerville, NV 89410. Phone 775-265-3181, www.carsonvalleygolfcourse.com. Back tees: 5,800 yards, par 71. Green fees: $22 M-F, $25 S-S. Carts (optional) $20. Club rental $15.

Golf Club at Genoa Lakes—In 1994 *Golf Digest* named Genoa Lakes the country's fourth Best New Course, and it was listed among the Best Courses in America in 1995. Designed by John Harbottle and Peter Jacobsen, Genoa Lakes is an annual site of U.S. Open qualifying. The course has long, undulating layout at the base of the Sierra. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1993. General Manager Jay Lather, Director of Golf Randy Fox, Jacks Valley Rd., Box 350, Genoa, NV 89411. Phone 775-782-4653 or 775-588-GOLF. Back tees: 7,263 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: May 1-June 19: $60 M-Th, $80 F-S. June 20-Oct. 13: $75 M-Th, $95 F-S. Winter: $40 M-F, $50 S-S. Club rental $30.

Sierra Nevada Golf Ranch—Built on a former cattle ranch, the course designed by Johnny Miller and John Harbottle sits in the Sierra foothills north of Genoa. Featured in Dec. '99 *Golf Digest*, which noted the water-guarded par-5 18th. Most holes have panoramic views of the Carson Valley and forested mountains. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1998. American Golf Corp., Director of Golf Ken Kaifas (PGA), Golf Shop Manager Rich Howarth (CPGA), 2901 Jacks Valley Rd., Box 316, Genoa, NV 89411. Phone 775-782-7700. Back tees: 7,358 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $40-$105 peak-season rate. Club rentals. Instruction by Dick Ridley (PGA). Spikeless.

Sunridge Golf Club—Located five miles south of downtown Carson City at north end of Carson Valley, Sunridge was designed by owner-builder Bill Wellman. The scenic course incorporates hilltop, hillside, and valley floor topography along with 22 acres of lakes and other natural wetlands. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Head Pro Keith Stoll, 1000 Long Drive, Carson City, NV 89705. Phone 775-267-4448, www.sunridgegolfclub.com. Back tees: 7,054 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: $55 M-Th, $75 F-S. Club rental $25.

DAYTON

Dayton Valley Country Club—Designed by Arnold Palmer and Ed Seay, this long course includes intricate bunkers, rock outcroppings, and undulating fairways. Three par-3s require carries over water. Semi-private, 18 holes, estab. 1991. Director of Golf Jim Kepler, 51 Palmer Drive, Dayton, NV 89403. Phone 775-246-7888. Back tees: 7,218 yards, par 72. Green fees include carts: Summer $65 M-Th, $85 F-S. After 2 p.m. $35 and $45. Club rental $25. Spikeless.

FERNLEY

Desert Lakes Golf Club—The course in Fernley, 34 miles east of Reno, has 28 lakes, rolling topography, and bent-grass greens. The Western-theme layout—with holes such as Top Gun (No. 13) and Hangin' Tree (No. 14)—was designed by Don Mackey. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Head Pro Don Krivanek, 4000 Farm District Rd., Fernley, NV 89408. Phone 775-575-GOLF. Back tees: 6,650 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $30 weekdays, $35 weekends; $20 to walk. Club rental $15.

WASHOE VALLEY

Thunder Canyon Country Club—Formerly the Golf Club at Lightning W Ranch, Thunder Canyon is a private course four miles north of Carson City. Robert Muir Graves designed the course, which has 10 lakes and two waterfalls. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1994. Owners Roger and Gail Block, Director of Golf Brian Ryall, Head Pro Denise Bratzler, 19 Lightning W Ranch Rd., Washoe Valley, NV 89704. Phone 775-882-0882; golf shop 775-884-4597. Back tees: 7,241 yards, par 72. Memberships available to Nevada residents. Reciprocal play for members and guests of other private clubs outside a 50-mile radius. Guest fees: $50 if accompanied by a member, $100 if unaccompanied or if reciprocity with other private course. Restaurant is open to the public. Spikeless.

RENO/SPARKS

ArrowCreek Golf Club—ArrowCreek has two courses, one public and one private, at 5,300 feet in Southwest Reno below Mount Rose. The public course, the Legend, is a traditional layout designed by Arnold Palmer. The private course, the Challenge, was designed by Fuzzy Zoeller and John Harbottle and resembles Scottish links. Both have mountain and valley views, mild undulations, and intricate bunkering. Strict dress codes are enforced—no denim. Public and private, 36 holes, estab. 1999. General Manager Eric Jacobsen, Head Pro Mark Range, 2905 ArrowCreek Pkwy., Reno NV 89511. Phone 775-850-4653 for tee times, membership 775-850-4453. **The Legend:** Public. Back tees: 7,310 yards, par 72. Green fees: $80 midweek, $90 weekend; $70 spring and fall; $50 winter. Club rental $30. **The Challenge:** Private. Back tees: 7,425 yards, par 72. Members and guests. Spikeless.

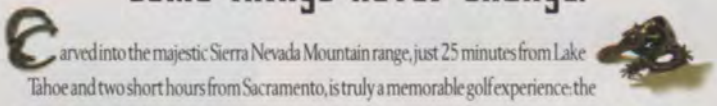
Brookside Golf Course—The flat, open nine-hole course began as an 18-holer owned by a group of Reno doctors. Nine holes were sacrificed for Reno-Tahoe International Airport expansion. City course, 9 holes, estab. 1956. Manager-Head Pro Tony Parenti, 700 S. Rock Blvd., Reno, NV 89502. Phone 775-856-6009. Back tees: 3,018 yards, par 35. Green fees: May 1-Sept. 30: $20. Seniors $16; juniors $10. Carts $10. Club rentals. Spikeless preferred.

Hidden Valley Country Club—Private course is long, open, and well bunkered. Designed by Billy Bell Jr. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1958. Manager Ralph Woolright, Head Pro Tom Dawson, 3575 E. Hidden Valley Dr., Reno, NV 89502.

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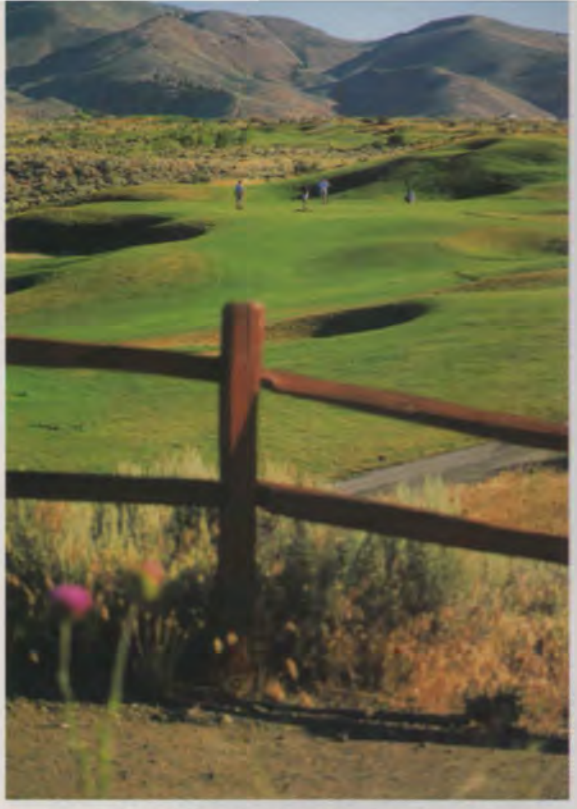


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Phone 775-857-4742. Back tees: 7,061 yards, par 72. Guests and members of other private courses may play cartless for $65 or with a cart for $77. Club rental $25.

Lake Ridge Golf Course—Robert Trent Jones designed Lake Ridge, often voted Reno's Best Golf Course in *Reno Gazette-Journal* reader polls. Lake Ridge has large greens with numerous bunkers. Water frequently comes into play. The famous 15th hole has an island green, with the tee on a hillside 120 feet above the lake. Daily fee, 18 holes, open March-Dec., estab. 1969. Owner-Manager Stan Jaksick, PGA Master Pro Paul Lane, Director of Instruction Jan Usher, 1200 Razorback Rd., Reno, NV 89509. Phone 775-825-2200, 800-815-6966, www.lakeridgegolf.com. Back tees: 6,715 yards, par 71. Green fees include mandatory cart: $70 M-Th, $85 F-S. After 3 p.m. $45 and $55. Walkers permitted after 5:30 p.m. Club rental $30. 19th Hole Restaurant.

Montreux Golf and Country Club—Montreux is the site of the PGA Tour stop Greens.com Open at Reno-Tahoe, scheduled for August 24-27, 2000. Architect Jack Nicklaus gives players room off the tees and difficulty around the greens at this private course in the tall pines. Course is home base for PGA touring pro Scott McCarron and LPGA stars Patty Sheehan and Annika Sorenstam. Private, 18 holes, estab. 1997. General Manager Stan Jaksick, Director of Golf Gus Jones, 18200 Bordeaux Dr. off Mount Rose Hwy., Reno, NV 89511. Phone 775-849-9496. Back tees: 7,577 yards, par 72. Membership is $85,000. Spikeless.

Northgate Golf Club—Northgate, a Scottish-links course in the desert, was host of the PGA Ben Hogan Reno Open in 1990 and '91 and the first Nevada course to host U.S Open qualifying in 1988 and 1989. The Benz and Poellot layout has undulating fairways and greens crowded by both sand and grass bunkers. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1988. Owned by Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority. Director of Golf Joe Kelley, Head Pro Don Boyle, 1111 Clubhouse Dr., Reno, NV 89523. Phone 775-747-7577. Back tees: 6,966 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory carts: Nonresidents $51, Washoe County residents $40, after 2 p.m. $33. Club rental $20. Spikeless preferred.

Red Hawk Golf Club—An Audubon course designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., Red Hawk's Springs Course is part of the Wingfield Springs development seven miles north of I-80 in Sparks. There is a golf school, and another 18 designed by Hale Irwin will begin play in 2000. One of the courses may go private. Daily fee, 18 holes, estab. 1997. Director of Golf Mike Mazzaferri, 6600 N. Wingfield Parkway, Sparks, NV 89436. Phone 775-626-6000. Back tees: 7,127 yards, par 72. Green fees include carts: May-Sept.: $70 M-Th, $85 F-S. April and Oct.: $65/$70. Nov.-March: $40/$45. Sports bar and grill, Freddie's Roost. Spikeless.

Rosewood Lakes Golf Course—This scenic links course designed by Brad Benz has large undulating greens. Rosewood, on the east side of the Truckee Meadows, is known for bird life and natural wetlands. City course, 18 holes, estab. 1991. Head Pro Bob Forse, 6800 Pembroke Dr., Reno, NV 89502. Phone 702-857-2892. Back tees: 6,693 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents $35, Washoe County residents $27. Twilight rates: Nonresidents $19, residents $16. Carts $22. Club rental $15.

Sierra Sage Golf Course—Located in the former Air Force community of Stead, 10 miles north of Reno, Sierra Sage is links-style, with sagebrush lining generous rolling fairways and small greens. One hundred new trees and a 315-yard driving range recently were added. County course, 18 holes, estab. 1958. Director of Golf Mike Mitchell, Head Pro Dennis Oliver, 6355 Silver Lake Blvd., Stead, NV 89506. Phone 775-972-1564. Back tees: 6,605 yards, par 71. Green fees: Summer (April 1 to Oct. 1): Nonresidents $24, Washoe County residents $18.50. Resident seniors and juniors $16.50. After 2 p.m. $13.50. Carts $21. Club rental $12. Spikeless.

Washoe County Golf Course—Built by the WPA in the 1930s,

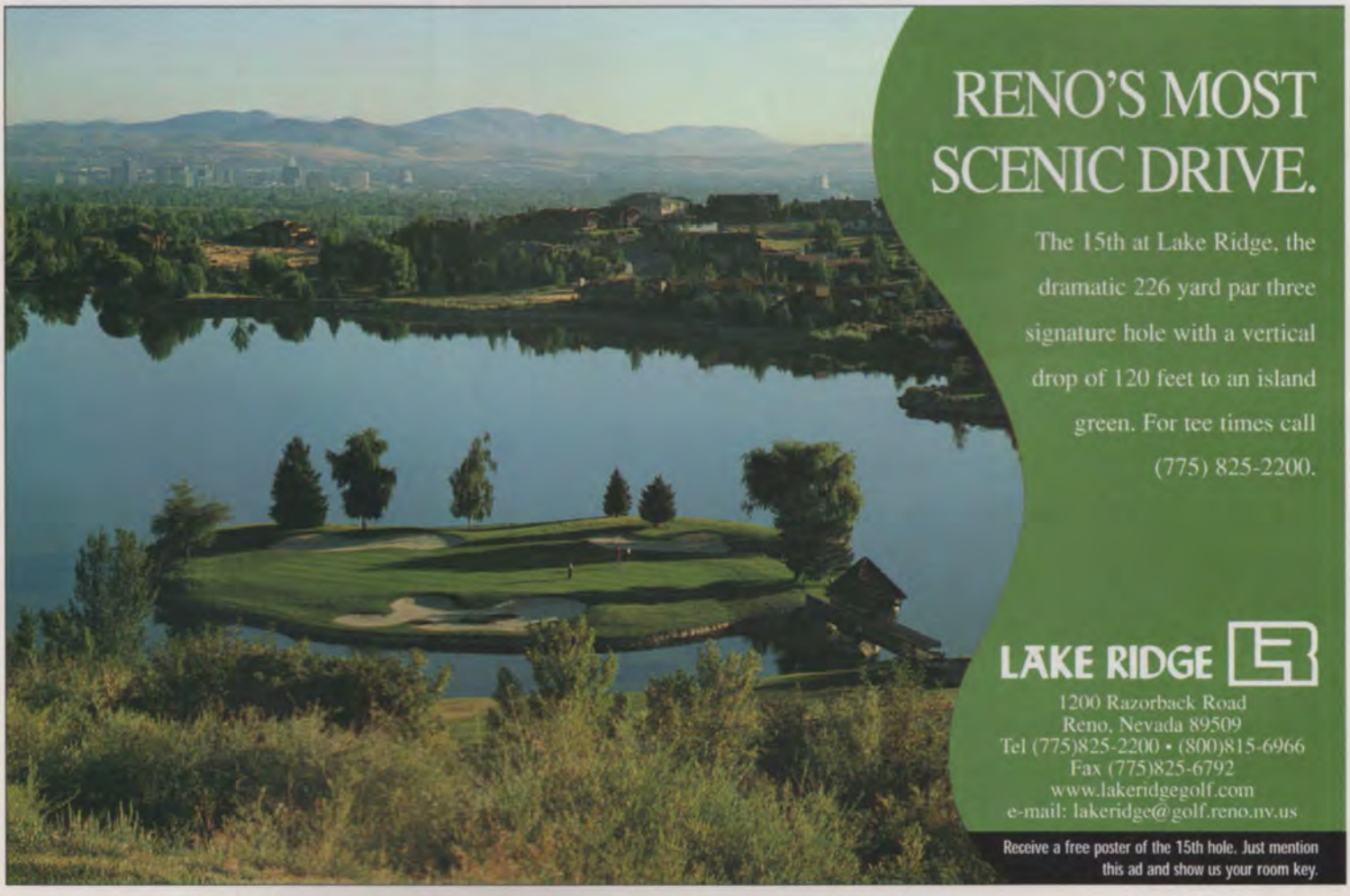


Photo: Lonnie Peck/Reno News Bureau

Washoe is the city's oldest course and a favorite of Reno traditionalists. Tall trees line the fairways, and sand bunkers crowd the small greens. Front nine is flat, back nine hilly. County course, 18 holes, estab. 1936. Director of Golf Barney Bell, Head Pro Darin Menante, 2601 S. Arlington Ave., Reno, NV 89509. Phone 775-828-6640. Back tees: 6,695 yards, par 72. Green fees: Summer (April 1 to Oct. 31): Nonresidents $25, Washoe County residents $19. Seniors and juniors $16.50. Twilight rate $14. Carts $22. Club rental $15. A Nike Golf Camp is planned. Spikeless.

Wildcreek Golf Course—Wildcreek's championship and executive courses overlook the Truckee Meadows from Sparks. Designed by Benz and Phelps, the courses are owned by the Reno-Sparks Convention and Visitors Authority. The championship links—hilly, with lots of water and bunkers—have hosted the USGA Public Links qualifying several times and the Nevada State Women's Amateur in 1997. The nine-hole executive course is a challenging par-3 layout with large greens. Resort courses, estab. 1979. Director of Golf Joe Kelley, Head Pro Fred Elliott, 3500 Sullivan Lane, Sparks, NV 89431. Phone 775-673-3100, www.greens.com. **Championship Course:** Public, 18 holes. Back tees: 6,932 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: Nonresidents $53, Washoe County residents $40. Twilight $33. Tournament fee $59. Club rental $20. **Executive Course:** Public, 9 holes. Back tees: 2,840 yards, par 27. Green fees: $13. Nov.-March: $11. Carts $20. Club rental $7.

Wolf Run Golf Club—The home course of the University of Nevada, Reno's Wolf Pack golf team and site of a Magic Move golf school, Wolf Run stands in Southwest Reno with views of the Sierra, Reno, and foothills. Owned by the university, the two-year-old course has a special "Wolfpaw" 19th hole designed to settle any match. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1998. Director of Golf Lou Eiguren codesigned the course with Jack Fleming. Head Pro Chase Stigall, 1400 Wolf Run Rd., Reno, NV 89511. Phone 775-851-3301. Back tees: 6,936 yards, par 71. Green fees: May-Oct.: $47 M-Th, $52 F-S. Carts (optional) $12. Spikeless.



As Job's Peak looms above the Carson Valley, a golfer negotiates a water hazard at scenic, lengthy Genoa Lakes.

LAKE TAHOE, SOUTH

Bijou Golf Course—This old course is located near the center of South Lake Tahoe and framed by Heavenly Ski Area and Freel Peak. City course, 9 holes, open April-Oct., estab. 1920. Manager Stan Bobman, 3464 Fairway and Johnson Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, CA. Mail: 1180 Rufus Allen Blvd., South Lake Tahoe, 96150-8202. Phone 530-542-6097. Back tees: 2,200 yards, par 32. Green fees: Nonresidents $25, county residents $20. Senior discounts on Wed. mornings. Hand carts only, $2. Club rental $7.50.

Edgewood Tahoe—Named one of *Golf Digest's* top 25 public golf courses, Edgewood Tahoe stands next to Lake Tahoe near Stateline's hotel-casinos. The George Fazio-designed course hosted the U.S. Public Links in 1980 and the U.S. Seniors Open in 1985. Site of a nationally televised, annual celebrity tournament, Edgewood hosts the American Century Celebrity Golf Championship on July 4-9, 2000. Resort course, 18 holes, open May 17 to Oct., estab. 1968. Owner Park Cattle Co., Course Supervisor Steve Seibel, Box 5400, Stateline, NV 89449. Phone 775-588-3566 or 888-881-8659. Back tees: 7,491 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $200. Walking OK, for same fee. Club rental $25. Spikeless preferred.

Glenbrook Golf Club—An older course nestled in the pines, Nevada's first golf course changed from public to private in 1998. Private, 9 holes, estab. c. 1926. Director of Golf Lane Christiansen, 2070 Pray Meadow Rd., Box 505, Glenbrook, NV 89413. Phone 775-749-5201. Back tees:

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5,566 yards (based on 18), par 71. Private membership. Soft spikes only.

Lake Tahoe Golf Course—Located in an alpine meadow surrounded by tall Sierra peaks, the William Bell-designed course is flat to rolling. More wildlife habitat was added when Angora Creek was restored in late 1990s. Resort course, 18 holes, open April-Oct., est. 1962. American Golf Corp., General Manager Ronda Gangelhoff, Head Pro Mike Durst, U.S. 50 West, one mile west of airport, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150. Phone 530-577-0788. Back tees: 6,745 yards, par 71. Green fees: $65 to ride, $45 to walk. Carts mandatory F-S. Club rental $25-$40.

Tahoe Paradise Golf Course—Narrow and lined with trees, Tahoe Paradise has six par-3s. The rest are par-4s (women have two par-5s). Resort course, 18 holes, open April-Nov., estab. 1960. Manager-Head Pro Dave Beeman, 3021 U.S. 50 West, Box 11376, Meyers, CA 96155. Phone 530-577-2121. Back tees: 4,021 yards, par 66. Green fees 1999: $32. Seniors $25. Carts (optional) $26. Club rental $12.

LAKE TAHOE, NORTH

Incline Golf Courses—Amid the pines above Lake Tahoe's north shore, Robert Trent Jones designed the Incline Championship Course, and his son Robert Trent Jones Jr. laid out the executive Mountain Course. The Championship Course features gentle elevation changes, with streams as water hazards on 13 holes, and follows Jones' philosophy that every hole should be a tough par but an easy bogey. The Mountain Course has elevation changes, scenic views, and four par-4s. Resort courses, 36 holes, open May-Oct., estab. 1964. Director of Golf John Hughes, Head Pro Brian Eilders. **Championship Course:** 955 Fairway Blvd., Incline Village, NV 89451. Phone 775-832-1144, www.golfincline.com. Back tees: 6,910 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: Nonresidents $115, after 4 p.m. $60. Incline Village General Improvement District residents $35. Club rental $30. Pro shop named Northern California section merchandizer of the year for 1999. **Mountain Course:** Head Pro Randy Cooper. 690 Wilson Way, Incline Village, NV 89451. Phone 702-832-1144, www.golfincline.com. Back tees: 3,513 yards, par 58. Green fees include cart: Nonresidents $50. Incline Village General Improvement District residents $25. Club rental $25. Spikeless preferred.

Northstar-at-Tahoe Golf Course—This Robert Muir Graves course has a dual personality. The front nine is open with heavily contoured greens while the back nine has narrow, tree-lined fairways and contoured greens. Water hazards on 14 holes. Resort course, 18 holes, open May-Oct., estab. 1973. Head Pro Graham Sampson, Basque Dr. at Northstar, Box 129, Truckee, CA 96160. Phone 530-562-2490 or 800-GO-NORTH. Back tees: 6,897 yards, par 72. Green fees include mandatory cart: $85. After 1 p.m. S-Th $60. Club rental $39. Resort has horseback riding, mountain biking.

Old Brockway Golf Course—Across the street from Lake Tahoe, Old Brockway has tall pines and good views of the lake. Designed by John Duncan. Public, 9 holes, open April-Nov., estab. 1924. Owner Lane Lewis, Head Pro Garrett Good, 7900 N. Lake Blvd., Kings Beach, CA 95719. Phone 530-546-9909. Back tees: 6,900 yards (based on 18), par 72. Green fees 1999: $45. Club rental $15.

Resort at Squaw Creek—Hotel golf packages are available at this traditional Robert Trent Jones Jr. course set in Squaw Valley. Dress code: collared shirts. Front nine is mountainous, back nine links-style. Resort course, 18 holes, open May-Oct., estab. 1991. General Manager Ron Vuy, Head Pro Chris Lynch, Box 3333, 400 Squaw Creek Rd., Olympic Valley, CA 96146. Phone 530-583-6300. Back tees: 6,931 yards, par 71. Green fees include cart: $115. Club rental $25. Caddies $30.

Tahoe City Golf Course—Initially designed by May Webb Dunn in 1917, the nine-hole Tahoe City course is the oldest in the Tahoe Basin. Players need to hit straight, not long. Challenging holes include No. 4, a par-3 with an elevated green, and No. 5, a short but wicked par-4 with a large, shaded green guarded by a trap. Public, 9 holes, open April-Nov., estab. 1917. General Manager Bob Bonino, Head Pro Mark Landry, 251 N. Lake Blvd., Box 226, Tahoe City, CA 96145. Phone 530-583-1516. Back tees: 5,261 yards (based on 18), par 66. Green fees: Off season $40, July-Aug. $50. Carts $24. Club rental $15. Caddy $20. Spikeless preferred.

TRUCKEE & VICINITY

The Dragon at Gold Mountain—The Robin Nelson-designed course in Graeagle is scheduled to open July 1, 2000. Clubhouse is one of three designed by Frank Lloyd Wright but never built. Golfers will find five sets of tees and views of the Sierra and Feather River. Resort course, 18 holes. Director of Golf Norm Blandel, Superintendent Rich Scholes, Resort General Manager Sark Antaramian, Box 880, Graeagle, CA 96103. Call 530-832-0880, 877-372-4661, www.gm-gold.com. Back tees: 7,000 yards, par 72. Green fees: $125 M-Th, $140 F-S; twilight $100. Club rental. Spikeless.

Graeagle Meadows Golf Course—Located on the Feather River in the Mohawk Valley, Graeagle Meadows is an established Sierra course 60 miles northwest of Reno. Course architect Ellis Van Gorder used the site's large meadow with two lakes, the river, and two creeks. Emilee Klein represents Graeagle on the LPGA Tour. Public, 18 holes, April-Nov., estab. 1968. Manager Dan West, Head Pro Bob Klein Jr., State Route 89 north of Truckee, Graeagle, CA 96103. Phone 530-836-2323. Back tees: 6,725 yards, par 72. Green fees: $35 M-F, $40 S-S. Carts (optional) $30. Club rental $15.

Plumas Pines Golf Resort—Bordered by the middle fork of the Feather River and the Plumas-Eureka National Forest, Plumas Pines was designed by Homer Flynt. On Charity Day, Sept. 20, all fees ($75 for golf and BBQ) go to charity. Resort course, 18 holes, open May-Nov., estab. 1980. General Manager Tom Godman, Head Pro Brandon Bowling, 402 Poplar Valley Rd., Blairsden, CA 96103. Phone 530-836-1420, www.graeagle.com/plumaspines. Back tees: 6,504 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $50 M-Th, $60 F-S. After 3 p.m. $35 S-Th. Club rental $10.

Ponderosa Golf Course—Mostly flat, heavily wooded Bob Baldech-designed course in Truckee is well bunkered and

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lacks water hazards. Public, 9 holes, open May-Oct., estab. 1961. Manager Al Bailey, Hwy. 267 and Reynolds Way, Box 729, Truckee, CA 96160. Phone 530-587-3501. Back tees: 6,044 yards (based on 18), par 72. Green fees 1999: $38. Carts (optional) $24.

Tahoe Donner Golf Course—Manicured, narrow fairways wind through the pines near Truckee. Hilly course has an intriguing dichotomy—its first nine holes were designed by Roy Williams, the second nine by Bill Bell Jr.—with many steep drops from tees to fairways and greens. Semi-private, 18 holes, open May-Oct., estab. 1973. Tahoe Donner Assn., Head Pro Bruce Towle, 12850 Northwoods Blvd., Truckee, CA 96161. Phone 530-587-9440. Back tees: 6,899 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $100. Club rental $20. Spikeless preferred.

Golf Club at Whitehawk Ranch—Ranked 18th best golf course in California by *Golf Digest* in 1999, Whitehawk is a mountain course 38 miles north of Truckee. The Dick Bailey-designed links wind though pines and meadows. Nominated for a 1996 Best New Course Award by *Golf Digest*. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1996. Head Pro Van Batchelder, 1137 Hwy. 89, Box 170, Clio, CA 96106. Phone 530-836-0394 or 800-332-4295, www.golfwhitehawk.com. Back tees: 6,951 yards, par 71. Green fees include cart: $85 spring and fall, $105 summer. Same rates for walkers. Club rental $25. Spikeless.



Incline's two courses are set among the pines of North Lake Tahoe.

Rural Nevada

AMARGOSA VALLEY

Longstreet Inn Golf Course—This short par-3 course 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas is part of the Longstreet Inn, named for a turn-of-the-century Nevada gunfighter. Golfers use the course while practicing for tournaments at Furnace Creek in Death Valley National Park. The course, owned by Las Vegas auto dealer Jim Marsh, was designed by Ronald Freeman. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1998. Manager John Payton, State Route 373, Amargosa Valley, NV 89020. Call 775-372-1777 or 800-508-9493. Back tees: 820 yards, par 27. Green fees: $12. Rental clubs $3 with a refundable $20 deposit. Pull carts only.

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Mountain View Golf Course—The Battle Mountain course has rolling layouts, narrow fairways, water hazards, and tight doglegs. "People are always surprised to find an excellent course in a tiny town in Northeastern Nevada," says Head Pro Jon Lovell. The course was designed by John and Maria Heller. County course, 9 holes, open March-Nov., estab. 1991. Head Pro Jon Lovell, 205 Fairway Dr., Box 201-14, Battle Mountain, NV 89820. Phone 775-635-2380. Back tees: 6,286 yards, par 71. Green fees: $12 all day. Carts $20. Club rentals $8. Remodeled clubhouse has new deck.

ELKO

Ruby View Golf Course—Course hosts the Northern Nevada Golf Association's Seniors Tourney on Sept. 22-24. Ruby View has long, rolling fairways lined with big trees and large well-bunkered greens. Good food in snack bar. City course, 18 holes, open March-Nov., estab. 1968. Head Pro Rick Longhurst, 2100 Ruby View Dr., Elko, NV 89801. Phone 775-777-7277. Back tees: 6,919 yards, par 72. Green fees: Nonresidents $20, Elko residents $16 M-Th. Nonresidents $25, Elko residents $20 F-S. Carts (optional) $22. Club rental $14.

ELY

White Pine Golf Course—This course has variety—fairways wide and narrow, terrain flat and rolling, and greens small and extra-large. The Bob Baldock-designed course expanded to 18 holes two years ago. County course, 18 holes, open Feb.-Nov., original nine estab. 1957. Head Pro Joe Cullinane Jr., 1 Burch Dr., Ely, NV 89301. Mail: Box 150454, E. Ely, NV 89315. Phone 775-289-4095. Back tees: 6,843 yards, par 72. Green fees: $18. Carts (optional) $18. Club rentals $5.

EMPIRE/GERLACH

Burning Sands Golf Course—Course was built by gypsum-mine employees in the company town of Empire (pop. 350) about 100 miles north of Reno near Gerlach. The nine-hole course crosses streets and a tennis court. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1960s. Town Manager Dave Carter, Course Supervisor Bill Couk, Downtown Empire, NV 89405. Phone 775-557-2341. Back tees: 2,007 yards, par 32. Green fees: $10 donation suggested for non-residents.

Lucifer's Anvil Golf Course—Informal layout on the Black Rock playa north of Gerlach is painted each June, soon to wash away. Site of annual Black Rock Self Invitational Golf Tournament, June 24-25, 2000; log onto www.keisterphoto.com for event information.

FALLON

Fallon Golf Course—The nine-hole course set on the Carson River amid tall cottonwoods and willows has rolling terrain with two sets of tees. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1958. Owners Greg Lewis and Leslie Paul, Head Pro Jeff Lockwood, 2655 Country Club Dr., Fallon, NV 89406. Phone 775-423-4616. Back tees: 6,426 yards (based on 18), par 71. Green fees: $20. Weekday discounts for seniors, military. Carts (optional) $15. Club rentals $8. Spikeless.

GABBS

Sandy Bottom Golf Course—Laid out on a dry lake bed in 1958, Nevada's premier 9-hole clay course is located at the old rodeo grounds west of the town of Gabbs (pop. 400).

HAWTHORNE

Walker Lake Country Club—First holes were built by military and local duffers in 1950s. Towering elms flank oldest holes and shade stately military homes. Public, 9 holes, estab. 1952. Manager Gale Parcell, Hawthorne Army Ammunitions Plant, Box 967, Hawthorne, NV 89415. Phone 775-945-1111. Back tees: 5,514 yards (based on 18), par 68. Green fees: $14 M-F, $16 S-S. Carts (optional) $16. Club rentals $5. Casino packages and dry camping are available.

JACKPOT

Jackpot Golf Club—Course is known for its wildlife, particularly deer, coyotes, pesky ravens (in spring and fall), and badgers. The Robert Muir Graves course features a lengthy, undulating layout, lots of doglegs, and large, fast, sloping greens. County course, 18 holes, open March-Oct., estab. 1970. Director of Golf Dave Albrecht, Head Pro Doug Russell, 415 Ace Dr., Jackpot, NV 89825. Phone 775-755-2260. Back tees: 6,436 yards, par 72. Green fees: $15 M-F, $18 S-S. Elko County residents $9 M-F. Carts (optional) $20. No private carts. Club rentals: $10.

PIOCHE

Pioche Golf Course—The mining town of Pioche has a nine-hole course that was carved in the sagebrush below town more than 60 years ago. Play is haphazard.

ROUND MT./HADLEY

Round Mountain Golf Course—Nevada's longest nine-hole course is situated in Hadley, in Big Smoky Valley, 50 miles north of Tonopah and 60 miles south of U.S. 50. Owned by a mining company, Round Mountain, a typical English links course with three lakes, has four tees on each hole. Designed by William Howard Neff. Public, 9 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1991. Head Pro Ralph Lotspeich, Round Mountain, NV 89045. Phone 775-377-2880. Back tees: 3,569, par 36. Green fees: $20. Gas carts $20. Club rental $7.50-$10. Hadley has swimming pool, tennis courts, and RV park.

SPRING CREEK

Spring Creek Golf Course—Accuracy off the tee will keep you in play at Spring Creek, 15 miles southeast of Elko. The hilly course has narrow fairways and sagebrush roughs. Public, 18 holes, March-Nov., estab. 1972. Spring Creek Assn., Head Pro Chris Lofthus, 401 Fairway Blvd., Spring Creek, NV 89815. Phone 775-753-6331. Back tees: 6,474 yards, par 71. Green fees: $18. Carts (optional) $20. Club rental $10.

WELLS

Chimney Rock Golf Course—The nine-hole course has a cheerful clubhouse and the fastest greens in the state. Course features small greens, three lakes, and scenic views. City course, 9 holes, open April-Nov., estab. 1976. Head Pro Ron Springsteel, 750 Ventosa Ave., Box 430, Wells, NV 89835. Phone 775-752-3928. Back tees: 6,130 yards (based on 18), par 70. Green fees: $14. Carts (optional) $16. Club rental $5. Spikeless.

WENDOVER

Toana Vista Golf Course—Club on the Nevada-Utah border holds a Men's Golf Academy on April 24-26 and June 12-14 ($265 double occupancy, $295 single occupancy) and Women's Golf Academy on May 22-24 and Aug. 21-23 ($265 double occupancy). The long target course was designed by Homer Flynt. Resort course, 18 holes, estab. 1987. West Wendover Recreation Dept., Director of Golf Reid Goodliffe, 2319 Pueblo Blvd., Box 2290, West Wendover, NV 89883. Phone 775-664-4300; 800-852-4330 outside Nevada. Back tees: 6,820 yards, par 72. Green fees include cart: $40. Club rental $10.

WINNEMUCCA

Winnemucca Municipal Golf Course—Set in a city park, the flat, well-bunkered course designed by Bob Baldock has large trees and small greens. City course, 9 holes, open March-Oct., estab. 1950s. Head Pro Bill Phillips, 1395 Mizpah St., Winnemucca, NV 89445. Phone 775-623-9920. Back tees: 3,250, par 36. Green fees: $13 weekdays, $15 weekends. One dollar off if you start before 7:30 a.m. or after 6 p.m. Carts (optional) $18. Spikeless.

YERINGTON

Mason Valley Country Club—A quiet community course, Mason Valley successfully integrated nine new holes into its original course. Open, long course is easy to walk, with plenty of water. Public, 18 holes, estab. 1964. Owner-Manager Greg Hunewill, 111 Hwy. 208, Yerington, NV 89447. Phone 775-463-3300. Back tees: 6,616 yards, par 72. Green fees: $20. Carts (optional) $18. Club rental $5.

"Nevada Golf 2000," Nevada Magazine's *annual guide to Silver State courses, was compiled by Sharon Carter, a Jacks Valley golfing journalist, and David Moore,* Nevada *editor.*

Photo: Chris Talbot

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A Song for Your Supper

Pier Perotti, friend to the stars and lover of opera, gives dinner a musical tenor at Harrah's Reno.





Pier Perotti sings for a group from Sun City Roseville, California, at Harrah's Reno. From left are Sheldon Block, accordionist Chuck Farone, David Nevins, Perotti, and Eugene Brill.

By Barbara Wies

Cafe Andreotti is brightly lit and noisy. Everyone seems to be talking at once. Conversations barely pause as the strolling accordionist squeezes out a familiar tune. Suddenly, a new sound fills the air. Talk stops abruptly. Every head turns toward the tenor belting out "Happy Birthday" in a no-holds-barred operatic style.

Pier is back.

Pier Perotti has been serenading diners in Reno for more than 25 years. He was silenced briefly after he closed his Italian restaurant, the Rivoli, and retired in 1997. However, his retirement lasted only three months. Perotti's ebullience, gregariousness, and knowledge of wine and Italian food drew him to Cafe Andreotti, on the second floor of Harrah's Reno, where he serves as the Italian restaurant's genial host. Singing may not be in the job description, but where there is Pier, there is song.

"There are so many restaurants," Perotti says. "It's the feeling, the atmosphere, that differentiates one from another. I try to make people feel welcome, to make sure they have a good time."

Perotti is part of the attraction of Cafe Andreotti, with its blue-sky ceiling, Roman statues, and an open kitchen that offers a view of white-toqued chefs busily cooking. After guests are seated, he is likely to drop by their table. His unofficial title is wine host, but his interests range far beyond cabernets and merlots. He enjoys talking about food, Reno restaurants, and opera.

"I am the same age as Luciano Pavarotti," the 64-year-old Perotti says in his musical Italian accent, "but he hates it when I remind him of that." Perotti and the Italian tenor, whose October birthdays are only five days apart, have been friends for many years.

"He's the kind of guy who treasures his friendships," *Reno Gazette-Journal* columnist Rollan Melton noted. "Perotti keeps track of his friends, and he's unfailingly generous. He never forgets a face, and rarely the name to go with it. He seems never to be at a loss for a gentle needle, a dandy pun, or a clever opinion, inserted at just the right moment."

Several years ago the Reno City Council presented the singing restaurateur an award recognizing his "unique and delicious contribution to the community." Perotti thanked them solemnly, bowed, and broke into a spirited rendition of "O Sole Mio." When he finished, the council gave him another accolade—a standing ovation.

Flair and drama are hallmarks of Perotti's life, beginning with his arrival on this planet a whole day later than his twin sister, Magdalena. Perotti grew up in Ivrea, a small city in the foothills of the Italian Alps. Every summer Perotti's uncle, John Perona, visited from New York with a few friends in tow—Errol Flynn, Ginger Rogers, Bruce Cabot, Clark Gable. Uncle John owned the glamorous El Morocco nightclub. Movie stars, sportsmen, royalty, publishers, musicians—all wanted to see and be seen at El Morocco. They traveled with John Perona, and while in Italy they entertained his young nephew, Pier.

In 1959, Perotti followed his uncle to New York. He planned to study business administration at New York University, but there was a small barrier. Perotti spoke only a little English. Meanwhile, he took a job at El Morocco, where he rubbed shoulders with Liz Taylor, Mike Todd, Audrey Hepburn, Frank Sinatra, and Ginger Rogers. Did Miss Rogers remember the little boy from Italy? She did, and in later years greeted him warmly backstage at her appearances in and around Reno.

Privately, Perotti cultivated his fine tenor voice under the stern tutelage of Madame Vera, a White Russian émigré who had arrived in New York via Shanghai. "Madame Vera was a strict disciplinarian," Perotti recalls, "but she introduced me to other Russian exiles. They would get together in one another's homes for dinner, and afterward everyone would take a turn at entertaining. We'd gather around the piano and sing for hours."

El Morocco closed when Pier's uncle died. Alcide Tonino, a boyhood friend from Italy, invited Pier to join him at the Ideal

Photos: Jay Aldrich

Sausage Factory in New Jersey. "What do I know about sausage?" Perotti exclaimed. "My father is a banker!" Tonino reminded Perotti that his grandfather had been a butcher. Perotti took the offer, and Ideal Sausage thrived.

One day in 1968, Tonino saw a newspaper ad for a sausage factory for sale in Carson City. No matter that neither Tonino nor Perotti had ever set foot in Nevada. They came, they saw, they bought the Carson City sausage factory. They took samples of their sausage to the area's Italian restaurants, and their business expanded.

"The only problem we had was that in the East we seasoned our sausage with fennel," recalls Perotti, who no longer is with the factory. "In the West they use sage." He shrugs. "When in Rome..."

Every Friday, Perotti ate dinner at the Rivoli, a Reno restaurant run by Steve Stoiano. Soon they formed a partnership. While Stoiano stayed on as chef, Perotti took over as the Rivoli's maitre d'—and added his unique touch, regaling the guests with operatic arias. He was an instant success.

Now settled in Nevada, Perotti and his wife, the red-haired, British-born Ursula, hired a driver to transport Perotti's beloved blue Fiat from New York. "Pier was in a state of high anxiety, constantly worrying that something would happen to that car," Ursula recalls. "It arrived without a scratch."

A few months later, Perotti made a quick stop at the Rivoli, leaving his Fiat in the alley. He returned in time to watch it speed away, a thief behind the wheel. Police gave chase to Lake Tahoe, where the thief drove the car into a tree before dunking it in the lake. The culprit was picked up by the Coast Guard, and Perotti got his Fiat back, somewhat the worse for wear.

Perotti's passion for opera led him to form a liaison with the Reno Opera, opening his restaurant for benefits. His Perotti Apprentice Scholarship helps to pay the fees of young artists appearing in the Reno company's productions.

He also enjoys the Old World bowling game of bocce. Italians who settled in Reno decades ago brought bocce with them, but the courts, or campos, in Idlewild Park eventually fell into disrepair. Undaunted, Perotti and a group of players took over the maintenance. The campos are freshly painted and neat, and players, including Perotti, gather there every Sunday in nice weather.

Perotti, who enjoys a good practical joke, recalls the time one was played on him. When his blue Fiat needed some work, he took it to car dealer Bill Pearce, a close friend. When Perotti returned, he was told the car was ready on the back lot. It was there all right, repainted in red, white, and green, the colors of the Italian flag. A joke. After Pearce said he would repaint the car, Perotti drove away in his Fiat, probably singing.

During his tenure at the Rivoli, Perotti invited a few dozen of his nearest and dearest to celebrate his 50th birthday. The dinner party began with drinks and hors d'eouvres at the Perottis' home. As a surprise, Perotti had hired a double-decker London bus. Ursula had been concerned about the big red bus rumbling down their quiet street, but the concern changed to worry as the bus failed to arrive on time and the hors d'eouvres began to disappear in earnest. At last the bus appeared. The driver apologized, and the party rode off to the Rivoli, eagerly anticipating dinner. They arrived to find the restaurant dark, the kitchen cold. Perotti, as he'd intended all along, sent out for pizza.

"It's my birthday," he said. "I don't have to cook!"

What's next for Pier Perotti?

"Every day is a great day," exclaims the musical maitre d' "Every day is something different."

Barbara Wies of Carson City is a freelance writer and artist. She has authored seven cookbooks and more than 500 published articles.

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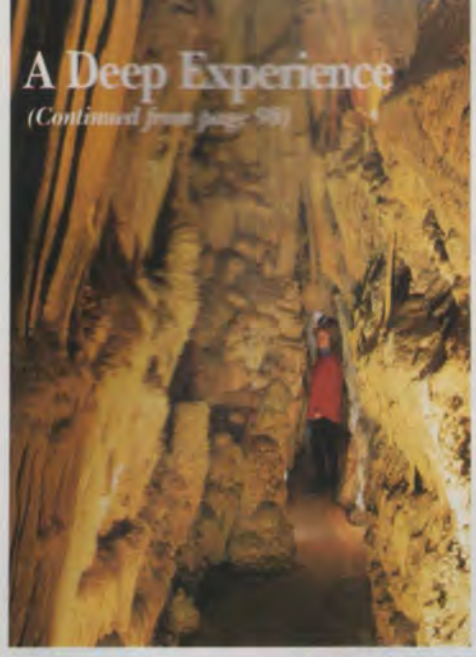
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The cave's narrow passages lead to colorful rooms.

surface—and "there he sat in mid-air clenching the horse for four days until a rescue party gave him a lift." Former park naturalist Keith Trexler reported that Lehman family records said nothing about a horse but indicate that the family had known about a hole in the surface for some time.

Regardless of how and when, Lehman did explore the cave. He quit ranching and made the cave accessible to visitors, setting up tents and a shaded outdoor dining room near the entrance. Lehman was ready to receive visitors by the summer of 1886, and publicity resulted in a brisk business.

Lehman Caves became a national monument in 1922. By then, rancher C.T. Rhodes and his wife, Beatrice, managed the cave. Visitors can still tour the Rhodes' rustic cabin next to the park's visitor center. Today the cave is protected as part of Great Basin National Park, which was established in 1986. The National Park Service has since installed paths, better lighting, and a second exit portal.

During the tour, Van Houten gave visitors a chance to see the cave as Lehman and other explorers first saw it—in complete darkness. "You think you have seen darkness? This is dark," the ranger said as he shut off the lights. The darkness was so profound that you couldn't see your own hand.

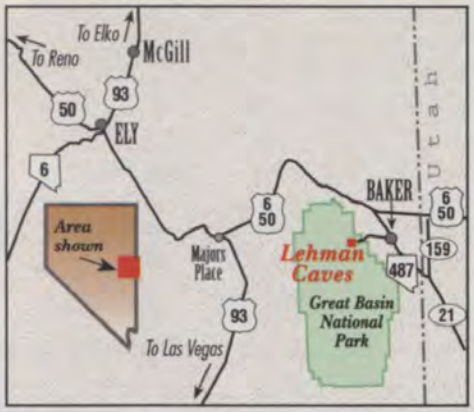
As the group completed the tour and entered the exit tunnel, Van Houten repeated his threat to extract $10 from each visitor or keep them in the cave. Since no one fell for the ploy, Van Houten opened the door, and the group exited into the sunshine to explore the other wonders of Great Basin National Park.

Cave and Park Notes

Great Basin National Park is 68 miles east of Ely and five miles west of Baker. Park hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in winter with extended hours in the summer. Cave tours are conducted daily except on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Cost for a 60-minute guided tour is $4 for adults and $2 for juniors. Cost for a 90-minute guided tour is $6 for adults, $3 for juniors (11 years and younger); children under age five are not allowed on this longer tour. Cave tours often sell out during the summer, so it's wise to buy tickets early. Advance tickets are available from Memorial Day to Labor Day; call 775-234-7331, ext. 242. The cave remains a constant 50 degrees Fahrenheit, so a light jacket is recommended.

Great Basin National Park offers hiking trails, interpretive talks, camping, ancient bristlecone pines, and scenic lakes. Visitors will find four campgrounds with water and pit toilets; the fee is $7 per night.

The park's visitor center has exhibits, a bookstore, gift shop, and snack bar. For information about Lehman Caves and other park attractions, contact Great Basin National Park, Baker, NV 89311. Phone 775-234-7331 or log onto the National Park Service Web site at www.nps.gov/grba.



In Baker, visitors will find accommodations at the Silver Jack Motel, the End of the Trail...er, and an RV park as well as restaurants, bars, and a small convenience store. The Border Inn, 13 miles east of the park, has a motel, casino, and gas station. Contact the Great Basin Business and Tourism Council, Box 166, Baker, NV 89311, or call 775-234-7323 for more information.

JoAnn Roe of Bellingham, Washington, is the author of several hundred magazine articles and 15 books. She is a member of the Society of American Travel Writers and Western Writers of America and the recipient of numerous feature writing awards.

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Photo: Tom Gamache Map: NDOT/Nevada Magazine

A Deep Experience

A ranger-led tour of Lehman Caves reveals what a long, strange drip it's been. **By JoAnn Roe**

The tour guide, a round-hatted ranger named John Van Houten, looked rather stern as he led 25 visitors into Lehman Caves. Closing the outer door, which trapped the group behind another door, Van Houten declared that the only way out was to pay a $10 exit fee. He broke into a grin, his tour guests laughed, and they all proceeded down the passageway leading to one of Nevada's most beautiful underground attractions.

Lehman Caves, part of Great Basin National Park, 68 miles east of Ely, burrows a quarter-mile into the base of the Snake Range. Visitors who want to deepen their park experience can explore this stunning, serpentine cavern and its expansive rooms filled with otherworldly formations created over millions of years.

As the visitors followed Van Houten on the 60-minute tour, the ranger related key geological and historical events about the cave. Van Houten told the group not to touch anything because the oil on human hands can cause formations to cease calcifying. The double doors to the cave help minimize the effects of outside air on the formations.

The story of Lehman Caves began with the shallow inland sea that covered what is now Nevada more than 500 million years ago. When sea creatures and vegetation died and settled at the bottom, their remains created several layers of calcium carbonate sediment. As the sea began to recede about 70 million years ago, the limestone layers were exposed. A weak acid formed when rainwater and snowmelt combined with the carbon dioxide in the soil. This acid dissolved the limestone below, forming cracks and, eventually, the cave's passageways.

The chambers are filled with strange but beautiful formations. The cave's stalactites are formed when water, containing dissolved limestone, seeps through tiny holes in the ceiling. Stalagmites grow upward when the water drips slowly on the floor, depositing calcite. Draperies form when sheets of calcite-rich water flow over a wall. Draperies with stripes are called cave bacon. Flowstone occurs when thin sheets of water move slowly and then dry, like layers of paint. Shields are two round or oval parallel plates with a thin crack between them. Lehman has 300 shields; the most impressive example is the huge parachute shield in the Grand Palace.



A ranger points out stalactites, shields, and other intriguing formations to visitors touring Lehman Caves.

Van Houten led the group through narrow tunnels that widened into rooms. The rooms have been given imaginative names to illustrate unique features, such as the large Gothic Palace (which is accessible to wheelchairs) and the Rose Trellis Room. The Inscription Room was so named because early visitors wrote their names on the ceiling with candles. The Music Room is a tall, narrow chamber where visitors once played its sections of drapery as if they were organ pipes. This practice ceased when it was obvious the formation was being damaged.

In 1923 the first of several weddings took place in the Wedding Chapel, an alcove just past the Gothic Palace. In the mid-1920s local Boy Scouts held courts of honor in the Lodge Room, and other groups held parties there. Van Houten noted that, unfortunately, some celebrants broke off most of the small stalactites to avoid bumping their heads.

Historians still scratch their heads over legends about the cave. Native Americans likely knew about the cave as early as 1000 A.D. Rancher Absalom Lehman probably was the first white pioneer to see it. The most widely told Lehman story is that in 1885 the rancher was looking for stray cattle when his horse broke through the roof of the cavern and fell onto a ledge. After rescuing his horse, Lehman explored the cave by match light. A Delta, Utah, newspaperman, Frank Beckwith, further exaggerated the account, writing that with keen presence of mind Lehman had grabbed his lariat and lassoed a cedar tree on the

(Continued on page 97)

Photo: Carolyn Fox

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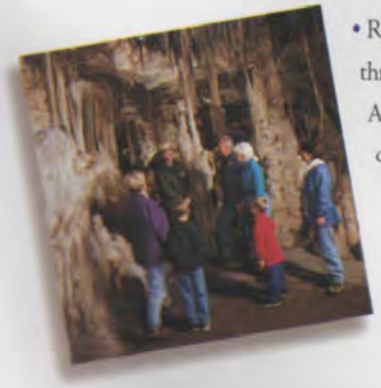
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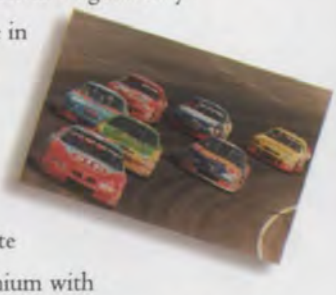
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