

NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM | SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014 | PHOTO: CONTST | HAUNTING ON THE COMSTOCK | EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL EDITION

NEVADA

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014

M A G A Z I N E

37th Annual **Great Nevada Picture Hunt**



U.S. \$4.95 • CANADA \$8.95



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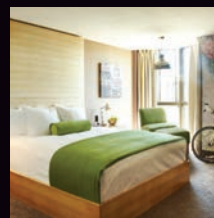
Into the Wild
Haunting on the Comstock
Emancipation Proclamation in Reno

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PBS PRESENTS CARGO LIVE:
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SEP 20
CLAIRY BROWN &
THE BANGIN' RACKETTES

SEP 22
OLD CROW MEDICINE SHOW

OCT 4
RUSTY MAPLES

OCT 14
JERRY DOUGLAS PRESENTS:
THE EARLS OF LEICESTER

OCT 25
TRAMPLED BY TURTLES

OCT 27
JAKE SHIMABUKURO

NOV 15
SOUTHERN SOUL
ASSEMBLY

NOV 23
NOAH CUNDERSEN

: CARGORENO

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2014

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Cover Photo: Jerry Fenwick

The horse and rider were taken at the upper end of Lemon Valley. To Fenwick, they represent the rancher of today looking over his land or perhaps his herd of cattle at the end of the day's drive. It's a scene and a picture that hasn't changed in Nevada since ranching began, part of our state's proud heritage.

SESQUICENTENNIAL SPECIAL EDITION

FEATURES

To War and Beyond

56 Nevada emerged from the Depression only to be thrust back into World War II. The state saw a mining boom and bust with each conflict, and its contribution went far beyond just the minerals that supported war efforts.

Military bases sprang up across the state, and the fight to protect Hoover Dam was on. Big-name entertainment became a major draw for tourism, and the Mob set up residency in Las Vegas.



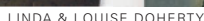
2014 Great Nevada Picture Hunt

68 Voting for the best images is one of the biggest pleasures—and hardest tasks—our staff undertakes.

Stunning landscapes are prolific, for good reason, but this year's photo contest Grand Prize winner showcased the beauty and uniqueness of Nevada in a different way. One look, and we were believers, too.

Background Image: Larry Burton

Nevada Beach, Lake Tahoe.



#nvmag for a chance to be featured in future issues of *Nevada Magazine*.

WEB EXTRAS

► This month's **Travels** story is from Louise Doherty, who visited Las Vegas with her daughter, Linda. This New Hampshire duo is no stranger to Nevada adventures, but this trip was all about seeing sites they hadn't before.

► The **2014 Great Nevada Picture Hunt** amasses so many photos, there's no way we can possibly display them all. Go online to see this year's winners and honorable mentions, plus we'll post our staff favorites, too.

On NEVADAMAGAZINE.COM/SURVEY

► What's your favorite wine bar/brew pub?

From unrivaled burgers to killer fishing spots, Nevada has so many great places but we're asking you to tell us your best.

Each issue, we'll post a category at NevadaMagazine.com/survey. Visit the site, tell us your bests in the comment section, and we'll post the winners in the next issue of *Nevada Magazine*.

For July/August we asked for the best summer hike in Nevada, and you answered!

Steve Timko: From Berry Creek in Duck Creek Valley over the mountains to Cleve Creek in Spring Valley.

Kristen Power: We did a loop that left Pine Creek Campground near Jarbidge and continued through the Jarbidge Wilderness. Gorgeous!

Fritz Fleischmann: Wheeler Peak in Great Basin National Park is pretty cool. Lots of old Basque carvings on the aspen forest on the way up.

Erik Stabile: *Great Basin National Park. Ruby Mountains.*

CONNECT WITH US



Look for this icon through November/December 2014. It means you're reading special coverage of the state's 150th birthday.

'You're not from around here, are you...'



There are two worlds: the world of the tourist and the world of everyone else. Often they're side by side. But the tourist doesn't actually see how people live. —Paul Theroux, travel writer

No offense to Mr. Theroux, but I disagree. Sure, a tourist can choose to skim the surface of travel, never becoming immersed in foreign surroundings, opting for the surest route instead of the one leading who knows where.

I dare that tourist—no matter where they live—to come to Nevada, however. Drive here, to whatever city you choose, and you will be on a road leading to sights you never imagined and won't soon forget.

I played the role of tourist (aka journalist) for this issue, and I have to say, tourists often get a bad rap. I wore tennis shoes, I carried a camera, I gawked, and looked out of place. I also dove headfirst into a part of Nevada I have never seen before. I learned amazing things, saw beautiful landscapes, talked to warm, wonderful people, and came away all the richer from my experience.

Tourists are awesome, because like a small child, they have license to ask why. I was born in Nevada, but its seemingly limitless surprises still leave me speechless, or sounding like a 5 year old: "How was this made? Who lived here before?"

We are the state's official tourism magazine, so it may seem like I'm selling Nevada, but here's the deal; in my first few months at this job, I have managed to see and experience so much about Nevada, and the towns in my backyard, than I did in the five years prior to coming to work here. I've gone to museums I hadn't visited since elementary school; I stayed the night in a town I'd driven through a hundred times and never really saw; I took a short three-day trip and drove hundreds of miles on roads I had never been on before; and I have discovered that dirt is my favorite color.

"Selling" Nevada to those who come for a visit is easy; they've

got a destination in mind and it's new and exciting. That's the easiest sale in the world. But for those who live here, those who think they've seen it, done it, heard it before...I say it's time to step out of Theroux's world of everyone else and get your tourist tennis shoes on.

The ability to discover wonders outside your backdoor is a childlike quality I hope I never lose. I am seeing Nevada from a fresh perspective, and I plan to take full advantage of my tourist-like nature. I may even stop and ask for directions.

IN THIS ISSUE

Nevada's 150th birthday is fast approaching, so you'll see plenty in this issue about our state's history. The Emancipation Proclamation will be in Reno during our birthday celebration for 36 hours; no mean feat when you consider this amazing document is on display only 48 hours a year. Check out the story of how it came to the Silver State on page 42, plus the incredible exhibit at the Nevada Museum of Art where it will be hosted.

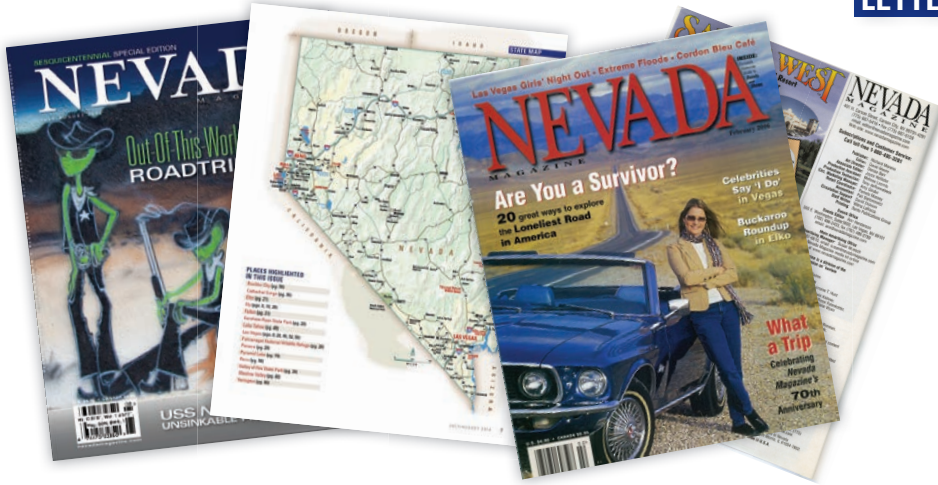
'Tis the season for rustling leaves, long shadows, and maybe even a few ghostly sightings. We're not talking ghost towns here, however; these specters are hanging around some of our cities, and we take you on a walking tour as we search for spooky spirits. We've also got some fun facts and tall tales for you, as we look at some of the ways Nevada has distinguished itself.

The editorial team ventured into the wide open—and a plethora of dirt roads—for a look at one of the most remote, least-visited corners of the state. And of course, we've got part VII of Ron Soodalter's incredible series; this issue looks at how Nevada supported the nation during conflict, plus how the state found a new revenue source and gained some infamous inhabitants.

Last but not least, we are proud to present the winners of the 2014 Great Nevada Picture Hunt. This contest boasts some of the finest photographers in the world; each photo deserves a heartfelt thank you...we are thrilled you shared them with us. Check out the amazing results on page 68, and look for more photos at NevadaMagazine.com.


 A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, reading "M. Mueller".

Megg Mueller, Managing Editor
mmueller@nevadamagazine.com



A FRIEND INDEED

Just got the July/August issue and loved the cover—a sort of western/alien funk. Kudos! It's eye-catching and fun. Also enjoyed immensely the article on the *USS Nevada*. Having stood on the remnants of the *Arizona* in Pearl Harbor, I was brought to a mix of sadness, solemnness, and tears. The saga of the *Nevada* gives me pride and reverence for the "Greatest Generation."

John Stetz, Garden Grove, Calif.

John, thank you. Nevada is rife with great scenery, but it was fun to mix things up. Thanks for your service! -MM

YOU ARE HERE

Thank you for placing a map in the magazine. It really helps when sharing it with others. We look forward to your new "travel" section; so much to share!

Miyoko Ono-Moore, Henderson

Miyoko, we're so glad you like the map. We agree it's a great tool. Also, look for a new travel story at NevadaMagazine.com. -MM

KEEP THIS; DITCH THAT

I enjoyed all of the stories in this issue. I thought they all pertained to the theme of Nevada sesquicentennial. However, more than the stories, my favorite sections are: Letters to the Editor, Up Front (always my favorite as it updates me on Nevada news), Las Vegas Show reviews (my sec-

ond favorite as I use this to help me plan our annual February trip to Las Vegas) and my newest favorite—Wide Open. My least favorite: Events and Shows; not inclusive enough and takes up lots of valuable space.

John Wilda, Swanton, Vt.

John, I love your comments, and we'll keep working on the best way to present our shows and reviews! -MM

EDITOR TO EDITOR

Congratulations on the editorship and your first issue of *Nevada Magazine*. I trust you will enjoy your time at the magazine as much as I did before I retired in 2006. Pretty good issue; liked a number of the features and what they were trying to do. Some general suggestions: It may be time for a redesign. A lot of publications redesign every two or three years to give the mag a new, fresh look. Some stories of 8 or 10 pages seem a bit too long; would be fun to read more stories about people, past and present. Book excerpts can be good reading. And the cover; good idea to try for unusual cover image, but not sure if it works.

David Moore, Dayton

David, your time in this chair makes you a great asset, thank you. (See one of David's issues above.) We've got some changes in mind as we move out of our sesquicentennial series...keep reading! -MM

CONTRIBUTORS

ELEANOR PREGER



Eleanor Preger got interested in photography eight years ago when she got her first MacBook Pro. An Apple Genius sparked her interest when he showed her what can be done with

photos. She got her first DSLR before traveling to South Africa six years ago and was instantly hooked. She enjoys taking photo workshops, networking, and doing photo walks with other photographers. Eleanor has five grandchildren she loves to photograph, and she is also passionate about shooting landscape, macro, and infrared. Eleanor lives in Incline Village and you can see her work at eleanorpreger.com

■ PGS. 68-69

JERI SINGLEY



Jeri Singley is a native Nevadan who grew up in Elko County. She is a graduate student in the Reynolds School of Journalism at the University of Nevada, Reno and holds a bachelor's

degree in anthropology. In her spare time, she enjoys exploring Nevada's outback with her husband, Nathan, and their chihuahua, Leopold. She specializes in multimedia storytelling and virtual reality panoramic photography. Visit spiritofsunmountain.com

■ PGS. 42-46

RON SOODALTER



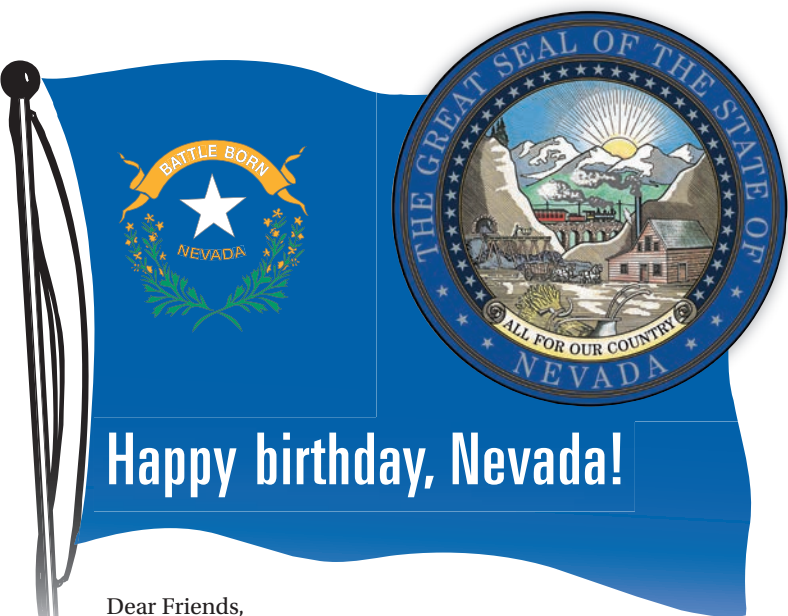
Ron Soodalter came by his love of the West from his grandfather, who was a cowboy in the early 1900s. He worked as a curator in a Colorado museum and is a collector of cowboy

memorabilia. He has authored two books and written more than 150 articles for various publications, including *Wild West*, *Smithsonian*, *American Cowboy*, *True West*, *Civil War Times*, *Military History*, and *America's Civil War*.

■ PG. 56-67

WE VALUE YOUR INPUT

Write to editor@nevadamagazine.com or via mail at 401 N. Carson St., Carson City, NV 89701. You can also comment on stories and read more letters at nevadamagazine.com. Letters and comments are subject to editing.



Happy birthday, Nevada!

Dear Friends,

As we approach the end of our yearlong 150th birthday celebration, I find myself reflecting upon all of the wonderful events of the past nine months. My personal pride at the extraordinary efforts put forth by Nevadans to honor this milestone is immense, and I can assure you the final three months of our celebration will leave no one disappointed—hang on to your Admiral Halsey’s saddle!

In July I had the privilege of participating in one of the more profound moments of this sesquicentennial year—the opening of “The 36th Star: Nevada’s Journey from Territory to State” exhibit at the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno. From the fabled Austin flour sack to moving historical photographs never before seen in Nevada—and believed to be the first ever taken in our state—this is a phenomenal exhibit that should be savored by all. There are also incredible displays containing original pages from the only copy of our state’s Constitution and documents relating to its circuitous transmission to Washington, D.C., in what was then the longest telegram ever sent. The culmination of the exhibit will be the arrival of the actual Emancipation Proclamation, which will be on display for 36 hours during Nevada Day weekend! What an honor to have the opportunity to see one of the greatest and most pivotal documents in the history of our country. I urge all of you to experience “The 36th Star” exhibit and make plans to see the Emancipation Proclamation.

Our capital city hosted the Sesquicentennial Fair, and what fun was had by all. The iconic Wells Fargo Stagecoach brought dignitaries including the rascally “Mark Twain” into the fair to kick off the festivities. Dedicated 4-H kids raised, showed, and auctioned off bunnies, hogs, sheep, chickens, and steers—a wonderful sight to behold.

It didn’t slow down from there, as our friends from Union Pacific brought their Heritage Fleet of historic railcars in honor of our birthday. The Governor and I had the privilege of riding the “Union Pacific Battle Born Express” across the I-80 corridor starting in West Wendover and ending in Sparks. There were old-fashioned whistlestops along the way where we had the chance to greet old friends and meet new ones.



Looking forward, mark Sept. 22 on your calendars because you will not want to miss the star-studded Nevada Sesquicentennial All-Star Concert honoring Nevada and her history as the “Entertainment Capital of the World” at the exquisite Smith Center in Las Vegas. Some of the finest entertainers in Las Vegas will be wishing a very special sesquicentennial “happy birthday” to Nevada. This will truly be a once-in-a-lifetime event.

October is going to be action-packed leading up to the four big Nevada Day Parades—Virginia City, Elko, Carson City and, for the first time ever, Las Vegas! Although there are a number of exciting new things to do this Nevada Day, don’t forget the traditional celebration in our capital city beyond the parade—like the single jack competition (watch your hands), the longest beard contest (judged by our Supreme Court justices), the pinewood derby races, and, in my humble opinion, the best part of the weekend—the annual Krolicki Nevada Day Chili Feed which feeds all comers for free at the Carson Nugget. The chefs are conjuring their best chili ever and my family and our marvelous volunteers are getting our serving ladles ready!

We’re going to turn 150 in grand fashion, and I hope to see all of you at some of these wonderful events and festivals. Happy birthday, Nevada!

Brian K. Krolicki
Lieutenant Governor
Chairman—Nevada Commission on Tourism & Nevada 150 Commission
ltgov.nv.gov



PLACES HIGHLIGHTED IN THIS ISSUE

Black Rock Desert (pg. 32)

Carson City (pgs. 18, 26, 49)

Denio (pg. 32)

Fallon (pg. 56)

Gerlach (pg. 32)

Gold Hill (pg. 26)

Goodsprings (pg. 26)

Hawthorne (pg. 56)

Henderson (pg. 56)

Hoover Dam (pg. 56)

Lahontan Reservoir (pg. 18)

Las Vegas (pgs. 50, 56)

Reno (pgs. 18, 26, 42, 54, 56)

Soldier Meadows (pg. 32)

Tonopah (pg. 56)

Virginia City (pgs. 18, 26)

Up Front



JILL BRITTON

Jill Britton, in green, and friends took to the skies for a bucket-list inspired escapade.

CONTESTS

Trapeze adventure wins Discover your Nevada Contest

Jill Britton and her high-flying trapeze adventure have won the third annual Discover Your Nevada contest, sponsored by Travel Nevada. From June 18 to July 10, intrepid Nevada adventurers were asked to post their adventures on the Travel Nevada website. Voting took place from July 14-18, and Britton's adventure—"Testing the Waters with Trapeze"—at the Terry Cavaretta Trapeze Experience in Las Vegas garnered the most votes. The adventures submitted ran the gamut from embarking on a Vegas museum-themed trip to looking for fossils outside Fallon. Britton's leap-of-faith adventure won her a hot-air balloon ride at this year's Great Reno Balloon Race in Reno and Nevada-themed swag bags were given to nine runners-up.

Britton wrote: *"Ever since reading Sam Keen's 'Learning to Fly,' I have wanted to try trapeze. At 61, Sam was lured to the trapeze rather late in life. I was approaching 40 and thought if he could do it, why can't I? I live in Las Vegas, the entertainment capital of the world! How hard could it be to find a trapeze class? As it turned out, it wasn't that hard at all."*

Read more of Britton's adventure—plus all the other contest entries—and see a video of her high-flying fun at travelnevada.com.

THE ROEBLING OPAL

—A 2,585-CARAT PIECE OF BLACK ROUGH OPAL—

ON DISPLAY AT THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

IS FROM NEVADA'S VIRGIN VALLEY.

NEVADA BOOKS

The Great Basin for Kids

By Gretchen M. Baker, self published, gretchenbaker.com, 40 pages

Gretchen M. Baker, an ecologist at Great Basin National Park, has created the ultimate Great Basin guide for children. Baker offers a fun and informative look at the features, habitats, and peoples of the massive, 200,000-square-mile basin that spans four states and almost completely encompasses Nevada. The book includes 18 activities—such as “mining” a chocolate chip cookie to learn about mine reclamation—which offer kids a hands-on learning experience. Baker includes lists of places to visit so children can experience such areas as wetlands, the high country, or learn about the Basin’s Native American peoples. Fun facts and numerous maps make this colorful book a great companion to any Nevada roadtrip.

*Gangsterland: A Novel*

By Tod Goldberg, Counterpoint Press, counterpointpress.com, 420 pages

Sal Cupertine is a legendary hit man for the Chicago Mafia, known for his ability to get in and out of a crime without a trace. Until now, that is. His first-ever mistake forces Sal to kill three undercover FBI agents. Sal knows this botched job will be his death sentence by the Mafia, so he agrees to a radical idea. Set in Las Vegas, Goldberg’s hilarious and fast-paced book has Sal disappear into the identity of Rabbi David Cohen. Leading his growing congregation, Rabbi Cohen feels his wicked past slipping away from him. This wickedly dark and morbidly funny new novel by Goldberg is a morality tale set in a desert landscape as ruthless and barren as those who inhabit it. Goldberg will be signing books at The Mob Museum on Sept. 20.

LITERATURE

2014 Vegas Valley Book Festival

The Vegas Valley Book Festival is set for Oct. 16-18 in downtown Las Vegas, the Clark County Library and, other locations. As the largest annual literary event in Las Vegas, the book festival will bring together a wide variety of literary genres and cultural programs, with most events at the Historic Fifth Street School. The festival features more than 165 authors and 100 events, including panel discussions, keynote speakers, readings, book signings, workshops, exhibits, art exhibitions, spoken word performances, and more. Most events are free and open to the public.

vegasvalleybookfestival.org, 702-229-5902



CITY OF LAS VEGAS

Above: The Historic Fifth Street School. Right: *New York Times* best-selling author Sylvia Day is set to be a keynote speaker.





◆ **The Taste of the Comstock** happens Sept. 20 in Virginia City. Visitors get the chance to sample more than 20 different tastes of everything the historic Comstock has to offer. For \$20 in advance or \$25 day-of, attendees receive a wristband and map to all participating locations, including the Mackay Mansion, Core at the Cider Factory, Mustang Ranch Steakhouse, and more. visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

◆ The **Department of Motor Vehicles** (DMV) recently launched Dash Pass, a system that allows customers to be placed in a virtual line via text, phone, or over the Internet, without having to be physically present. Once a place is reserved, updates are sent of approximately how much time until they must be at the DMV. dmvnev.com/dashpass, 844-327-4727

◆ On Oct. 11, 85 people will be set to rappel more than 350 feet down the side of the **Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino**. The fundraiser supports the athletes of Special Olympics Nevada. rappelplanethollywood.com, 702-474-0690 x.206

◆ Liz Lyles, a Reno resident, won second place in July's Ironman in Germany, clocking in at 8:56:36. Lyles is an ambassador for Nevada-based Nature's Bakery. She plans to race in **Ironman 70.3 Lake Tahoe**. naturesbakery.com

◆ Gardnerville's Sandy Wendel won the women's 60-64 age group at the Subaru Ironman Canada. Wendel will compete at the **Ironman World Championships** in October. ironman.com



MATTHEW B. BROWN

Brian K. Krolicki, Brian Sandoval, and Sandoval's daughter, Marissa, at the 2013 announcement.

SESQUICENTENNIAL

DMV announces Nevada 150 license plate photo contest

The Nevada Department of Motor Vehicles is sponsoring a photography contest and the winner will receive a piece of Nevada history—the license plate that marks Nevada's 150th anniversary. Nevada was admitted to the Union on Oct. 31, 1864.

The one-of-a-kind Nevada sesquicentennial license plate number "NV 0150" will be awarded to one lucky winner on Thursday, Oct. 30, the day before Nevada Day, 2014. To enter the contest, snap a photo of any Nevada license plate in a Nevada location and email it to the DMV. The agency will feature weekly finalists on the DMV Facebook page and other social media outlets. There are more than 8,000 sesquicentennial license plates currently registered on Nevada vehicles since its release in July 2013. dmvnev.com/contest

CYCLING

Century bike ride focuses on local foods, fundraising

The Edible Pedal 100—an organized road bike ride (not a race)—takes off on Sept. 21 from Bowers Mansion Regional Park in Washoe Valley. Three ride lengths—10 miles, 50 miles, and 150K (93.2 miles)—make this a recreational yet challenging ride that showcases Northern Nevada. Riders find locally sourced food at rest stops and the post-ride barbecue. Ride stops are staffed with culinary arts students from local high schools, local bike mechanics, and HAM radio operators. From cycling families to recreational and serious riders, all participants enjoy mouthwatering local food and drink sourced by local farmers, ranchers, vintners, brewers, bakers, and other food artisans. The post-ride barbecue is set to be catered by BJ's Barbecue of Sparks, and Reno's Nothing to It Culinary Center. ediblepedal100.org, 775-393-9158



A woman with dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a black and white striped tank top and white shorts, is captured mid-jump over a series of red rock formations. She has her arms outstretched and a joyful expression. The background is a clear blue sky with some clouds. Overlaid on the top half of the image is a semi-transparent map of Nevada with various locations labeled in a light, serif font. The text 'WE ARE NAVIGATORS.' is prominently displayed in the upper center. Below it, a series of lines of text reads: 'We are the road less traveled. We carry the skies on our back. When others restrict, we take flight. We are Nevada. Come experience it for yourself.' In the bottom left corner, there is a line of text: 'Visit TravelNevada.com/nvmag or call 800.Nevada.8 to chart your next journey.' In the bottom right corner, the word 'NEVADA' is written in large, bold, orange letters, with the tagline 'A WORLD WITHIN. A STATE APART.' underneath it in smaller, white letters.

WE ARE NAVIGATORS.

We are the road less traveled.
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NEVADA
A WORLD WITHIN.
A STATE APART.

[illegible][illegible]A woman with dark hair in a ponytail, wearing a black and white striped tank top and white shorts, is captured mid-jump over a large, layered red rock formation. She is wearing black sneakers and has her arms outstretched. The background is a clear blue sky with some clouds. Overlaid on the upper half of the image is a faint, light blue map of Nevada, with various place names visible, including 'Tuscarora', 'Taylor's', 'Deep', 'Moors', 'Elko', 'Palisade', 'Bradley's', 'Willards', 'Shoe', 'Deep', 'Wells', 'Stair', 'Cold', 'Summit', 'Eureka', 'Clan', 'Alpine Mill', 'Redmans', 'Wells', 'Agency', 'Walker', 'Ellsworth', 'Douglas', 'Carson', 'Yon', 'Cleaver', 'Virginia', 'Sullivan', 'Wadsworth', 'Hot Spr.', 'Soldiers Spr.', 'Salinas', 'White Pl.', 'Bridge', 'Granite Spr.', 'Fish Spr.', 'Rock Spr.', 'Buffalo Spr.', 'Mery', 'Camp Mc Kee', 'Buffalo Meadows', 'Tuscarora', 'Taylor's', 'Deep', 'Moors', 'Elko', 'Palisade', 'Bradley's', 'Willards', 'Shoe', 'Deep', 'Wells', 'Stair', 'Cold', 'Summit', 'Eureka', 'Clan', 'Alpine Mill', 'Redmans', 'Wells', 'Agency', 'Walker', 'Ellsworth', 'Douglas', 'Carson', 'Yon', 'Cleaver', 'Virginia', 'Sullivan', 'Wadsworth', 'Hot Spr.', 'Soldiers Spr.', 'Salinas', 'White Pl.', 'Bridge', 'Granite Spr.', 'Fish Spr.', 'Rock Spr.', 'Buffalo Spr.', 'Mery', 'Camp Mc Kee', 'Buffalo Meadows'.

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800.Nevada.8 to chart your next journey.



◆ **The Great Reno Balloon Race**, now in its 33rd year, takes to the northern Nevada sky with 90 hot-air balloons, including 14 special shapes, on Friday, Sept. 5 to Sunday, Sept. 7. Headlining the event is the 86-foot tall Darth Vader balloon. renoballoon.com, 775-826-1181

◆ **The Rye Patch State Recreation Area** along with GPAA of Northern Nevada, Reno and the Reno Prospecting & Detecting Club are to host a metal-detector hunt for great prizes on Sept. 27. Demonstrations, speakers, and the ability to practice metal detecting, gold panning, high banking, sluicing, and more will happen at the free event. parks.nv.gov, 775-538-7321

◆ The new owners of **JA Nugget** pledged \$50 million in renovations, including expanding the dance floor at Gilley's Saloon, a new gift shop, a Starbucks, a new marquee on Interstate 80, and a new sports book. janugget.com, 800-648-1177

◆ After installing 8 million pounds of dirt, Las Vegas' **South Point Arena and Equestrian Center's** new Priefert Pavilion is open, offering an additional 100,000-square-feet of competition space and two new world-class arenas. southpointarena.com, 702-796-7111

◆ The 42nd annual **Greek Food Festival** in Las Vegas is set to be held Sept. 25-28. The festival features two live bands, Greek cuisine, shops with clothing, jewelry, art, and cultural and religious items. lasvegaskgreekfestival.com, 702-221-8245



Emma Sepulveda

NEVADA EDUCATORS

UNR professor wins International Latino Book Award for second time

Emma Sepulveda—a writer, University of Nevada, Reno professor, and director of the University's Latino Research Center—won an International Latino Book Award given by Latino Literacy Now at their annual ceremony in Las Vegas. Sepulveda won two International Latino Book Awards in 2011 with her internationally acclaimed book “Seventy Days of Night,” a non-fiction account of the 33 Chilean miners trapped underground after a mining accident. This year, Sepulveda won the award with a book that is somewhat the polar-opposite of her previously award-

winning book. “Gringosincrasias: cómo sobrevivir en Estados Unidos y entender su idiosincrasia” (How to Survive in the U.S. and Understand its Idiosyncrasy), is a book of personal, humorous reflections from the viewpoint of a Latina immigrant living in the United States. unr.edu/latinocenter, 775-885-0866

ART

The Wild Women Artists Show and Sale

The annual fall show for the northern Nevada artists group is set for Oct. 24–26 at The Summit Shopping Center. The Wild Women Artists are busy creating “art shields” in honor of breast cancer survivors and plan to donate a portion of sales to Renown Health Breast Cancer Healing Arts Program. Along with the shields, pottery, painting, jewelry, photography, and fiber art are also to be on display and for sale. wildwomenartists.com

Wild Women Artists



This art shield by Gretchen Ericson is constructed with hardware cloth, plaster gauze, and fiber paste and measures 12" x 15." Photo courtesy of the artist.

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◆ **Virginia City** is hosting Flash-back Fridays Free Museum Day. There are 17 museums in the historic Comstock town and on the first Friday of the month continuing Sept. 5 and Oct. 3 all are open for free.

visitvirginiacitynv.com,
775-847-7500.

◆ State Senator James Settlemeyer, **the Nevada 150 Commission**, and Crumrine Gold & Silversmiths have created a limited-edition belt buckle, that can be ordered through the Legislative Gift Shop and online. The belt buckles—\$100 each—are hand-crafted with historical jewelers bronze. This highly valuable metal is 85 percent copper and 15 percent zinc, resembling a 14-karat gold finish. Each buckle comes with a specialized unit number. leg.state.nv.us, 775-684-6835

◆ PBS member station KNPB and **Whitney Peak Hotel** have partnered to spotlight Reno's thriving music scene in a new television series. The series, "Cargo Live at the Whitney Peak Hotel," will feature 13 artists, in 30-minute episodes, to begin airing in early 2015. cargoreno.com, 775-398-5400

◆ **McCarran Medical Clinic and Pharmacy** recently opened a facility that provides a variety of services, including flight clearance, vacation supply prescriptions, travel immunizations, and urgent care services. Located near the A/B checkpoint in Terminal 1, the facility serves as a full-service pharmacy with licensed medical providers on staff. mccarran.com, 702-261-6707



COLLECTORS

Lucky chips sell for record amount

At this year's Casino Chip and Gaming Token Collectors Club Convention in Las Vegas, two incredibly rare chips were sold. The only known \$5 chip from the Golden Goose Casino sold for a whopping \$75,000. The Golden Goose was located at the site of today's Glitter Gulch and was only open from 1975 to 1980, with one gaming table. An equally rare \$5 chip from The Lucky Casino went for \$52,500. The Lucky Casino was at 117 E. Fremont Street and was open from 1963 to 1967, and only two \$5 chips are known to still be in existence. ccgtcc.com, 208-850-4388

CRAVINGS

New restaurant replaces The Flame at El Cortez

The El Cortez Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas plans to introduce a new dining concept this fall with Siegel's 1941, a homage to the rich history of the city and its longest continuously running hotel-casino. Encompassing the spirit of classic Vegas, Siegel's 1941 blends the authentic vintage feel of the El Cortez with a modern interpretation of your traditional Las Vegas 24-hour dining establishment. Siegel's 1941 is set to take over the space currently occupied by The Flame Steakhouse. elcortezhotelcasino.com, 702-385-5200



NEON MUSEUM

MUSEUMS

New Neon Boneyard opens at Neon Museum

A unique open-air wedding and event venue at the Neon Museum is now open. The Neon Boneyard North Gallery and Outdoor Wedding Chapel is located on the museum's downtown Las Vegas campus and contains approximately 60 rescued signs, including signs from Palms Casino Resort, New York-New York, Lady Luck, and O'Shea's. As with the original Neon Boneyard, the signs provide a picturesque backdrop not only for weddings and special events, but also commercial and commemorative photo shoots as well as educational programs. neonmuseum.org, 702-387-6366

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Printed by RR Donnelley

Ridin' the Rails

"We got up close and personal with this grand old iron horse as she exited the last tunnel outside Virginia City," says photographer Sandi Whitteker, who captured this image on the Virginia & Truckee Railroad. "Chasing the V&T was like traveling back in time, as we caught the old gal chugging through the scenic mountain passes of the Virginia Range and by many of the old mining towns."

PHOTO BY SANDI WHITTEKER

See more of Whitteker's work at pbase.com/sandiwhi







SINISTER SILHOUETTE

Having been inspired by a friend's suggestion to snap this shot, Carson City photographer John Peckham II captured this spooky scene in summer 2013. "As the moon rose I laid down on my belly with my zoom lens and mini tripod at quite a distance from the tree," he says. "The zoom lens made the moon look huge and compressed the tree next to it. I experimented using a split ND filter and a polarizer combo to defeat the overwhelming brightness of the moon."

PHOTO BY JOHN PECKHAM II

See more of Peckham's work at tahoeshooter.com.

ART DIRECTOR'S CHOICE

Each issue, *Nevada Magazine* Art Director Sean Nebeker chooses a photo submitted via e-mail or Facebook to be showcased on this page. E-mail your photos to snebeker@nevadamagazine.com.



FB GROUP CHOICE

Each issue, our Nevada Photographers Facebook group votes for their favorite photo out of three selected by *Nevada Magazine* staff.

ELECTRIC SKY

As any photographer knows, remarkable photo opportunities can present themselves at any moment. Photographer and regular contributor to the Nevada Photographers Facebook Group Skip Reeves captured this photo at Lahontan State Recreation Area in June. "I was returning from Gardnerville from a meeting of the Carson Valley Photo Club where they had invited me to share some of my work," Reeves says.

PHOTO BY SKIP REEVES

See more of Reeves's work at silverstatephotography.com

HOO YOU LOOKING AT?

Nevada's many wildlife sanctuaries provide photographers with close-up and action shots of a variety of different kinds of animals. Photographer Janis Knight shot this photo of a Eurasian eagle-owl at Animal Ark in north Reno in June. "I took the photo with my trusty Nikon D600 and Sigma 50-500 millimeter lens," Knight says.

PHOTO BY JANIS KNIGHT

See more of Knight's work at homeplanetimages.com
facebook.com/flyinbphotography



STAFF PICK

Each issue, the staff of *Nevada Magazine* chooses a photo submitted via e-mail or Facebook to be showcased on this page.

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FACINATING FACTS, RARE RECORDS, AND CRAZY CONFABULATIONS

Discovering the truth behind
Nevada legends.

BY MEGG MUELLER

Researching a story on Nevada's biggest, smallest, largest, shortest, oldest, etc., facts was a scavenger hunt, and proof that one day a new adage will be noted: Just because it's on the Internet, doesn't make it true. While some of the information I found had a kernel of truth, much was simply equal parts distortion and rumor.

There are, however, plenty of distinctions held by Nevada. What follows is a smattering of fun facts, record-breaking feats, a couple of corrections, and some simply cool observations for anyone who loves Nevada.

NATURE

Let's start with a fairly well-known fact: The oldest single living organism in the world is the Bristlecone Pine, Nevada's state tree. Until 2012, the oldest non-clonal tree was Prometheus—a Bristlecone found in Great Basin National Park near Ely that was dated at almost 5,000 years old. iucnredlist.org

Not true: "The oldest skeletons of early man were found in Hidden Cave near Fallon." While Hidden Cave is legit, and large caches of artifacts were found in the cave dating more than 4,000 years old, no skeletons were found. ccmuseum.org (Check out a video of Hidden Cave at NevadaMagazine.com)

We like it hot: Nevada has more hot springs than any other state—312, to be exact. Not surprisingly, Nevada leads the nation in geothermal energy capacity and plants. hotspringsenthusiast.com and geo-energy.org (To read more about hot springs, visit NevadaMagazine.com)

Not quite true: "Great Basin National Park is home to the USA's southernmost glacier." Close but no cigar; Wheeler Peak Glacier is *one* of the southernmost glaciers in the country. Lilliput Glacier in Tulare County, Calif., is the farthest south. nps.gov

This one works: Nevada has more than 300 individual mountain ranges and 42 named summits higher than 11,000 feet, making the Silver State the most mountainous in the country. nps.gov

Where the pavement ends: The Black Rock Desert hosts so many records it's hard to keep track of which are real. A couple



RACHID DAHNOUN

true ones include the world land speed record set there in 1997 (760.3 mph), and it includes the longest intact segments of the California-to-Oregon historic emigrant trails. Not quite true is the claim that it's the largest playa/lakebed in the USA; but it is *one* of the largest! blackrockdesert.org

HISTORY

Winning: Nevada's Senator William Stewart was a principal sponsor of the 15th Amendment, and Nevada was the first state to ratify the amendment giving African-American men the right to vote in 1869. nsa.nv.gov

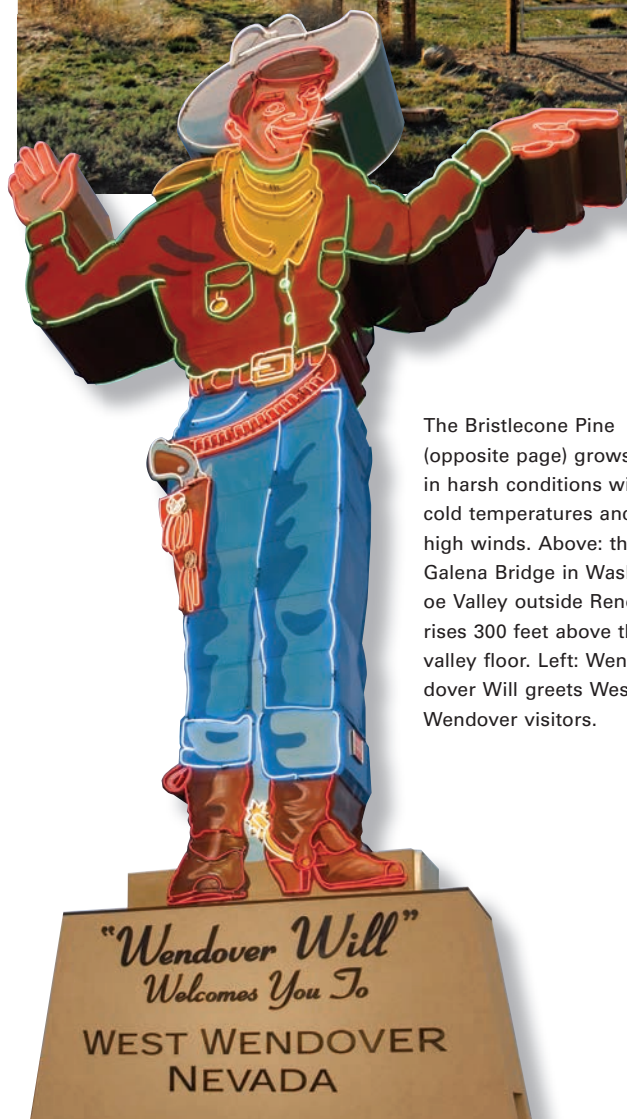
Unfortunate, but true: Kit Carson—the explorer John C. Frémont named the Carson River after—was the only U.S. Army brigadier general who couldn't read. Carson was not born in Nevada, nor did he attend school here. reviewjournal.com

Is it or isn't it? For years it was thought the Nevada Constitution was the longest telegram ever sent—16,543 words sent across the wire in 1864. And while that was true for 18 years, in 1881 the English Standard Version of the *New Testament* was transmitted from New York to Chicago at a whopping 118,000 words. nsa.nv.gov

Hopefully never true: Reports claim the Washoe language of the Washoe Tribe is the No. 1 most endangered language in the world. While it's estimated that there are fewer than two dozen speakers, there are other languages more critically endangered. unesco.org



SUZANNE KESSLER



The Bristlecone Pine (opposite page) grows in harsh conditions with cold temperatures and high winds. Above: the Galena Bridge in Washoe Valley outside Reno rises 300 feet above the valley floor. Left: Wendover Will greets West Wendover visitors.

CHARLIE JOHNSTON

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NATE STILLER

YEVGENIY ZAKHARKIN

The Stratosphere Las Vegas was originally planned to be more than 1,815 feet high, but the FAA said the building would interfere with flights to nearby McCarran Airport. Inset photo: The LINQ's High Roller moves at just 1 foot per second to allow passengers to load and unload without stopping the ride.

LAS VEGAS

Standing tall: The LINQ's High Roller is the world's tallest observation wheel at 550-feet tall, 107 feet taller than London's Eye. The pods hold up to 40 people each, and a single-rotation trip takes 30 minutes. caesars.com

Lights out: Nevada State Route 604—aka the Las Vegas Strip—is the only neon-lit road decreed an “All-American Road.” The Department of Transportation has named only 15 All-American Roads. fhwa.dot.gov

Get a room: Not surprisingly, there are more hotel rooms in Las Vegas than any other metropolitan area in the country, with 149,347 as of May 2014. lvcva.com

Going up...and up: The tallest freestanding observation tower in the United States, The Stratosphere Hotel and Casino, is 1,149-feet high. If that weren't enough, the highest commercial decelerator descent facility is the Stratosphere's Sky Jump. The jump from the 108th floor descends 829 feet and riders reach speeds of 40-50 mph on the way down. guinnessworldrecords.com

JUST FOR FUN

Howdy! Wendover Will is—at 63-feet tall—the World's Largest Mechanical Cowboy. Will has two “little” brothers; Vegas Vic and River Rick, both of whom are 40-feet tall. westwendovercity.com

This one doesn't make it to the top: As recently as 1995, Nevada newspapers have told the story of how the Goldfield Hotel had the first electric elevator west of the Mississippi. Alas, mythbuster Guy Rocha notes that distinction goes to a building in Spokane, Wash. nsla.nv.gov

Details, details: Both the O'Callaghan-Tillman Memorial Bridge at Hoover Dam and the Galena Bridge outside Reno have been called the longest arch bridges in the country. Like most debates, there's a bit of truth on both sides: O'Callaghan-Tillman is the longest concrete arch bridge in the USA, and the Galena Bridge is the longest cathedral arch bridge in the world. Note how just a couple of tiny words make a world of difference. rgi.com

There are as many true stories as there are legends in the Silver State. Let us know what your favorite slice of Nevada truth is, tell us the biggest tall tale you've heard, or ask us to fact-check that whopper that keeps cropping up...we'll do a follow-up in next month's issue. Send an email to: editor@nevadamagazine.com

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NEVADA A WORLD WITHIN.
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A HAUNTING ON THE COMSTOCK

Ghost towns aren't the only spooky spaces in the Silver State.

PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO

The miner's cabin—located at the head frame of the Yellowjacket Mine in Gold Hill—is a popular destination for paranormal researchers and casual ghost enthusiasts. In 1869, a fire took the lives of nearly 35 miners, some of whom were never recovered from the shafts.

BY ERIC CACHINERO

Do you believe in ghosts? The spiritual; the spectral; the supernatural? There's no denying that Nevada is a choice locale for those seeking paranormal pastimes, exemplified by the repeat visits of popular television shows such as "Ghost Adventures" and "Ghost Hunters." If your inquisitiveness into the spiritual world is piqued, or you're simply looking to explore a new area during the witching hour, there are many tours and stays in the Silver State that are set to accommodate. So as the autumn leaves begin to fall and Halloween draws near, consider a different approach to the ordinary haunted house or ghost town experience. Who knows; you just may be one of the lucky ones who have the pleasure of a poltergeist's presence.

REDRUM AT GOLD HILL

When I heard we would be spending a night in the miner's cabin at the Gold Hill Hotel—one of the most popular destinations for paranormal researchers in the state—and taking a walking ghost tour in Virginia City both in the same night, I was naturally (or supernaturally) elated.

The sky was a ghoulish gray during the drive to the Gold Hill Hotel in mid-July, and I laughed to myself at the notion that many good horror movies start exactly like this: unsuspecting characters travel to destination, bad weather prevents them from leaving, destination ends up being haunted...you know the rest. Constructed in 1861, the historic hotel was the perfect location for a home base during our ghostly excursion.

Editor Megg Mueller and I arrived at the hotel mid-afternoon and were joined by Megg's boyfriend, Ross. We were greeted by Gold Hill Hotel Marketing Manager and Nevada expert Clay



The miner's cabin at the Gold Hill Hotel (above) can sleep up to six guests and includes a full kitchen and eating area. The head frame of the Yellowjacket Mine was once used to haul ore from the ground below.



Mitchell, who gave us a tour and history before an early dinner at the Crown Point Restaurant. The restaurant serves a scrumptious assortment of pizzas, burgers, gourmet entrees, and specialty dishes, fueling us up for the long night ahead.

After dinner, Clay showed us our “ghost hunter kit”—available for rent to guests of the hotel for \$25. The kit contains a recorder for capturing electronic voice phenomenon (EVP), an EMF meter for measuring electromagnetic fields, a compass, a deck of cards, and an assortment of interesting items and books aimed at helping us capture spiritual presence.

Our home for the night was the miner's cabin, located at the base of the historic Yellowjacket Mine head frame. During the Comstock era, the cabin housed miners entering and leaving the mine, and served as a checkpoint to combat high grading—the theft of gold- and silver-bearing material by miners. A mine fire in 1869—one of the worst mining tragedies in Nevada at the time—took the lives of nearly 35 miners, some of whose bodies were never retrieved. Though not the only supposedly haunted room at the hotel, we decided it was the perfect room considering the grisly history.

The cabin is an apartment-style lodge that includes two queen beds, a full kitchen, eating area, and two bathrooms, and sleeps up to six guests. Though comfortable, the room gives off an eerie presence the moment we step in and organize our belongings. After exploring the cabin for a bit, we snap a few photos and head up to our next destination—Virginia City—for the Bats in the Belfry walking ghost tour.

A NIGHTMARE ON C STREET

We arrived to an amalgam of opaque windows and peculiar silhouettes as twilight greeted us in Virginia City. Our destination was the Silver Queen Hotel, where we met up with Debbie Bender, our tour guide for Bats in the Belfry.

After a quick briefing in the wedding chapel at the Silver Queen, we headed upstairs in our hunt to make contact with the spirit world. Armed with several EMF meters, we head to the most haunted room in the hotel, looking for any spikes in activity. “Once in a while we get lucky and the spirits want to say hi to us,” Debbie says as we keep an eager eye out for movement on the meter. “We’re going to look for the needle to start moving. Once it does, we’re going to look for anything manmade around us that may be causing it to move. After we’ve eliminated that possibility, we’re going to assume there is something of a paranormal nature and make contact with it.”

We made our way to Room 11, which is said to be frequented by the spirit of a prostitute named Rosie who died in the hotel during its early days. As Debbie attempted to make contact with Rosie, the meters began to bounce and everyone in the room began to squirm with excited nervousness.

The tour continued on through the streets of Virginia City, stopping at various historic buildings. Debbie shared an

abundance of historical and haunted tidbits, taking note of any spikes on the EMF meter or any “orbs” that may have been captured in the photos people were taking. The tour wrapped up at the Washoe Club, with a visit to the crypt in the back of the bar and a spiral staircase that was featured on Ripley’s Believe it or Not! for being the longest of its kind without a supporting pole. After we said goodbye to Debbie and the rest of the Bats in the Belfry crew, we headed back to the Miner’s Cabin in Gold Hill.

THEY’RE HEEERE

When we returned to the hotel, Ross and I tinkered with several of the items in the ghost kit, seeing if we could spike the needles on any of our supernatural meters. Save a couple quick blips that showed up near the bookshelf next to my bed, there was relatively little action. After a long day of ghost hunting, we retreated to bed, ready for a good night’s sleep. As I awoke the next morning, I knew one thing that was for certain about the beds in the Miner’s Cabin: they were hauntingly comfortable, because I was out like a light, and fortunately, was not awoken during the night by any inquisitive apparitions. ▀

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Gold Hill Hotel

1540 S. Main St., Virginia City, NV 89440
goldhillhotel.net, 775-847-0111

Bats in the Belfry

virginiacityghosttours.com

PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO



Opposite page: The crypt where bodies of deceased Comstock residents were stored in winter—located in the Washoe Club in Virginia City—is a stop on the Bats in the Belfry tour. Top of page: Tour guests learn about many historic buildings in Virginia City. Debbie Bender (above) is a Bats in the Belfry tour guide and history buff.

MORE HAUNTED TOURS

There are many more ghost tours and haunted experiences across the Silver State. Here are just a few spooky experiences that give visitors a look into the world of haunted Nevada:

CARSON CITY GHOST WALK

Carson City's history is explored and theatrically recreated in the 20th annual Carson City Ghost Walk on Oct. 18. The Ghost Walk is a delightfully spooky and enjoyable way to experience Carson City's Victorian Era and diverse past. Meet lingering spirits with many haunted and paranormal stories to take in. Some of the spirits even lead the guided walking tours of the downtown district's historic homes. Tours visit inside at least five different houses, last approximately 90 minutes, and depart every half hour beginning at 10 a.m. from 3rd and Curry Streets. Tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$20 the day of the event. carsoncityghostwalk.com, 775-348-6279.

GOODSPRINGS GHOST HUNT

Have you ever wanted to hunt ghosts in a 100-year-old haunted Nevada mining town? Participate in a ghost investigation that will take you to the haunting grounds of Goodsprings, as seen on the popular television show "Ghost Adventures." Over the years, many ghostly sightings have taken place in and around the deserted remains of Goodsprings, making it the perfect location for a ghost hunt.

Ghost hunting equipment is provided and the adventure includes a pizza party at the world-famous Pioneer Saloon.

This tour also includes free transportation to and from Goodsprings from Las Vegas, and lasts approximately four hours. goodspringsghosthunt.com, 702-677-6499

HAUNTED VEGAS GHOST HUNT

Experience Sin City's original award-winning ghost adventure: the Haunted Vegas Ghost Hunt. This spirited and spooky ghost hunt takes guests to the haunting grounds of Bugsy Siegel, Liberace, Redd Foxx, and Elvis Presley. Renowned paranormal investigator Robert George Allen makes it possible for you to visit eerie sites by offering a guided tour and ghost hunt, featuring Las Vegas' darkest ghostly secrets. Tours are scheduled at 9:30 p.m. Thursday through Monday.

hauntedvegastours.com,
702-677-6499

THE BIGGEST LITTLE CITY GHOST WALK

The Biggest Little City Ghost Walk in Reno runs through late October. Renoites Janice and Bill Oberding are the tour guides on this glimpse into Reno's haunted past and present. Attendees can expect to hear stories of notorious men and women who left their marks on many of the downtown area's buildings and locations.

Historian and author of numerous books on Nevada's ghosts/history, Janice Oberding has investigated nearly every noted haunted Nevada location and ghostly phenomena throughout the state. She has appeared on TV shows including "Ghost Adventures," "Ghost Hunters," "Scariest Places on Earth," and "Dead Famous."

Tours are scheduled Friday and Saturday evenings, and must be booked in advance.

hauntednevada.com,
775-846-2331



HAUNTED LAS VEGAS TOURS

The Pioneer Saloon (above) was built in 1913, and is one of the stops on the Goodsprings Ghost Hunt. It is considered one of the most haunted places in the state. Taking a ghost tour can be a great way to learn about the history of several towns in Nevada.



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INTO THE WILD

Explore the jewel that is Nevada's remote northwest corner.

BY MEGG MUELLER & ERIC CACHINERO



ILLUSTRATIONS: SEAN NEBEKER

"There are no services. No water. Your cell phones won't work. You will be on your own. PROTECT. RESPECT. SURVIVE."

These somber words were our last warning as we left the pavement, released into the vast and unforgiving expanses of Nevada's northwest corner. Armed with extra fuel, supplies, and what seemed like enough water to rehydrate the Black Rock Desert, we set off into one of the state's most remote areas. Our odyssey destined us for grandeur and a little gleam, giving us pride in the fact that very few people since the pioneers have laid eyes on this majestic, yet desolate, forgotten corner of Nevada.

What brought us to this unacquainted corner of the state we know so well?

You did.

During *Nevada Magazine's* yearlong quest to discover why our readers love Nevada, one of the most frequent answers we receive is its 'wide open spaces.' And so the *Nevada Magazine* editorial duo, appetites whet for adventure, decided to travel to Nevada's hinterlands, blazing across more than 150 miles of washboard dirt roads, rocks, and dust, searching for those wide open spaces.

Follow us into the wild...



PHOTO: MEGG MUELLER

High Rock Canyon is home to golden eagles, prairie falcons, hawks, owls, quail, chukar, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, bighorn sheep, and wild horses.





PHOTOS: MEGG MUELLER

While it's home to almost 70,000 people each Labor Day weekend, the Black Rock Desert also offers stunning 360-degree views of the playa. Inset: With nothing around for miles, Associate Editor Eric Cachinero becomes the subject of a photo shoot.

BOLDLY GOING WHERE I HAVEN'T BEEN BEFORE



Cruising north of Interstate 80 on State Route 447, I was embarrassed to admit this to Eric, but just stopping for cash at the ATM in Wadsworth and looking at fireworks had me pretty happy. No way this trip was going to disappoint.

The 16 miles to Nixon is uneventful but full of beautiful morning vistas. We cruised through the reservation, past the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Museum & Visitors Center, and on to Gerlach.

Just 107 miles after leaving Reno, we found the storefront for the Friends of Black Rock High Rock in Gerlach, where we stopped for maps, to chat, and look around. Before we continued, we got some final driving advice, as the pavement will soon be deep in our rearview mirror. Reassured, we left some magazines, and said goodbye. And then suddenly:

"That's a lot of dirt."

A lifetime as a writer, and my first sight of the Black Rock Desert reduces me to master of the obvious.

"Do you want to drive on the playa?" Eric asked.

Hell yes, I want to drive on the playa.

I knew we were on the tiniest slice of this massive wilderness, but as we drove into the area best known for the annual Burning

Man event, all I could think of is this place is huge...and flat. We got out to take photos, and suddenly "hot" was added to my list of adjectives. It's a funny place to take pictures, because there's nothing for miles, but you have to shoot it anyway. Rimmed by mountain ranges, trees, and shrubs showing glimmers of now-unfamiliar green, the Black Rock playa is as I've always heard; unreal in its simple perfection.

TOTIN' OUR PACKS ALONG THE DUSTY SOLDIER MEADOWS ROAD



I must admit that a sliver of apprehension overcame me as our vehicle left the pavement, destined for dirt-road distances the likes of which I've never conquered before. Would our vehicle break down? Would we have to spend a night (or more) in the desert? I took some comfort knowing we were stocked with survival supplies and a GPS locator in case things went south. And if you decide to do this trip, you should be prepared too—seriously.

Along with the aforementioned warning sign, a tactfully placed quote from Nevada explorer John C. Frémont gave me a hint of comfort knowing that we weren't the only visitors this desert has intimidated in the past two centuries. In 1843-44—according to



PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO

Left: About 10 miles past Gerlach, the road to Soldier Meadows appears—beckoning us off-road with the promise of food and a bed—for those willing to make the trek. Above: After a day spent driving, hiking, and spotting bighorn sheep, Managing Editor Megg Mueller relaxes before dinner at Soldier Meadows Guest Ranch.

the sign—Frémont was the first euro-American to see the Black Rock Desert, writing, “The appearance of the country was so forbidding, that I was afraid to enter it.”

Our destination was Soldier Meadows Guest Ranch—the only oasis in the desert for miles. This working ranch provides visitors with beds, showers, and a hot, ranch-style dinner and breakfast.

The 50-mile dirt road to the ranch provides seemingly endless views of the illustrious wide open spaces. Anomalous rural ranches and a small assortment of opal mines stick out as being some of the only manmade structures to occupy the expanses.

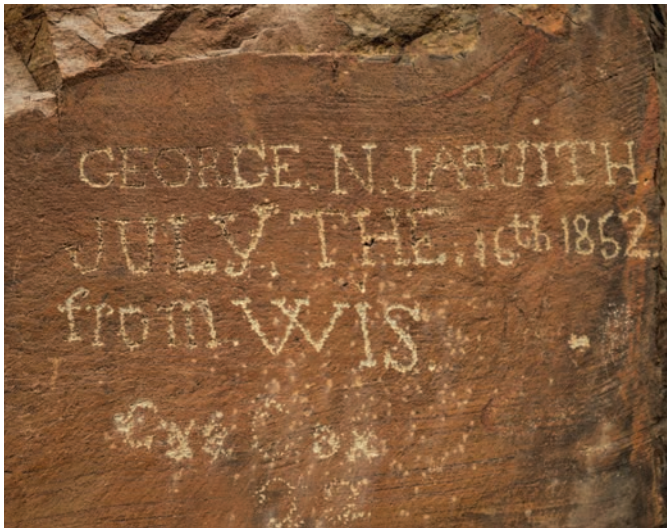
After what seemed like 1,000 miles of washboard roads and just as I was convinced the wheels were going to fall off of our vehicle, a small patch of green perforated the desert scenery in the distance and I knew we had found our oasis. We soon arrived to a bucolic abode covered in green trees and even greener pastures. Panting ranch dogs greeted us as we stretched our legs and got settled in, only to quickly begin planning our next adventure.

IT'S HOT IN THEM THAR HILLS



After a picnic lunch at the ranch with the eight dogs keeping a close watch on our cold cuts, we headed for High Rock Canyon and Soldier Meadows Hot Springs; Eric's been to the latter, but I'd yet to see a natural hot springs. We spied a cabin in the middle of nowhere, and headed over. It was a Bureau of Land Management building, available first-come. The shelves were full of canned goods, propane, dog biscuits, contact-lens solution, and more, left by visitors paying it forward. There was a table, bed frame, and plenty of room to get out of the elements. Unfortunately the elements were 105-degree temps, but it looked to be cozy for fall or winter camping. There were also reading materials, so we left a magazine, signed the guest book, and moved on.

The hot spring wasn't easy to spot, but Eric knew the way so we wandered down a hill on a well-marked path and there it was; a hole in the ground with a creek leading to it, except the water is



PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO

Top: Emigrant signatures are just one feature of High Rock Canyon, and can be found about five miles from the east entrance. Above: While a 4WD and slow driving are a requirement, much of the canyon didn't need a high-clearance vehicle. It did however require a tolerance for dirty cars.

hot. Again, master of the obvious, but knowing it and feeling it are two different things. Despite being well used, the area was debris free; I chalked this up to the remote location.

I don't love heights, so as we headed into High Rock Canyon, I was hoping for more canyon than anything else. The road required some pretty slow going and careful navigation, but I was secretly thrilled it climbed and dropped only mildly. The road is open only after May, due to the area's raptor breeding and bighorn sheep lambing season. We had hit the mother lode I thought, as we traversed the canyon floor, spying myriad caves, emigrant signatures, rock faces that jut aggressively upward, and lichen-covered hills. The invisible creek that created this valley is overrun with verdant bushes and brush; add rock walls to this veritable buffet, and I knew the bighorn were there.

I constantly scanned the craggy hills, desperate for my first glimpse of Nevada's state animal, refusing to listen as Eric reminded me it's midday and unusually warm. We drove until Eric decided the state vehicle should go no further, then hiked a bit until we saw the canyon's end. We headed back out the way we came, and as we were just about out of the canyon, I saw them. There, way up on a hill about 600 yards away, a pair of sheep. A ewe and a baby, but they were my first bighorns and I am elated.

We headed back for dinner, and join our hosts and the ranch staff for an amazing meal of delicately sauced chicken, green salad, rolls, and the tastiest side dish I've possibly ever had; corn and cheese. I have no idea what Brandy our cook did to create this odd but heavenly combination, but I didn't skimp on seconds. Dessert's lemon bars made me wish I had room for another, but I'll never regret the corn and cheese.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN



We awoke to a hearty ranch-style breakfast of bacon, eggs, sausage, and all the fixin's before departing our newfound friends at the ranch and continuing north along Soldier Meadows Road. Although the first couple miles past the ranch were fairly rocky, we took it slow and were soon united with a smooth dirt road, en route to the small border town of Denio Junction.

Bands of wild horses lined the hillsides in the distances, and a solitary antelope buck caught our attention as we moseyed up the road. What the country lacks in tourist attractions, it sure makes up in spectacular scenery. It's not the first time I've felt infinitesimal amongst the expanses of Nevada, but as far as wide-open spaces go, we had hit the jackpot.

As we approached State Route 140—the first pavement we had seen in nearly 150 miles—not a single vehicle had passed us since our departure from Gerlach. But alas, during the last mile before the pavement, a single off-road motorcycle went buzzing past us in the opposite direction, and the “rush hour in rural Nevada” jokes became aplenty.

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PHOTOS: ERIC CACHINERO

Above: Denio Junction generally offers the only gas for many miles, but the pumps were being replaced during our visit. Call before you head out or do what we did; carry extra fuel. Right: Jake Wilson finesses opals from the ground at Royal Peacock Opal Mine. Lower right: The mine's RV park, gift shop, and office hosts visitors from around the world looking for an adventure.

THESE HILLS LOOK "OPAL-Y"



Ready for more adventure, we set out for the Royal Peacock Opal Mine. It was tempting to chill at the Denio Junction Motel, but the idea of precious gems waiting in the hills 35 miles west was too alluring. Royal Peacock's original proprietors, Harry and Joy Wilson, lobbied to have the Virgin Valley Black Fire Opal acknowledged by the legislature, and in 1987 it became the state's precious gemstone. The Wilson's daughter, Julie, and her son, Jake, now run the mine.

We passed wild burros and horses grazing along the lands surrounding Dufurrena Ponds, and wound our way back to the

mine, where Julie gave us a quick look at the various opals we could find, including the rare black fire opal.

Jake met us on the hill, and our geology lesson got underway. Spotting these gems is tough; opals are made from silica-packed solutions settling into cracks and voids, which can occur in rocks, tree branches, you name it. As the deposit dries and the cycle recurs, the gem is formed. To our untrained eye, it looked like a bunch of dirt and rocks, but Jake patiently showed us where to dig, and the proper technique. Eric and I quickly think everything with a sparkle is an opal, but with Jake's guidance we actually helped uncover a piece of black opal, about 1 inch high, and maybe 2.5 inches long. It's fragile and ended up in two pieces but



that works for us; now we don't have to share.

Our score won't change our lives, but like spotting bighorn, to us it's heady stuff. We kept working the hill and each found a few more small pieces of varying types. Our head's swim with Jake's encyclopedic knowledge and the sweltering temperatures, so we called our foray into opal mining a success and head back for a cool drink and pictures of Royal Peacock's RV and camping area.

WHEN IN DENIO



After striking it rich (sort of) and armed with a newfound knowledge of how opals are formed, we decided to survey some of the area attractions.

Our first stop was Virgin Valley Campground, located approximately 28 miles from Denio Junction. The site is a popular destination for hunters (wildlife and gem), and offers drinking water, a spring-fed swimming hole, and a rustic shower house. The nearby Dufurrena Ponds are known for their sunfish, perch, and large-mouth bass fishing. A short distance from the campground via dirt road is one of the area's natural wonders: Thousand Creek Gorge. The gorge is exemplary of some of the spectacular geological scenery in the area.

As we took in more sights, the periods between exchanging yawns in the car began to dwindle and my gut grumbled at the thought of the highly acclaimed and anticipated burger that awaited us at Denio Junction. But first, we decided to make one more stop before calling it quits for the day.

We traveled east on S.R. 140 en route to Denio Junction before turning off the



pavement at a sign that read “Bog Hot Road.” Keeping true to my desire to visit at least one new hot spring each time I travel in the state, we followed the dirt road for several miles before coming upon another local attraction aptly named Bog Hot Springs. Though the sweltering July temperatures dissuaded us from taking a dip, I added another must-revisit to my seemingly limitless list of Nevada destinations to come back to.

Soon we found ourselves back at the junction, each inhaling a Denio Burger and a cold beer, ready to hit the hay at the Denio Junction Hotel. Though not your typical Vegas suite, the rustic rooms provided us with a retreat from the heat and a good night’s sleep.

BACK TO REALITY

After days of searing temps, we awoke to overcast skies and spitting rain. Probably the only two things that could make us glad to rejoin the pavement on our trip back to Carson City via Winnemucca. I felt like I was in an alien world, where vehicles travel at high speeds, and fast-food places dot the landscape. It had only been three days, but that was plenty of time to succumb to the treasure and solitude that is Nevada’s least-traveled area, the stunning, often silent but visually resplendent northwest corner.

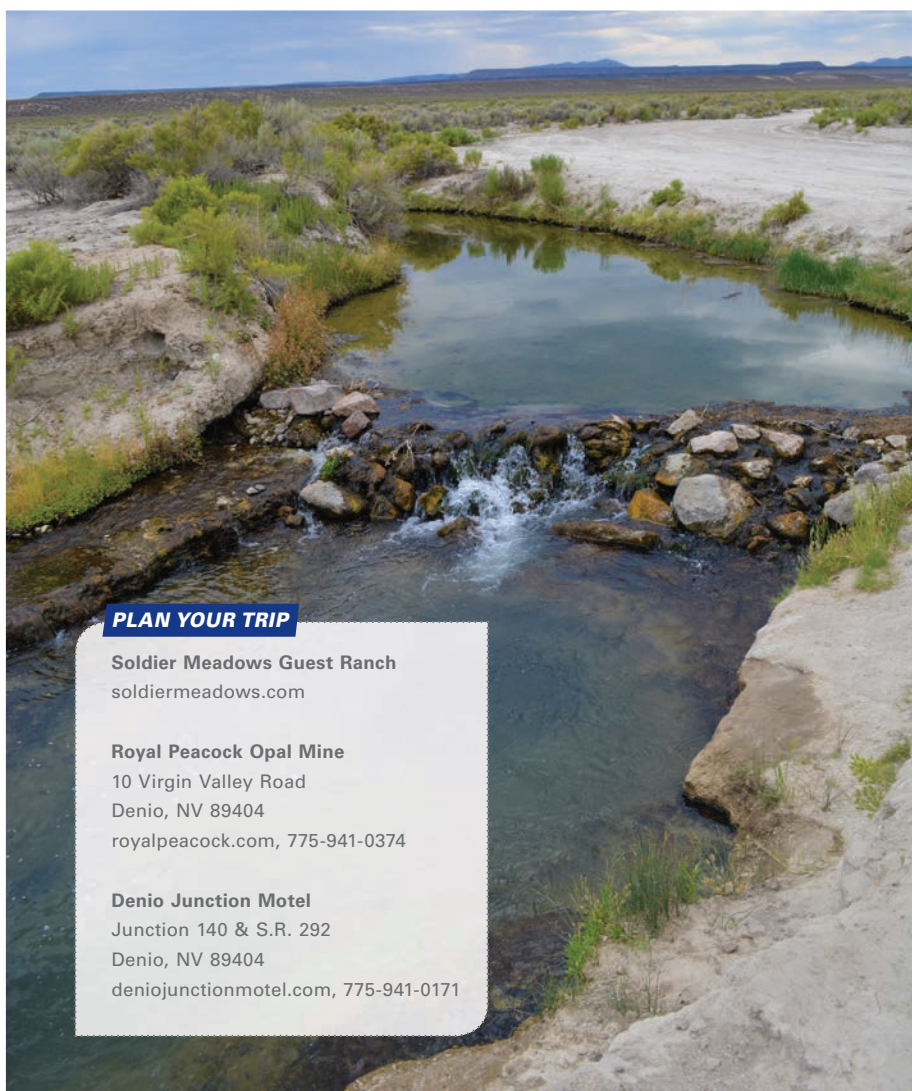
We definitely overpacked, but looking back, perhaps we both had a secret wish to spend a few extra days off-road and in the wild. Next time, for sure. ▀

Right: Bog Hot Springs is a series of springs created in an irrigation ditch that ends at Bog Hot Springs Ranch. Temperatures range from about 100 degrees to 105 degrees, depending on the pool. There are no facilities, but lots of room for camping and there are a few fire pits, too.



PHOTOS: MEGG MUELLER

The desert bighorn sheep is Nevada’s state animal and has very keen eyesight, allowing them to stay 700 yards away from hopeful tourist paparazzi.



PLAN YOUR TRIP

Soldier Meadows Guest Ranch
soldiermeadows.com

Royal Peacock Opal Mine
10 Virgin Valley Road
Denio, NV 89404
royalpeacock.com, 775-941-0374

Denio Junction Motel
Junction 140 & S.R. 292
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Experience "The 36th Star"

Emancipation Proclamation is Centerpiece of Nevada Museum of Art Exhibition.

BY JERI SINGLEY

declare and proclaim that the said State of Nevada is admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto
set my hand, and caused the seal of the
United States to be affixed.

Done at the City of Washington
this Thirty first day of October,
in the year of our Lord one
thousand eight hundred
and sixty four, and of the
Independence of the
United States the
Eighty ninth.

Abraham Lincoln

By the President:

William H. Sewall
Secretary of State.

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation:

Whereas the Congress of the United States
passed an Act which was approved on the 21st
day of March, last, entitled, "An Act to enable
the people of Nevada to form a Constitution and
State Government, and for the admission of such
State into the Union,"

day first above mentioned, order and design as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, (except the
Parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemine, Jefferson,
St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, &
Assumption, Terrebonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St.
Martin, and Orleans, including the City of New

Mississippi, Alabama, Florida,
South Carolina, North Carolina, and
except the forty-eight counties dis-
tinct Virginia, and also the counties
Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth

... and Norfolk, including the
left and Portsmouth,
excepted parts are, for the present,
by as if this proclamation were not
by virtue of the power, and for the

reside, I do order and declare that
held as slaves within said designa-
and parts of States, are, and hence
hall be free; and that the Executive

the United States,
measure for our
first day of
one thousand.

and one thousand
and in accordance
ly proclaimed
4 days from the



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

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As Nevada celebrates its sesquicentennial, the Nevada Museum of Art in Reno is giving visitors the chance to explore the state's heritage through its exhibition, "The 36th Star: Nevada's Journey from Territory to State." Three years in the making, this one-of-a-kind exhibition brings together—for the first time—key documents and artifacts to help place Nevada's legacy into the broader context of the Civil War and American history. The centerpiece is a four-day presentation of the Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln.

"For Nevada to have the opportunity to have it is just a generational achievement, and I am just excited for all the kids to be able to see that," says honorary chair of the exhibition, Governor Brian Sandoval. "I still remember when I was a kid and the Freedom Train [1975] came through Nevada. I'll remember that as long as I live, and that's the type of memories I hope the display of the Emancipation Proclamation will create for the kids here."

According to Nevada Museum of Art Curator Ann Wolfe, "The 36th Star" exhibit is an exploration of the motto, "Battle Born."

"Everybody's familiar with that adopted motto of the state," Wolfe says, "but we wanted to ask 'what does it really mean for a state to be Battle Born?'"

To answer this question, the museum embarked on a collaborative, three-year journey—working closely with the National Archives, the Library of Congress, and regional museums, including the Nevada Historical Society, the Nevada State Library and Archives, and the Nevada State Museum. The result is a singular exhibition featuring historical treasures from Nevada and the nation's capital—on display through Nov. 2.

FROM TERRITORY TO STATE IN THE NICK OF TIME

How did Nevada become a state? Chances are you've heard the territory's mineral riches were needed to finance the Civil War. It's a common explanation, persisting in some classrooms even to this day. But as retired State Archivist Guy Rocha has said many times, it's simply not the truth. While mineral wealth was a determining factor in the decision to give Nevada territorial status, it was actually the perceived need for another pro-Union state to support Abraham Lincoln's reelection bid that spurred the territory's ascension to statehood.

Despite the fact that the population of the Nevada Territory was only two-thirds the size normally required for statehood, Congress passed the Enabling Act for Nevada on March 21, 1864, authorizing the formation of a state. A convention of delegates from the territory gathered in July of that year to draft a constitution, which Nevada's voters approved on Sept. 7.

According to writer and historian Phillip Earl, one certified copy of Nevada's Constitution was sent to San Francisco, where it was to set sail on steamship *Golden Age* on Oct. 3. Another was sent via stagecoach; however, when—in late October—neither copy had arrived in Washington D.C., there was concern



JERI SINGLEY

Opposite page: The original Emancipation Proclamation signed by President Abraham Lincoln on Jan. 1, 1863. Inset: F.B. Carpenter's painting the *First Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln*, 1864. Above: Governor Sandoval speaks at the opening of "The 36th Star" exhibition. Below: The exhibition includes the original telegram of Nevada's Constitution sent to Washington, D.C.



MEGG MUELLER

they would not be there in time for Nevada to be accepted into the Union prior to the Nov. 8 election.

Territorial Governor of Nevada James W. Nye made the decision on Oct. 26 to send the Constitution via telegram to President Lincoln at a cost of nearly \$3,500—somewhere between \$50,000 and \$60,000 by today's figures. The 16,543-word message arrived two days later, and Nevada was officially declared a state on Oct. 31, 1864.

Indeed, Lincoln did win a majority of the popular vote—and both of the electoral votes cast—from Nevada, and the new state continued to support the president in his efforts to abolish slavery and rebuild the nation as the Civil War continued to de-escalate into 1865.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

While the Emancipation Proclamation did not free every slave in the United States, it was a key step on the road toward ending slavery. In addition to setting the stage for passage of the 13th Amendment, it also signified that the Civil War was no longer solely about preserving the United States as a single nation. According to National Archives Senior Curator Bruce Bustard, issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation on Jan. 1, 1863 had many consequences.

"It solidified support for the United States in Europe. The Confederacy was trying to gain recognition from European countries, and the Emancipation Proclamation was a big support for them not recognizing the Confederacy," Bustard explains. "It also represents one step—or an advance—in the evolution of Lincoln's thinking about slavery too, because it was changing as he grew."

BRINGING HISTORY TO NEVADA

The Emancipation Proclamation hasn't been on display in Nevada since 1948 when the first of two touring exhibits of the nation's treasures—known as the Freedom Trains—traveled through the state, making stops in Reno and Elko. The Emancipation Proclamation was among the documents aboard the first Freedom Train, which made stops in more than 300 cities across the country. The second Freedom



PHOTOS: MEGG MUELLER

Above: The Austin Flour Sack from 1860 on loan from the Nevada Historical Society was used to raise money for troops during the Civil War. Below: The first flag with 36 stars that was flown above Fort Ruby in 1864.



Only in Ely!



4th Annual Astronomy Festival
September 18 - 20



Silver State Classic Challenge
September 19 - 21



Take It to the Lake Half Marathon
September 23



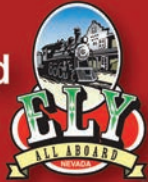
Haunted Ghost Train
Saturdays in October

White Pine County Tourism & Recreation Board

150 Sixth Street, Ely, Nevada

800-496-9350

elynevada.net • travelnevada.com



WELLS, NEVADA

Things to put on your Wells, Nevada Bucket List.

September-November

Sept. 4th-7th- GNATSASS Dual
Sport Motorbike Ride
(4-day event)

Oct. 4th- Archery
Golf tournament

Sept. 13th- Race to the Angel

Oct. 5th- 18 holes the Hard Way
Golf tournament (10 am)

Sept. 14th- 2 Person Drip
Scramble Golf Tournament (10 am)

Oct. 11th- Crab Feed Fundraiser

Sept. 20th-21st- Couples Best Ball
tournament (10 am)

Nov. 22nd- Hummin'bolt
Quilter's Christmas Bazaar

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Trail of the 49ers Interpretive Center

1864



SESQUICENTENNIAL

October 31st



2014



visitcarsoncity.com
for a complete list of all Sesquicentennial events



MEGG MUELLER

Train—remembered fondly by Governor Sandoval—toured the country in 1975 but did not carry the Emancipation Proclamation.

Since 1993, exhibitions of the Emancipation Proclamation have been limited to only a few days each year, a measure taken to help preserve this fragile, historical document. At all other times, the Emancipation Proclamation is stored at the National Archives in Washington D.C., where it is kept in a climate-controlled environment and protected from exposure to light in an effort to prevent photochemical deterioration.

National Archives Senior Registrar James Zeender explains that it is a long-standing practice among museums to share their holdings, “In a very general way, that’s what museums do is to make available our cultural heritage,” Zeender says. “The National Archives wants to do that as well.”

According to Zeender, it’s also common practice to require stringent security and environmental conditions be met by institutions looking to borrow materials. Museums seeking to borrow items from the National Archives must also demonstrate that an exhibition has educational value.

WHAT TO EXPECT

General admission to the museum, including admission to view the Emancipation Proclamation, is \$10 and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Museum members can present their membership cards to receive a FASTPASS to jump to the head of the line to view the Emancipation Proclamation with minimal wait time.

Curator Wolfe says the exhibition space is intimate, located in three galleries on the second floor of the museum.

“The gallery is transformed into more of a history exhibition format,” Wolfe says. “The objects will be accompanied by extended text material that allows people to really dig deeper into the history of these objects.”

An interpretive video is also available in one of the galleries for visitors who may not want to read the accompanying text.

While the exhibition runs through Nov. 2, the Emancipation Proclamation is only on display for four days between Oct. 30 and Nov. 2.

“I think the museum senses a great enthusiasm from the community about this exhibition. The museum is proud to present the signature event of the 2014 sesquicentennial festivities,” Wolfe says, “and we’re, of course, extremely thankful to the E. L. Wiegand Foundation, who’s underwritten this entire project.”

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

Presentation Dates

Thursday, Oct. 30 (10 a.m.-7 p.m.)

Friday, Oct. 31 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Saturday, Nov. 1 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Sunday, Nov. 2 (10 a.m.-5 p.m.)

Two sets of original Timothy O’Sullivan photographs on loan from the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., bookend the exhibition.

MORE TREASURES ON DISPLAY DURING THE EXHIBITION

★ The 175-page transcription of Nevada’s State Constitution that was sent from Territorial Governor James W. Nye to Abraham Lincoln via telegram—on loan from the National Archives.

★ The original copy of the Nevada State Constitution—on loan from the Nevada State Library and Archives.

★ On display for the first time, Civil War-era muster rolls of the Nevada Volunteers—on loan from the Nevada State Library and Archives.

★ The letter from the first Governor of Nevada, Henry Blasdel, to President Abraham Lincoln, notifying Washington of Nevada’s ratification of the 13th Amendment—on loan from the National Archives.

★ The historic “Austin Flour Sack,” which was used to raise money for the troops during the Civil War—on loan from the Nevada Historical Society.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

“The 36th Star: Nevada’s Journey from Territory to State”

Through Nov. 2

Nevada Museum of Art

160 W. Liberty Street, Reno, NV 89501

nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333



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wendoeverfun.com 1-800-537-0207



wendoevernugget.com
1-800-848-7300



775-664-2111



775-664-4300

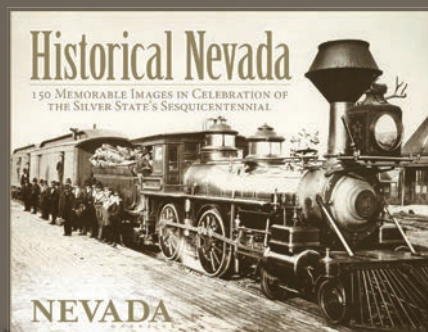
Happy Birthday, Nevada!

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yourself in Nevada history via the pages
of *Historical Nevada: 150 Memorable
Images in Celebration of the Silver
State's Sesquicentennial*.

Special price: \$24.95 (plus \$6 S&H)

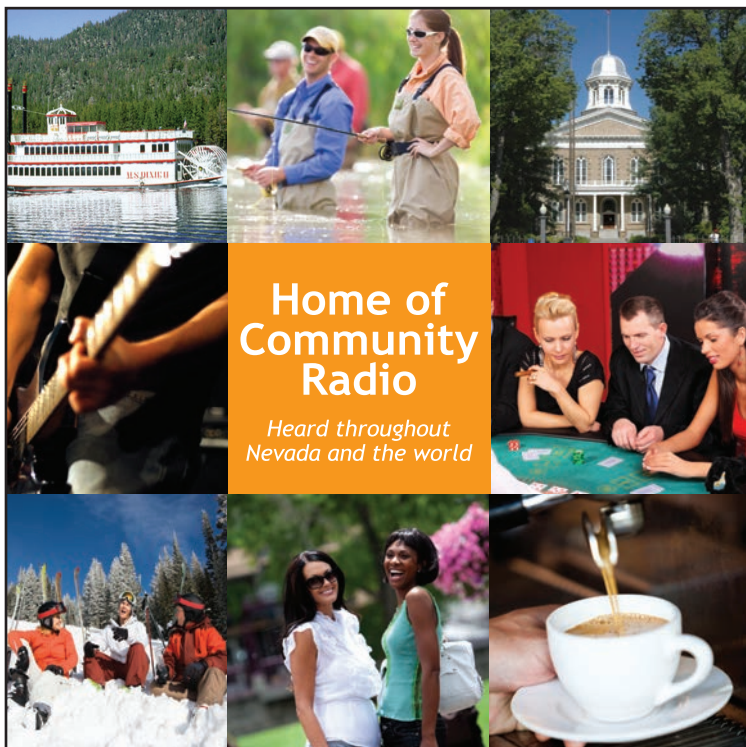
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- 1606 Amtrak

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- 2401 America Matters/ Fox News Radio

CARSON CITY NEVADA DAY PARADE "HAPPY 150TH BIRTHDAY, NEVADA"

SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION REACHES APEX IN CAPITAL.



PHOTOS: SCOTT CAREY



On Saturday, Nov. 1, the 2014 Carson City Nevada Day Parade takes to the streets of the state's capital. This year's parade theme is "Happy 150th Birthday, Nevada," celebrating more than a year's worth of events and paying special tribute to 150 years of statehood.

The day kicks off at 8 a.m. with a hot air balloon launch near the Carson Mall on Carson Street (weather permitting). At 10 a.m., a military flyover signals the start of the parade.

The parade features more than 200 entries, including local law enforcement, public officials, floats, marching bands, and more. The procession begins at the intersection of William and Carson Streets, and concludes at the intersection of Stewart and Carson Streets.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Carson City Nevada Day Parade
Carson City
Nov. 1
nevadaday.com, 775-882-2600

DON'T MISS

LAS VEGAS NEVADA DAY PARADE

At 10 a.m. on Nevada Day, Las Vegas' first-ever Nevada Day Parade kicks off in downtown Las Vegas along 4th Street. Cash prizes are awarded based on a sesquicentennial theme in six categories: float, equestrian, marching band, motorized vehicle, walking group, and other.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Las Vegas Nevada Day Parade
Las Vegas
Oct. 31
lasvegasnevada.gov, 702-229-6672

MORE NEVADA DAY EVENTS

NEVADA 150 CONCERT

Carson City Community Center, Carson City
Oct. 26
ccsymphony.com, 775-883-4154

GOVERNOR'S NEVADA DAY BANQUET

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Oct. 28
nevadaday.com, 775-882-2600

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS-AUSTIN WALKING TOUR

Austin Museum, Austin
Oct. 31
austinnevadamuseum.com, 775-354-9244

CELEBRATING NEVADA

Springs Preserve, Las Vegas
Oct. 31
springspreserve.com, 702-258-2417

ELKO NEVADA DAY PARADE

Elko
Oct. 31
775-738-7991

FALLON CELEBRATES NEVADA'S 150TH

Churchill County Museum, Fallon
Oct. 31
visitfallonnevada.com, 775-423-4556

OLD NEVADA DAYS AT TULE SPRINGS

Floyd Lamb State Park, Las Vegas
Oct. 31
theranchlasvegas.com, 702-885-1943

VIRGINIA CITY'S STATEHOOD PARADE

Virginia City
Oct. 31
visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

DARYL HALL AND JOHN OATES

OH-OH HERE THEY COME: NO. 1 SELLING ROCK DUO BRINGS CLASSIC HITS TO THE COLOSSEUM.



On the heels of their induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, Daryl Hall and John Oates are set to make their first-ever appearance at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace. The pair's hits have withstood the test of time, selling more albums than any other duo in history and influencing many modern rock bands including the Killers, Death Cab for Cutie, and more.

From the mid-1970s to the mid-'80s, the duo would score six No. 1 singles, including "Rich Girl," "Kiss on My List," "Private Eyes," "I Can't Go For That (No Can Do)," "Maneater," and "Out of Touch" from six consecutive multi-platinum albums. The era would also produce five additional Top 10 singles: "Sara Smile," "One on One," "You Make My Dreams," "Say It Isn't So," and "Method of Modern Love."

The action begins at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 22, with tickets starting at just \$55.

WHERE

The Colosseum at Caesars Palace

WHEN

Oct. 22

Showtime: 7:30 p.m.

TICKETS

thecolosseum.com, 888-929-7849

Starting at \$55

WORTH A CLICK

hallandoates.com

ALSO AT THE COLOSSEUM

Jerry Seinfeld, Sept. 5-6

Luis Miguel, Sept. 12-15

Rod Stewart, Sept. 20-21, 24, 26-27, 30;

Oct. 2, 4-5

las vegas shows



DON'T MISS

DIANA ROSS

The Colosseum at Caesars Palace
Sept. 19
Showtime: 7:30 p.m.
thecolosseum.com, 888-929-7849

Legendary icon Diana Ross is making a triumphant return to The Colosseum at Caesars Palace with her In the Name of Love tour—a compilation of her best-known and greatest hits on Friday, Sept. 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Diana Ross' famed career—spanning almost five decades—has resulted in major awards and accolades and music history milestones, including induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, The Songwriters Hall of Fame, and more. Ross has been called one of the most iconic female singers of all time and one of the most prominent women in popular music history and pop culture of the late 20th century.

Join Diana and relive classic hits like "Stop! In The Name of Love," "Where Did Our Love Go," and "You Keep Me Hangin' On."



Comedian Jeff Dunham has announced a new residency at Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino. "JEFF DUNHAM: Not Playing with a Full Deck" is set to open Friday, Nov. 28, and features Dunham's signature ventriloquism.
planethollywoodresort.com, 800-745-3000

Due to popular demand, **Olivia Newton-John** will extend her stay at Flamingo Las Vegas with her "Summer Nights" residency. The singer-actress will continue to take audiences on a musical journey of her life through January 2015.
flamingolasvegas.com, 702-777-2782

SHOWS OF INTEREST

HARTBEAT WEEKEND

The Cosmopolitan
Sept. 5-6
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com,
702-698-7000

30 SECONDS TO MARS

The Cosmopolitan
Sept. 20
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com,
702-698-7000

CROSBY, STILLS, & NASH

The Palms
Sept. 27
palms.com,
702-942-7777

JERRY LEWIS

The Smith Center for the
Performing Arts
Sept. 30
thesmithcenter.com,
702-749-2012

BLAKE SHELTON

Mandalay Bay
Oct. 3
mandalaybay.com,
702-632-7777

AZIZ ANSARI

Mandalay Bay
Oct. 4
mandalaybay.com,
702-632-7777

WICKED

The Smith Center for the
Performing Arts
Oct. 8-12, 14-19, 21-26, 28-31;
Nov. 1-2, 4-9
thesmithcenter.com,
702-749-2012

THE EAGLES

MGM Grand
Oct. 11
mgmgrand.com,
702-891-1111

BRUNO MARS

The Chelsea
Oct. 17-18
cosmopolitanlasvegas.com,
877-763-2267

DARIUS RUCKER

Hard Rock Hotel
Oct. 19
hardrockhotel.com,
702-693-5000

EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL CAMEL RACES

Virginia City

Sept. 5-7

visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500



International Camel Races

ELIZABETH CUMMINGS

GREAT RENO BALLOON RACE

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, Reno

Sept. 5-7

renoballoon.com, 775-826-1181

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AIR RACES

Reno-Stead Airport

Sept. 10-14

airrace.org, 775-972-6663

CLASSIC GAMING EXPO

Riviera Hotel & Casino Convention Center, Las Vegas

Sept. 12-14

cgexpo.com, 702-734-5110

TRACTORS & TRUFFLES

Fallon

Sept. 13

visitfallonnevada.com, 775-423-4556

VICTORIAN STEAMPUNK BALL

Piper's Opera House, Virginia City

Sept. 13

highdesertsteam.org, 775-722-8425

BITE AT THE MUSEUM

Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas

Sept. 20

biteatthemuseum.com, 702-486-5205

DOWNTOWN BREW FESTIVAL

Clark County Amphitheater, Las Vegas

Sept. 20

downtownbrewfestival.com,
702-685-9319STATE PARKS DUTCH OVEN
COOK-OFF FINALE

Cathedral Gorge State Park

Sept. 20

parks.nv.gov, 775-728-4460

TASTE OF THE COMSTOCK

Virginia City

Sept. 20

visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

EDIBLE PEDAL 100

Bowers Mansion Regional Park,

Washoe Valley

Sept. 21

ediblepedal100.org, 775-393-9158

EMPTY BOWLS

The Grove, Reno

Sept. 24

communityfoodpantry.com, 775-762-1773

STREET VIBRATIONS FALL RALLY

Reno

Sept. 24-28

roadshowsreno.com, 775-329-7469

RUBY MOUNTAIN BALLOON FESTIVAL

Elko area

Sept. 25-28

rubymountainballoonfestival.com,
775-748-1363LAS VEGAS ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
STAR PARTY

Cathedral Gorge State Park

Sept. 26-27

parks.nv.gov, 775-728-4460

LAS VEGAS GREEK FOOD FESTIVAL

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church, Las Vegas

Sept. 26-28

lasvegasgreekfestival.com, 702-221-8245

150 YEARS OF FASHIONABLE HISTORY

Rancho San Rafael Regional Park, Reno

Sept. 27

nevadawomen.com, 775-826-3612

GALENA FEST

Galena Creek Regional Park, Reno

Sept. 27

renogalenafest.com, 775-853-4050

RENO HARVEST OF HOMES TOUR

Various locations, Reno

Sept. 27

775-747-4478

RYE PATCH NUGGET SHOOT

Rye Patch State Recreation Area

Sept. 27

parks.nv.gov, 775-538-7321

GENOA CANDY DANCE

Genoa

Sept. 27-28

genoanevada.org, 775-782-8696

LAS VEGAS BIKEFEST

Cashman Center, Las Vegas

Oct. 2-5

lasvegasbikefest.com, 866-245-3337

FASTEST GUN ALIVE WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIP FAST DRAW

Churchill County Fairgrounds, Fallon

Oct. 3-5

cowboyfastdraw.com, 775-575-1802

NV150 WESTERN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

Victorian Square, Sparks

Oct. 4

westernheritagefestival.org, 775-355-1144

ART IN THE PARK

Boulder City

Oct. 4-5

bchcares.org, 702-293-0214

CELTIC CELEBRATION

Reno

Oct. 4-5

renoceltic.org

HAUNTED GHOST TRAINS

East Ely Railway Depot, Ely
Oct. 4, 11, 18, 24-25
nnry.com, 775-289-2085

REDRUN II

Virginia City
Oct. 11
visitvirginiacitynv.com, 775-847-7500

PARK TO PEDAL-EXTREME NEVADA 100

Caliente
Oct. 11
lincolncountynevada.com, 775-728-4460

RAPPEL PLANET HOLLYWOOD

Planet Hollywood Resort & Casino,
Las Vegas
Oct. 11
rappelplanethollywood.com,
702-474-0690

ELDORADO GREAT ITALIAN FESTIVAL

Eldorado Resort Casino, Reno
Oct. 11-12
eldoradoreno.com, 775-786-5700

CLASSIX TWO HOME MEANS NEVADA CONCERT

Pioneer Center for the Performing Arts,
Reno
Oct. 11-12, 14
renophil.com, 775-323-6393

MAKERS: NEVADA WOMEN IN HISTORY

Mirage Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas
Oct. 15
wrinunlv.org, 702-895-4391

VEGAS VALLEY BOOK FESTIVAL

Downtown Las Vegas
Oct. 16-18
vegasvalleybookfestival.org

CARSON CITY GHOST WALK

Carson City
Oct. 18
carsoncityghostwalk.com, 775-348-6279



PROFESSIONAL BULL RIDERS WORLD FINALS

Thomas & Mack Center, Las Vegas
Oct. 22-26
pbr.com, 719-242-2800

CIVIL WAR DAYS IN THE BATTLE BORN STATE

Spring Mountain Ranch State Park
Oct. 24-Nov. 11
co.eureka.nv.us, 775-237-6026

PUMPKINS IN THE PARK

Kershaw-Ryan State Park
Oct. 25
parks.nv.gov, 775-728-4460

SHOWS

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVISITED

Peppermill Concert Hall, Wendover
Sept. 13
wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

RENO SINGS UNDER THE STARS

Bartley Ranch Regional Park, Reno
Sept. 13
silverdollarchorus.com, 775-387-0308

COLBIE CAILLAT

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Sept. 19
grandsierraresort.com, 800-648-3568

CLAIRY BROWNE & THE BANGIN' RACKETTES

Whitney Peak Hotel, Reno
Sept. 20
whiteneypeakhotel.com, 775-398-5400

PETER FRAMPTON

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Sept. 20
grandsierraresort.com, 800-648-3568

OAK RIDGE BOYS

Peppermill Concert Hall, Wendover
Sept. 26
wendoverfun.com, 800-217-0049

THE BAND PERRY

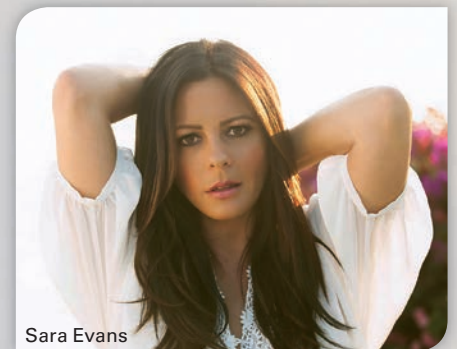
Primm Valley Casino Resorts, Primm
Oct. 3
primmvalleyresorts.com, 702-386-7867

TOBY KEITH

Reno Events Center, Reno
Oct. 19
eldoradoreno.com, 775-786-5700

SARA EVANS

Grand Sierra Resort, Reno
Oct. 24
grandsierraresort.com, 800-648-3568



TRAMPLED BY TURTLES

Whitney Peak Hotel, Reno
Oct. 25
whiteneypeakhotel.com, 775-398-5400

SPECTRA

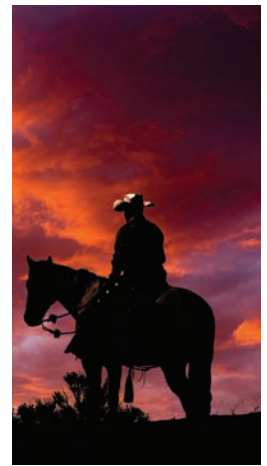
Eldorado Resort Casino, Reno
Through Nov. 9
eldoradoreno.com, 775-786-5700



*Check out our Nevada Day events
listing on page 49.*

THE PHOTOGRAPHY OF JERRY FENWICK

RENO RESIDENT DISPLAYS ARTWORK AT NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY.



Sitting on a wooden stool more than 60 years ago, award-winning Reno photographer Jerry Fenwick watched his father navigate his darkroom, which was dug by hand under his family's California home. The elder Fenwick developed film and made prints, teaching his son a love of history and photography at the same time.

A Reno resident for more than 60 years, Fenwick is nationally recognized and considered one of Washoe County's most accomplished and respected photographers. He grew up in the family's downtown art business, developing his craft and learning to restore, collect, and protect the images of his community's past.

His latest exhibition of nature photos depicting local birds, animals, and flowers is a gift to the community. On display at the Nevada Historical Society through Sept. 27, the collection is set to be sold, with all proceeds donated to the Society for continuing programs.

"I grow most of my own floral subjects and I have landscaped my backyard to encourage birds to visit, stay long enough to be photographed, and sometimes raise a family," Fenwick says. Some of his earlier work was displayed at the 1964-65 World's Fair in New York City.

PLAN YOUR TRIP

Photography of Jerry Fenwick

Nevada Historical Society, Reno

Through Sept. 27

museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-688-1190

EVENTS & EXHIBITS

EXPRESSING THE RURAL WEST

Western Folklife Center, Elko

Through Sept. 8

westernfolklife.org, 775-738-7508

HUMBLE VESSEL

CCAI Courthouse Gallery, Carson City

Through Sept. 11

arts4nevada.org, 775-721-7424

NANCY PEPPIN WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

St. Mary's Art Center, Virginia City

Sept. 16

stmarysartcenter.org, 775-847-7774

FRANCES HUMPHREY LECTURE SERIES: THE WILDERNESS ACT AND GREAT BASIN NATIONAL PARK

Nevada State Museum, Carson City

Sept. 25

museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-4810

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOURS IN NATURAL HISTORY

Nevada State Museum, Carson City

Sept. 26

museums.nevadaculture.org, 775-687-4810

WILD WOMEN ARTISTS SHOW & SALE

The Summit, Reno

Oct. 24-26

wildwomenartists.com, 775-853-7800

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION DISPLAY

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno

Various times, Oct. 30-Nov. 2

nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333

THE 36TH STAR: NEVADA'S JOURNEY FROM TERRITORY TO STATE

Nevada Museum of Art, Reno

Through Nov. 2

nevadaart.org, 775-329-3333



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Just call (775) 538-7093 to schedule a tour and meet our residents. We will provide you with detailed directions to find us. We do not charge for admission, but donations are greatly appreciated!

"Tee Off For Tigers"

Register your foursome for our Oct 17th, Wolf Run Benefit Golf Outing! \$10,000 hole-in-one cash prize at the 135 yard! All proceeds support our rescue services and educational outreach programs.

www.safehavenwildlife.com
safehavenwildlife@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/safehavenwildlife

NEVADA A WORLD WITHIN.
A STATE APART.

Winnemucca, NV

There's More Than Meets the Eye...



Western States Ranch Rodeo National Finals



October 30 - November 2, 2014
Winnemucca Events Complex

Upcoming Events

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Part VII: To War and Beyond

Plunged back into the nation's conflicts, Nevada solidifies itself as a worldwide destination with the help of some infamous assistance.

BY RON SOODALTER

Nevada emerged from the Great Depression in 1939 with barely enough time to catch its breath before being plunged into World War II. Since the 1920s, Nevada had subscribed enthusiastically to America's policy of isolationism. However, as the nation's former allies were being dragged into the war, Nevadans' attitudes began to change. Nowhere was this more evident than in Congress. Throughout the 1930s, Key Pittman—Nevada's senior senator and chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee—had been a strong advocate of isolationism and of an arms embargo; by 1939, however, he reversed himself. During that year's heated congressional debate over the Neutrality Act, he strongly acknowledged that America needed to involve itself in current world affairs.

In the fall of 1940, for the first time in history, Congress instituted a peacetime draft, calling for the induction of 900,000 men between 21 and 36 years of age and stipulating a one-year term of service. A day was set aside for draft registration, and parades and rallies were held throughout the state. Patriotic fervor continued to grow, and in July 1941, Nevada's Veterans of Foreign Wars advocated an immediate declaration of war against Germany and Italy, and an extension of the draft. The following month, Congress tacked another six months onto the length of service, and when Japan dropped its bombs four

months later, Nevadans in uniform joined the rest of the nation seeking redress in battle.

In fact, Nevada offered a great deal more to the war effort than just its soldiers. By the time the armistice was signed, Nevada had contributed as much as, if not more than, any other state to ensure victory over the Axis powers. And as it provided products, services, and labor for the war effort, Nevada benefited immeasurably.

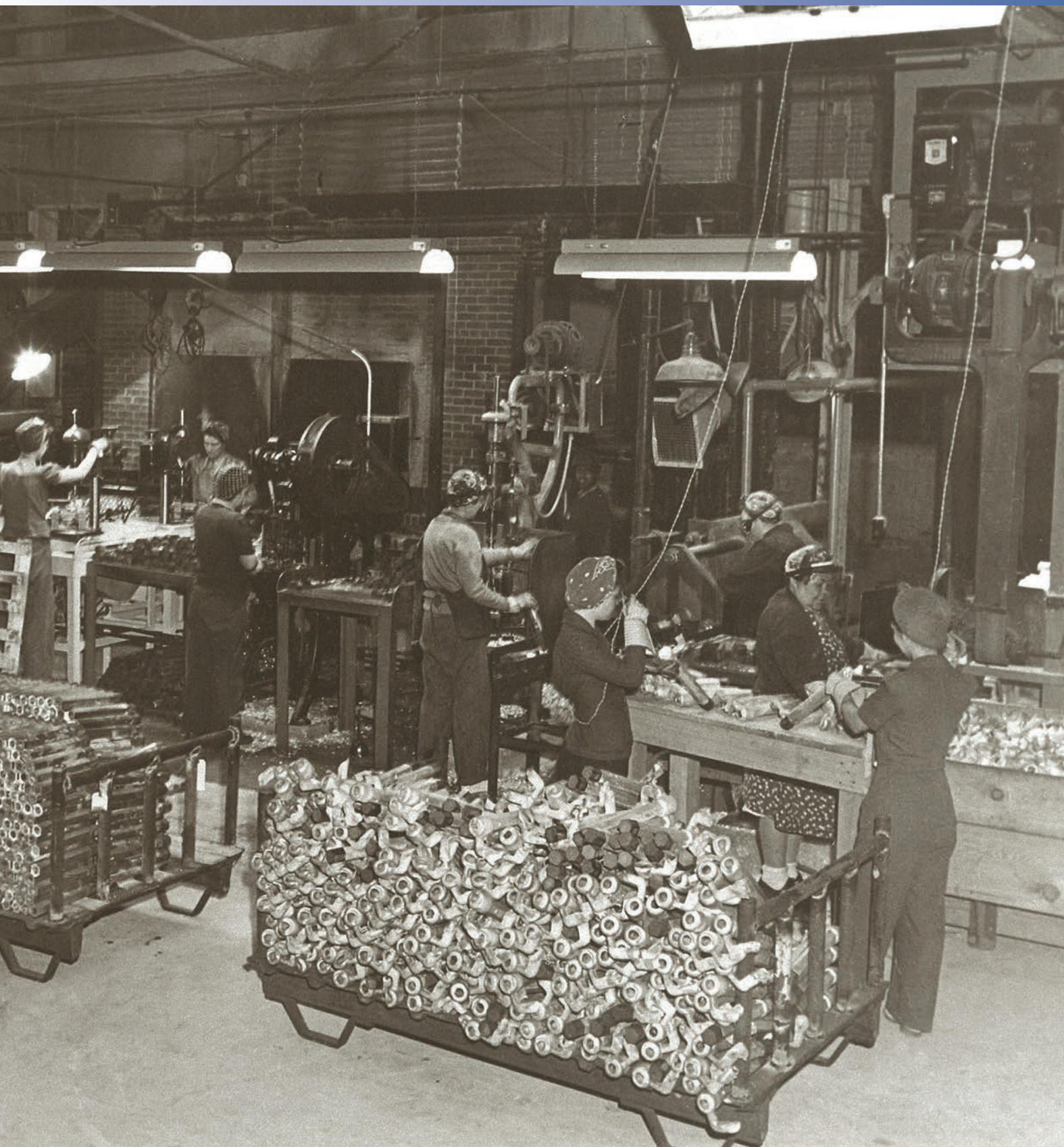
THE MINERAL BOOM

Not surprisingly, Nevada's mining industry played a huge role in the war, as it had in the past, providing much-needed metals in World War I. Now, copper and other minerals were being shipped to beleaguered nations in Europe and the Far East as early as 1939—two years before America's entry into the war—and by 1940, the state's mineral production peaked at an impressive \$43,864,107. The number of jobs in the copper industry increased significantly, and the salaries of the Nevada Consolidated Copper Corporation's employees rose with the demand. By the time Japan bombed Pearl Harbor, the mining industry of Nevada was well placed to supply its country's mineral needs.

In mid-1940, Nevada established county defense councils to address the nation's needs at the grassroots level. They initiated a scrap-aluminum drive throughout the state, which over the next few years was expanded to include a number of other materials. Nevadans responded enthusiastically. As historian Russell R. Elliott observed: "Schoolyards often gave the impression of junkyards rather than playgrounds as the students joined adults in the collection of scrap materials."

In July 1941, work began near Las Vegas on a \$150-billion plant—contracted by the





UNR SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Basic Magnesium, Inc. plant in Henderson, staffed mostly by women in this 1943 photo, played a crucial role in the war effort. Magnesium was a vital ingredient in alloys used to construct aircraft fuselages, engine parts, and wheels.

Defense Plant Corporation—for the generation of magnesium. Basic Magnesium, Inc. (BMI), as the new plant was labeled, was a division of a Midwestern enterprise called Basic Refractories, which held crucial mineral deposits in Nye County. The contract stipulated that BMI—powered by Hoover Dam—would provide 112 million pounds of magnesium to the War Department annually. Magnesium—referred to during the war alternately as the ‘wonder metal’ and the ‘miracle metal’—was alloyed with aluminum, and used in the manufacture of airplanes, incendiary bombs, flares, and ammunition.

The plant officially opened in September 1941, just three months prior to America’s entry into the war. It created thousands of jobs and provided 25 percent of the country’s magnesium. At its height, BMI was producing some 5 million pounds of magnesium ingots per day.

The town of Henderson sprang up around the plant and thrived along with the demand for magnesium. The end of the war would signal the end of the magnesium boom, and many of Henderson’s residents soon left to find work elsewhere. But with the help of the state government, the town bounced back with a vengeance. Today, Henderson is the second largest city in Nevada.

PROTECTING HOOVER DAM

The importance of protecting the highest structure of its kind in the world, and safeguarding the indispensable role it played in the war effort was not lost on the federal government. In addition to its intended functions of storing irrigation water, providing flood control, and supplying power to portions of Nevada, Arizona, and California, it also drove the Basic Magnesium plants, and various defense plants where airplanes and other armaments were being fabricated 24 hours a day.

Government agencies, however, often couldn’t decide where their responsibilities toward the dam began or ended. Files from the National Archives and Records Administration tell the fascinating story of

the federal government’s generally uncoordinated and less-than-optimal efforts to protect Hoover Dam.

That the dam was a viable target for both sabotage and air attack was obvious. In 1939, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, which had designed and built the dam, was assigned the virtually impossible job of protecting it. One of its first steps was to create a nine-man force of rangers, deputized as U.S. marshals, to patrol the dam. Soon after, the National Park Service was brought in to oversee activity on Lake Mead.

By this time, Adolf Hitler’s aggressive policies in Europe had many government officials on edge. The Secretary of War—who was of the opinion the dam’s employees represented the greatest potential threat—suggested to the Secretary of the Interior that employees be regularly screened, and that no one be allowed to carry parcels of any kind into the dam. The Interior Secretary responded that his department lacked the funds for such a program.

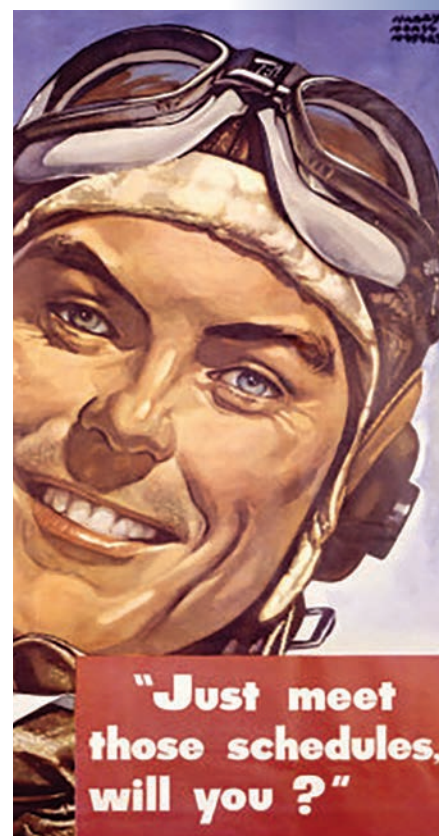
Then on Nov. 30, 1939, the threat to Hoover Dam became real. That night, the State Department received word that the U.S. Embassy in Mexico had unearthed a plot to bomb the dam. According to intelligence, two German spies living in Las Vegas made several visits to the dam and were preparing to destroy its intake towers. Their plan was to approach their targets by boat, disguised as fishermen.

The Bureau of Reclamation immediately suspended all private boat traffic on Lake Mead and imposed severe restrictions on visitor and employee access to the dam. The Bureau beefed up its ranger staff to 39, while the National Park Service increased patrols on the lake. Floodlights were installed to illuminate the dam’s most vulnerable spots, and a huge steel mesh net was hung to prevent boats from approaching within 100 yards of the structure. The measures discouraged the saboteurs.

In January 1940, Reclamation Commissioner John Page asked Director of the FBI J. Edgar Hoover to evaluate the security



Two examples of World War II posters, extolling the importance of raw metals production and munitions plants to the war effort.



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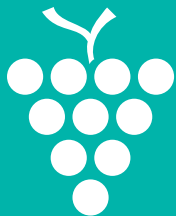
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of the dam and powerhouse, and make practical suggestions for its improvement. Hoover submitted a report containing 38 recommendations. Some were impractical, others unaffordable; but a number of suggestions were well-founded, including the installation of metal gates at both the Nevada and Arizona entrances to allow manned inspection stations; a training program, to be given by the FBI—for rangers and appropriate personnel; and closer scrutiny of visitors, packages, and vehicles. Ultimately, a number of the improvements were implemented, including construction of the metal gates.

In February 1940, the War Department confidentially informed Reclamation that another plot had been uncovered, and that “life and death orders have been given by Berlin to put L.A. in the black.” German agents had traveled from Havana to Miami, and then to Long Beach. “Unless quick action is taken,” warned the Secretary of War, “some terminal transformer station somewhere near Boulder Dam and another station in Los Angeles are doomed to be sabotaged.”

Although nothing came of this threat, other suspicious events occurred, including an incident in which a sniper fired at a National Park Service patrol boat, narrowly missing the ranger aboard. Again, more men were added to the ranger staff.

Meanwhile, the Interior Secretary requested that the War Department provide soldiers to conduct regular patrols at the dam. Secretary of War Harold Stimson refused, on the grounds that “it would be uneconomical and unsound to dissipate our military strength using troops, which should be training for combat...” The Reclamation commissioner then made his own bid for assistance, asking for a supply of small arms and ammunition to be assigned to the rangers. Again, the Secretary of War refused, stating all weapons would be needed by the Army.

In late 1940, the War Department announced the building of Camp Sibert at Boulder City, as a military police training encampment. Rumors ignited, claiming the 800 military police and support troops were there to safeguard the dam—rumors legitimized by several national newspapers, including the *Washington Post*. The War Department soon made it amply clear that the new cantonment was not there to protect Hoover Dam. Reclamation and the Army eventually did make a deal, however, whereby troops would man the new entrance gates and go on limited patrols of the switchyards and some of the outbuildings. It wasn’t ideal, but it was better than nothing.

Visitors to the dam came and went unhindered, until the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. The dam was immediately closed



WIKI COMMONS

A machine gun pillbox constructed during World War II to protect Hoover Dam. They were constructed of reinforced concrete that was then veneered with native rock found at each emplacement site, blending the bunkers into the craggy cliff walls to avoid detection.

to visitors, and cars and staff were frequently and thoroughly inspected. Air attacks were greatly feared; consequently, airspace over the dam was restricted. Without enforcement, however, little was done to control air traffic. To Reclamation’s further frustration, the Army refused to specify how its strategy for the defense of the West Coast included protecting Hoover Dam. Tired of waiting, Reclamation explored the possibility of developing its own camouflage and smoke screens, but nothing came of the study.

Meanwhile, the Interior Secretary implored the War Department: “Because the loss of Boulder [Hoover], Parker, and Grand Coulee power plants would be a fatal blow to war production... [and] because the Department of the Interior does not have the facilities for their protection from air assault...I request that the Army assume the entire responsibility for their protection.” More than a month later, Stimson finally replied that the “threat at this time is considered to be limited to nuisance or sporadic air raids by light planes...or at most, medium bombers...under the circumstances I believe...that assumption by the Army of responsibility for...protection of the dams in question is not necessary.”

And so it went. In September 1943, the Army removed the small number of troops who had been manning the guard-posts and patrolling the outer sites. And adding insult to injury, the FBI refused Reclamation’s request to conduct another security evaluation. For the remainder of the war, the Bureau of Reclamation was left alone to safeguard one of the most vital structures in the nation. Finally, by late 1944—with an Allied victory all but certain—concern over security abated, and in August 1945, the site re-opened to visitors.



WIKI COMMONS

McCarran International Airport is now the principal commercial airport serving Las Vegas and Clark County.

PUTTING PLANES IN THE AIR

Shortly after President Roosevelt declared war, the West Coast of the United States became what one historian described as a “great staging arena for the shipment of troops and supplies to battle stations in the Far East.” Nevada was one of the more logical choices, given its geography, available land, favorable weather, and relatively sparse population.

From the very beginning, it was clear that winning the war would depend in large measure on control of the skies. At this juncture, the Air Force was still under the aegis of the U.S. Army, and the Army desperately needed planes and men who could fly them. Starting as early as 1939, the U.S. Army Air Corps began a program of building and expanding already existing airfields in Nevada, such as a crude airfield just north of Las Vegas, which had been built 10 years earlier for use by a private airmail company. It consisted of a rough shack, a well, and a dirt runway. Dubbed McCarran Field in the mid-30s, it was bought by the city of Las Vegas in

early 1941 and leased to the U.S. Army, which immediately began construction of a flight training site and a gunnery training school. Renamed the Las Vegas Army Airfield, it became operational just a few weeks after the declaration of war.

In Fallon, 60 miles east of Reno, there were two runways, each more than 5,000 feet in length. The Navy took them over in 1943 and set about establishing an installation, both for pilot training and to create a buffer against a Japanese air attack from the west. Soon, barracks, hangars, and target ranges were built, and the site was officially designated Naval Air Station Fallon.

The Stead Air Force Base, established just north of Reno in 1942, trained signal companies and eventually became a center for navigation and radio schools. Meanwhile, the Naval Ammunition Depot near Hawthorne, which had received its first shipment of high explosives back in 1930, now became the focus of major activity and growth. The depot rapidly assumed the role of staging area for most of the war effort’s bombs, rockets, and

ammunition, eventually employing some 5,625 persons.

Perhaps the most jinxed of all Nevada’s bases was the huge Tonopah Army Air Field. Built in Nye County seven miles from Tonopah, it initially served as a training center for bomber and fighter squadrons—it was also the site of several fatal crashes. According to the Central Nevada Museum and Historical Society website, “It soon became apparent...that the range could not be used successfully as a fighter training area. Possibly due to Tonopah’s 6,000-foot elevation and design problems with the P-39 Airacobras, the planes and pilots were being lost in crashes at an unacceptable rate. It was decided to change the operation to a high-altitude bomber training base to train crews of the B-24 Liberators.”

Bombers crashed as well. On one day alone, in August 1944, two Liberators crashed within an hour of one another, killing all 18 crewmen. The number of dead airmen continued to climb: the Historical Society website lists the names of 110 men killed in crashes at Tonopah,

adding, “There are undoubtedly other names which were not listed in these sources.” Since the list was first compiled, another 30 names of Tonopah’s crash victims have been discovered, and the search continues.

Crashes and setbacks notwithstanding, Nevada’s military installations built many of the nation’s weapons and trained countless young men in their operation. In the process, the population of the communities near the various bases swelled, with predictably positive results.

AN AMUSEMENT BOOM

With the many thousands of military and civilian personnel required to operate the new military bases, the economy of nearby towns and cities soared. Heretofore modestly sized communities such as Ely and Elko suddenly saw themselves inundated by soldiers on leave, desperate to take their minds off the daily grind of training and the realities of war. For Las Vegas and Reno, already well established as “amusement centers,” it signified a boom the likes of which their citizens had never seen. Gambling and prostitution were legal—the latter only in some counties—and liquor was readily available—all within a short distance of some bases. Civilians who had come to Nevada for steady work at the state’s defense plants added to the growing number of patrons. And when soldiers in California got wind of the delights available just across the state line, they too began to frequent Nevada’s gambling parlors and bordellos.

Finally, the federal government had enough—at least of Nevada’s prostitution laws. Concerned over what its directors perceived as a lapse in morality, the Federal Security Agency prevailed upon local officials to board up the brothels. While some may have believed that this ended large-scale prostitution in the state, the industry merely changed venue, plying its trade in hotel rooms and boarding houses run by liberal and profit-minded managers and landlords.

Another effect of the military presence



WIKI COMMONS

The P-39 Airacobra, manufactured by Bell Aircraft, was one of the principal American fighter aircraft in service when the United States entered World War II.

was a staggering growth in population, mainly for Reno and Las Vegas. In the 10 years beginning in 1940, the population of Las Vegas grew from 8,422 to 24,624—a stunning increase of nearly 200 percent. For its part, Reno increased by more than 50 percent, as Nevada’s overall population demographic went from largely rural to increasingly urban.

As gambling continued to draw visitors by the thousands to Reno and Vegas—although practically every community in the state offered it by now—it was Elko that came up with a formula that would forever alter the way Nevada attracts visitors. The idea, hatched in 1941 by hotel owner and native Nevadan Newton Crumley, Jr., was to hire the biggest entertainers of the day to perform for patrons. Crumley correctly reasoned that even inveterate gamblers would enjoy some time away from the tables and he planned to offer the best entertainment money could buy—and in the process, attract more gamblers to his Commercial Hotel.

The plan paid off in spades. Crumley’s first coup was to book the world-famous Ted Lewis Orchestra for eight days. Although he paid the stunning fee of \$12,000, he was rewarded with standing-room-only crowds and a significant hike in gambling revenues. Soon after, he engaged such stars as the Dorsey Brothers, Lawrence Welk, Sophie Tucker, the Andrews Sisters, and Paul Whiteman. It couldn’t get any better.

It didn’t take the casino owners in Reno and Las Vegas long to get the message, and they soon followed suit, reclaiming their positions as the state’s primary attractions. Nevada soon added “entertainment hub” to its list of attractions, and tourist travel to the state increased dramatically. By the end of the war, with such clubs as the Frontier, the Golden Nugget, and the Mint running around the clock, Las Vegas established itself as the center of Nevada’s tourist business.

As gambling continued to become big business, the State Tax Commission



NEVADA STATE MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Most of the landmarks in this early 1950s photo of downtown Las Vegas now exist only in memory, including the Eldorado, Boulder, and Savoy Clubs. The Golden Nugget is still a cornerstone of Fremont Street.

enriched Nevada's coffers by levying a 1 percent tax on all gambling. In 1947, the state legislature raised the tax to 2 percent, and added table fees to the mix. In 1949-1950, the state's take from gambling taxes and table fees reached an impressive \$1,211,194. By this time, however, another presence existed on the Las Vegas gambling scene: organized crime.

ENTER THE MOB

If we believe the movies, Las Vegas in the late 1940s was a sleepy little cowboy town, with a slot machine or two in a local bar—that is, until a handsome New York psychopath named Benjamin “Bugsy” Siegel appeared on the scene. Envisioning a gambling oasis in the desert, he created the Flamingo, a fabulous hotel and casino.

In fact, Las Vegas was doing very well with nationally known casinos and

big-name entertainment, long before Mr. Siegel and his cronies arrived. The Flamingo was not even Siegel's idea; it was the brainchild of a Hollywood nightclub owner named William Wilkerson. Siegel merely acquired the unfinished Flamingo—with Mob backing—when Wilkerson ran out of funds.

The Mob had had a presence in Las Vegas for years, but it was limited. As early as 1942, Siegel had come to the area to gain control of the Las Vegas racing wire services. What Siegel, along with his fellow thug Meyer Lansky, managed to accomplish with his expensive—and ultimately fatal—development of the Flamingo in 1946 was the involvement of the Mob as club and hotel owners. And once they attained a foothold, the rest was history. In short order, they controlled every aspect of Las Vegas nightlife.

By the early 1950s, the involvement of

organized crime in Las Vegas had become so egregious that the Senate convened a committee, under Estes Kefauver, to investigate the situation. Concluding that the Mob did indeed control much of the city, the Senate proposed a measure providing for federal control of gambling. The measure was defeated in large part due to the efforts of Nevada's powerful Senator Pat McCarran. While there is no actual documentation, a number of chroniclers have posited that the corrupt Senator Geary of “The Godfather” films was based on McCarran.

Through the early-to-mid 50s—using “clean” money and often fronted by legitimate businesses and banking institutions—the Mob built or assumed control of a number of high-end casinos and hotels, including the Sahara, the Sands, the Riviera, the New Frontier, and the Tropicana. The practice of bringing in

big-name entertainers continued, and by the late 50s and early 60s, patrons could enjoy gourmet food and the finest wines while attending shows by such world-class celebrities as Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and Dean Martin, as well as Elvis Presley, Bing Crosby, Carroll Channing, and Liberace. Hundreds of millions of dollars a year were being funneled through Vegas's casinos and hotels. Gambling had become Nevada's largest commercial enterprise; it now remained for the state to regain control of its regulation.

TESTING MASS DESTRUCTION

Another economic boon, albeit of a more devastating nature, came to Nevada after the war. The federal government consistently allocated financial aid and job-creating projects to the state since the Great Depression, but it outdid itself in December 1950. The U.S. Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) chose Frenchman Flat, just 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas, as the site of the Nevada Proving Grounds—the primary installation in the United States for testing nuclear bombs. The Cold War was ramping up, citizens were terrified of a nuclear attack, and all the stops were pulled out in the quest for the perfect weapon.

More than a century before, the test site's community of Mercury was a tiny oasis for mercury miners and desert rats. "There," wrote one chronicler, "the local miners gathered...to indulge in drink and an occasional bath, and a brief escape from the rigors of the desert heat." Due to the highly sensitive nature of the AEC's work, Mercury became a closed town, its workers a far cry from the hard-rock miners who peopled the Comstock, or the raw-boned towns of Goldfield and Tonopah. Historian Elliott described the site as a "boom camp, whose inhabitants are trained workmen, engineers, and scientists, working with the most sophisticated equipment yet produced."

In January 1951—less than one month after the test site was established—the first nuclear bomb was dropped on the nearly



UNIVERSITY OF LAS VEGAS, SPECIAL COLLECTION

In the 1950s and 1960s, the Sands Hotel in Las Vegas was host to popular entertainers who graced the stage at the Copa Lounge, including Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., Tony Bennett, and Dean Martin.

1,400-square-mile testing ground. That test was the first nuclear explosion to be televised. The flash was seen as far away as San Francisco.

Initially, the tests were conducted above ground. The government arbitrarily established a 125-mile perimeter as the distance from communities at which nuclear bombs could be safely detonated, ignoring the fact that Las Vegas lay well within the boundaries of this "safety zone."

According to Online Nevada Encyclopedia, testing expanded to include other nearby locations. "Nuclear weapons tests occurred in four regions within the Test Site: Frenchman Flat, Yucca Flat, Rainier Mesa, and Pahute Mesa. Three types of tests were conducted: weapons effects, weapons design, and tests involving the military who conducted operations near ground zero for the purpose of developing battleground tactics and strategies."

One of the tests involved monitoring the effects on humans. To this end, the government stationed unprotected ground

troops as close as 2,500 yards from the detonation, and then moved them closer after the blast. Predictably, the tests resulted in inordinately high numbers of cancer cases among the soldiers and members of the local communities.

At first, the mushroom-shaped clouds of the detonations fascinated the public, and many of the early tests—which were visible from as far away as Las Vegas—had an outdoor audience. For years, people either didn't realize, or chose to ignore, the potential dangers of fallout from above-ground or "atmospheric" nuclear testing, and downwind communities suffered a massive increase in various forms of cancer.

By 1957, the effects of radiation were undeniable, and atmospheric testing was gradually discontinued. Beginning in late 1962, the government finally responded to international pressure, and moved all nuclear detonations underground. However, underground testing caused its own concerns. Very real fears were raised over

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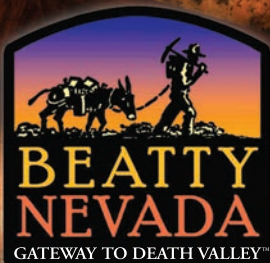
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LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

A mushroom cloud appears on the Las Vegas horizon after an aboveground nuclear detonation was set off in November 1951 at the Nevada Test Site. The photo earned *Life* magazine's "Picture of the Week" honors for Las Vegas News Bureau photographer Don English.

possible seismic events and potential contamination of water sources. In September 1992, the federal government called a halt to all underground detonations as well. By this time, some 1,021 nuclear detonations had taken place at the site, the great majority of them underground. It is still however, a very active site. According to the University of Nevada, Las Vegas' Oral History Program, "Subcritical [non-nuclear] tests and other forms of national security programs are still conducted at the Nevada Test Site."

On the plus side, the placement of the Proving Grounds in Nevada resulted in an ongoing boost to the state's economy. In 1956, Nevada's employment rolls and revenues were further enhanced when the federal government chose the test site for the building of nuclear reactor engines for NASA. These were used in spacecraft and as rocket propellants well into the late

1970s, when the space program fell on slack times.

BOOM AND BUST...YET AGAIN

For the third time, a major war involving the United States created a boom in Nevada's mining industry. Demand for the state's minerals, primarily copper, had caused production to soar, swelling the ranks of employees and raising salaries. When the war ended in 1945, there was little reason to think that things would change for the worse—unless, of course, one was a student of history. No single mining strike in Nevada's history survived into the modern age. As one chronicler put it, the "rude, dusty towns" of the early days "soon collapsed into ghostly ruins."

Nonetheless, despite a brief downturn, Nevada's mineral production achieved record levels, thanks to the demand generat-

ed by the Korean War. From 1950 to 1975, copper once again dominated the scene. It was responsible for half the state's mineral output. Fresh deposits of copper were found, and it was being mined in new sites as well as the old. Meanwhile, additional minerals were mined and processed as well: tungsten, iron ore, and mercury. And for the first time, Nevada became an oil-producing state in 1954, albeit on a minor scale, with Shell Oil's drilling of a well—Eagle Springs No. 1-35—in Nye County, 50 miles southwest of Ely.

After a drop-off following the Korean War, copper production picked up again with the U.S. involvement in Vietnam. It appeared that as long as America went to war, there was money to be made from Nevada's mineral deposits.

In 1965, one of the first large open-pit gold mines was developed near Carlin. It was followed in 1969 by another in



The Robinson Mine is a wholly owned operation located approximately 13 kilometers west of Ely in the semi-arid climate of White Pine Country.

the Cortez mining district 60 miles to the southwest. After an absence of many years, Nevada had again become one of the country's major gold producers.

That same year, a third copper-rich area was being developed in the aptly named Copper Canyon, south of Battle Mountain. However, by the middle of the next decade—despite the fact that it entered the 1970s still leading in Nevada's mineral production—copper was dying a swift death, as demand virtually disappeared. The year 1977 saw the closing of the Victoria mine, followed the next year by Weed Heights and Battle Mountain. By decade's end, copper production in the state was virtually over, after a reign of more than 60 years as Nevada's leading mineral.

Still, Nevada managed to maintain a strong mining presence, through the

production of a number of other minerals. Gypsum was being extracted from Arden, Apex, and Gerlach, while barite mines were being worked in Lander, Elko, and Nye counties. And the state was still producing serious amounts of diatomite, borax, sand, gravel, limestone, silica, fluor-spar, and perlite.

By the end of the 1970s, encouraged by a new high in worldwide metal prices, Nevadans were predicting a boom to surpass those of Tonopah, Goldfield, and the Comstock. But mining trends were anything but predictable, and once again, the Silver State would be given a bitter lesson in the true meaning of "boom and bust." ▾

COMING UP NOV./DEC. 2014

In Part VIII we will look at the current and future state of Nevada, with an eye to where we are, and where we are going. We will read what Governor Brian Sandoval thinks are his state's greatest challenges, and what he sees as Nevada's future. We will chronicle the endless and often frustrating quest for Nevada's rarest, most precious commodity: water. And we will put in perspective the tremendous distance covered, in a relatively short time, from the land that nobody wanted, to the state that encompasses the most popular tourist mecca in the entire world.

PHOTO CONTEST *Winners*



Grand Prize

"I Believe in Burning Man"

Eleanor Preger, Lake Tahoe
eleanorpreger.com

The annual Burning Man event in Black Rock City presents many special and artistic photographic opportunities, and photographer Eleanor Preger captured a beauty. "I took a lot of photos around the Believe installation," Preger says. "This lovely young lady from Ukraine caught my eye as she was dancing around with her red umbrella. At Burning Man, you don't need music to dance."

Camera: Canon EOS 5D
Mark III
Lens: 24-105 mm
Tripod: No
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/750
ISO: 100
HDR: No







2nd Place ♦ “Hazen Blue Bug Reflection” ♦ Robert Petersen, Fallon

Photographer Robert Petersen snapped this image of a market in Hazen during January 2014. “I was on my way to Reno from Fallon, and a rainstorm the night before left large mud puddles everywhere,” Petersen says. “I was late for my appointment, but got some wonderful images with the reflections in the mud puddles in Hazen.” Hazen is located east of Fernley.



Camera: Panasonic Lumix DMC-ZS10

Lens: 28 mm

Tripod: No

Aperture: f/5.6

Shutter Speed: 1/400

ISO: 100

HDR: Yes



3rd Place ♦ “Autumn Star” ♦ Michael Lindberg, Reno ♦ stoneflyphotography.com

After visiting this location several times, Reno photographer Michael Lindberg was able to capture this captivating shot of the Truckee River west of Reno. “At another time of year, this scene may not have been as dramatic, but the golden glow from the cottonwoods and bunny bush made for a beautiful color display,” Lindberg says. “I believe this scene exemplifies the magical beauty of Nevada during the fall season.”



Camera: Pentax K-5 IIs
Lens: 15 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/18
Shutter Speed: .5 sec
ISO: 100
HDR: No



4th Place

“Tough Life”

Jens Peermann, Carson City
peermann.com

Carson City photographer Jens Peermann snapped this photo of a residential building at Berlin-Ichthyosaur State Park. According to Peermann, the building was occupied until the 1950s. “The scene reminds me of paintings by 19th century impressionist painter Carl Spitzweg,” Peermann says. “I processed it to achieve a similar visual impact, with fading pastels and soft shadows.”



Camera: Canon EOS 5D
Mark II
Lens: 21 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/8
Shutter Speed: 1/40
ISO: 200
HDR: No

Honorable Mentions...



"East Shore Tahoe December Evening" ♦ Steve Ellsworth, Reno ♦ sellsworth.deviantart.com/gallery/

This peaceful image was captured in December 2013 just north of Sand Harbor. Steve Ellsworth—a professor at Sierra Nevada College in Truckee, Calif.—saw the opportunity to take this photo and seized it. "When I realized that an excellent sunset was developing, I told my trustworthy students that I would be gone for a bit and that they could call my cell phone if they had questions," Ellsworth says.



Camera: Canon EOS 6D
Lens: 17-40 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/16
Shutter Speed: 1/8
ISO: 100
HDR: Yes



"Color Storm"

Jim Snyder, Yerington

jim-snyder.artistwebsites.com

"We almost missed this one," photographer Jim Snyder says. While traveling with his wife hoping to capture a colorful sunset image at Valley of Fire State Park near Overton, Jim was presented the perfect scenery for the shot. "Just as we reached the highest point on the route, the stormy sky and setting sun conspired to create this image. We jumped out and started shooting madly without benefit of tripod or preparation."



Camera: Canon EOS 6D
Lens: 24-105 mm
Tripod: No
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 1/400
ISO: 100
HDR: No

Austin, Nevada. Take a taste at "Prospectors Dream Wine Walk"



Plan a trip to Austin on **September 13th, 2014** for our annual Prospectors Dream Wine Walk. This is truly a unique experience where wine lovers can enjoy both a sip of wine and a taste of our town. The walk begins at 2:00 PM at the Austin Museum and continues on to several locations along our historic Main Street. A hay wagon will pick everyone up at 5:00 and take them to Stokes Castle for a sunset dinner. Following dinner, we'll make a toast with special souvenir wine glasses, then ride back to town. It's time to take a taste of Austin!



Tickets are available at the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce office for \$30.00 and includes the wine walk and dinner. For sunset dinner only, the cost is \$10.00.

The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce ~ 775.964.2200 ~ AustinNevada.com



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“Black Light Memories”

Lee Molof, Reno

leemolofphotography.com

Photographer Lee Molof captured this stormy scene on May 22 near the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge near Fallon.

“The image is looking toward the hills to the east of Stillwater during a particularly violent thunderstorm,” Molof says.



Camera: Canon EOS 7D

Lens: 11-16 mm

Tripod: No

Aperture: f/7.1

Shutter Speed: 1/80

ISO: 100

HDR: No

“Pink Canyon”

Greg Jacobs, Las Vegas

westernimagesandlight.com

“We had made several trips to Pink Canyon in hopes of finding all of the elements of light and color coming together in a way that I had envisioned,” says photographer Greg Jacobs of the canyon located in Valley of Fire State Park near Las Vegas. “The combination of light, reflection, and sky all came together and my vision of Pink Canyon was created,” he adds. “I had always felt that Pink Canyon was a perfect representation of the color and diversity of the Nevada Landscape.”



Camera: Nikon D700

Lens: Nikon 24-120 mm

Tripod: Yes

Aperture: f/18

Shutter Speed: 1/25

ISO: 100

HDR: No





"Sand Harbor Sunset" ♦ Glenn Sanderson, Incline Village ♦ facebook.com/glenn.sanderson1

After moving to Lake Tahoe for a job six years ago, photographer Glenn Sanderson decided to call Nevada his home. "When the job moved, I decided to stay because of the great beauty of this place," Sanderson says. He captured this photo of Sand Harbor in June of 2013, during an epic sunset shoot. "The image was shot and processed in RAW format to maintain shadow detail while shooting into the bright sky," he adds.



Camera: Nikon D800
Lens: 24-70 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/10
Shutter Speed: 1/20
ISO: 100
HDR: No



"Rural Decay: The Past is Gone but not Forgotten"

Bill Cunningham, Reno
cunnphoto.com

Photographer Bill Cunningham captured this shot of Toulon processing mill located approximately 20 miles west of Lovelock. According to Cunningham, the mill was used to process tungsten and other metals. "I pass it a few times a month and this time there happened to be a large storm over the Toulon and Humboldt lakes just south and west of Derby Field," he says.



Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens: 24-105 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: F/5.0
Shutter Speed: 1/100
ISO: 100
HDR: No



“Electric Sandstone” ♦ Lara Matthews, Las Vegas ♦ westernimagesandlight.com

“As nightfall inched closer, a tender osculation of light caressed the sandstone structure,” says photographer Lara Matthews when describing her capture of this image taken in Valley of Fire State Park. “It was almost as if the ridges had become electrified. This juxtaposition of electric light on sandstone is one of many incredible sights to witness during sunset at Valley of Fire State Park.”



Camera: Canon EOS 6D
Lens: 20 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/18
Shutter Speed: 1/5
ISO: 125
HDR: No



"Whistling Dixie" ♦ Neil Lockhart, Reno ♦ neillockhartphotography.com

As the grand prize winner of the 2013 Great Nevada Picture Hunt, photographer Neil Lockhart's camerawork continues to captivate. While on an outing in Dixie Valley with several friends he has met through the Nevada Photographers Facebook page, Lockhart captured this stunning image. "The shot took about two hours to complete," Lockhart says. "Various compositions and lighting strategies were tried and tested resulting in this mix of gelled speedlights, flashlights, and LED headlamps. We had to wait till around 2 a.m. for the Milky Way to rise, but its inclusion was well worth the lack of sleep!"



Camera: Canon EOS 5D Mark II
Lens: 24-70 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/5.6
Shutter Speed: 30 Seconds
ISO: 400
HDR: No



"Tranquil Sunset"

Mario Lopez, Carson City
[flickr.com/photos/tottz-images/](https://www.flickr.com/photos/tottz-images/)

"I was coming home from a road trip and as I entered Smith Valley, the air was filled with the smell of fresh-cut alfalfa and I could see the sun peeking over the mountains," says Mario Lopez, who captured this fresh scene in May. "A sense of calm came over me and I knew I needed to pull over and take a picture. I wanted to capture the beauty that was before me to share."



Camera: Nikon D7000
Lens: focal 18 mm
Tripod: No
Aperture: f/10
Shutter Speed: 1/400
ISO: 100
HDR: No

“Joshua Trees in the Glow of Las Vegas”

Mike Wetzel, Henderson
mikewetzelphotography.com

Henderson photographer Mike Wetzel created this image—taken near Searchlight—using a long exposure and light painting in the foreground. “The most beautiful part was where the Milky Way met the northern horizon and the orange glow of the clouds from the Las Vegas lights,” Wetzel says. “This combination of the glowing clouds and Milky Way provided a dramatic backdrop for the Joshua trees.”



Camera: Canon EOS 6D
Lens: 16 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/2.8
Shutter Speed: 30
ISO: 6400 (Sky); 100 (foreground)
HDR: Yes



“Hoye Canyon”

Mark Niebauer, Carson City
tahoesooter.com

In April 2011, photographer Mark Niebauer created this unique shot by stitching together multiple images, using a custom build clamp to maximize the height of his camera. “I used a ladder I had with me on the side of the road to get a higher perspective and waited for sunset,” Niebauer says. A truly dedicated photographer, Niebauer put himself in harm’s way to capture this shot. “My ladder was so close to the edge of a large drop off that I had to be very steady so as to not rock it over. Another inch and emergency services would have been needed.”



Camera: Canon EOS 5D
Lens: 17 mm
Tripod: Yes
Aperture: f/14
Shutter Speed: 1/10
ISO: 100
HDR: Yes



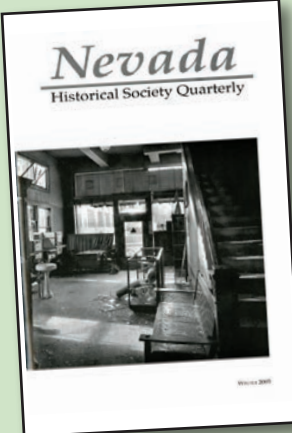
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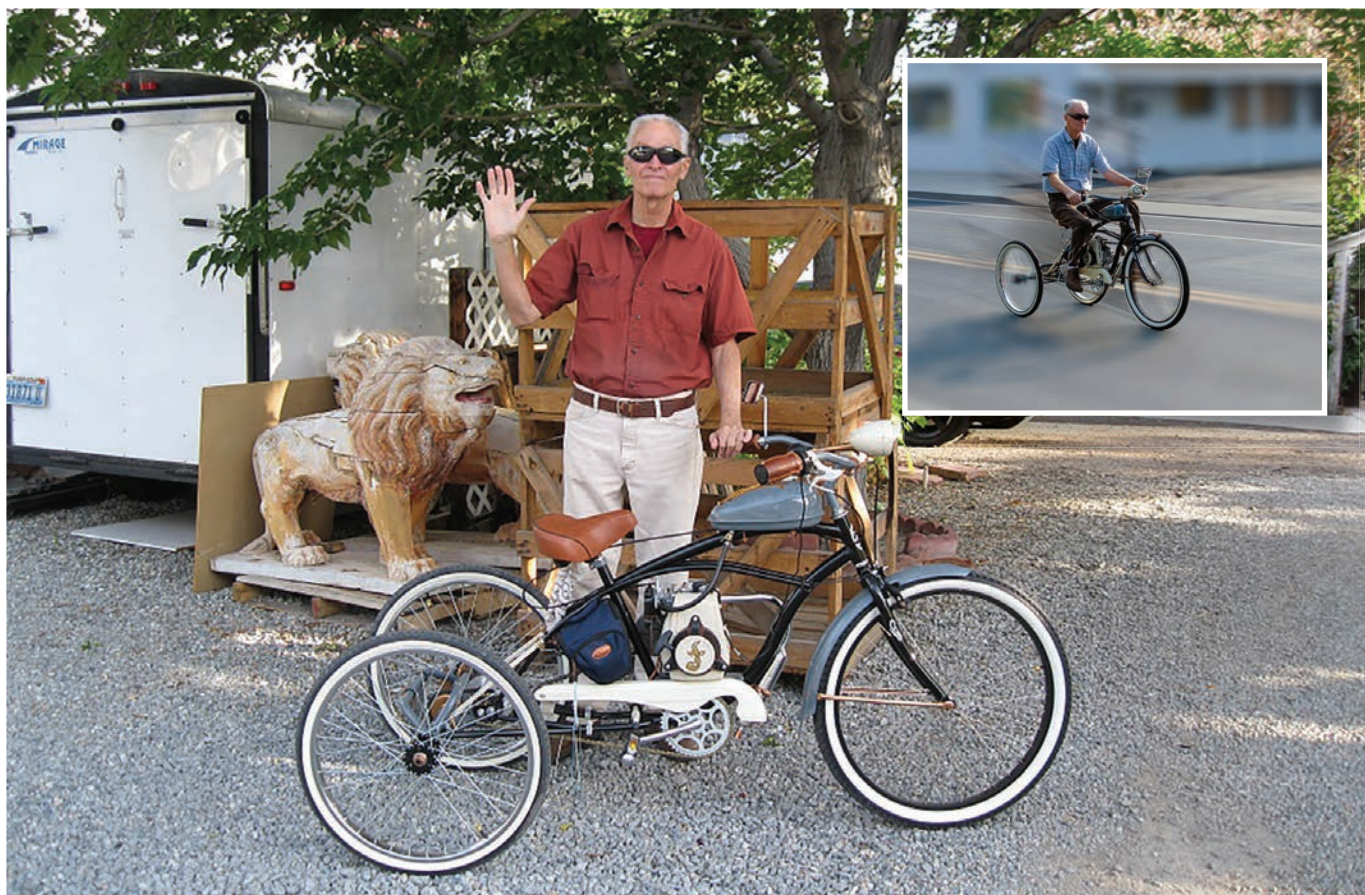
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Paul Allen wasn't about to stop riding after selling his motorcycles, so he custom built a 50cc trike. Inset: Allen goes flying down Main Street in Yerington on his trike.

Back into the Wind

STORY AND PHOTOS BY PAUL ALLEN

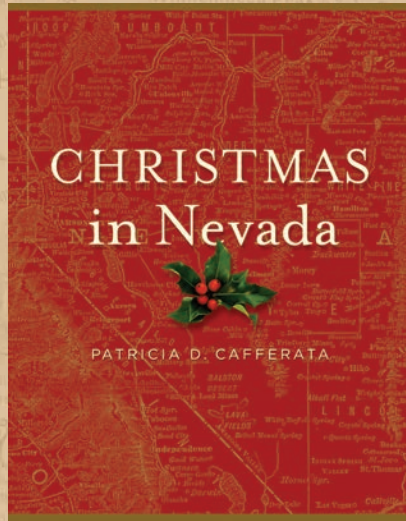
I was born in North Hollywood on Feb. 18, 1952. I joined the Navy in 1969 and was on the *USS Roark Destroyer Escort*, and am a Vietnam veteran. After four years of active duty I came home, I would visit my dad and stepmom in Smith Valley. They eventually moved to Yerington, and I liked it so much here I moved to the valley in 1988. I never looked back. I love the desert!

Several years ago I got sick with muscular dystrophy, so I had to sell my Harley, Triumph, and Royal Enfield. I didn't want to give up completely, and made plans to build something I could ride, and get back into the wind.

I work at Lilliput Motors, where I do shipping. I also repair broken items. I like that more than anything! I worked at Ace Hardware for 16 years and my first job was at an old garage. So I built a 50cc old-school trike; the frame is a Macargi; handle bars are re-furbished 1965 Schwinn, rear-axle power pistons, Shimano brakes, 16-inch front tire and rims, 24-inch in the rear, 50cc motor from Spooky-Tooth, and all the leather is handmade.

A lot of cutting, drilling, grinding, and bushing to make it all work, but it is a blast to ride and it will top about 30 mph without changing the gears. I like to ride mostly on the farm district roads in Mason Valley.

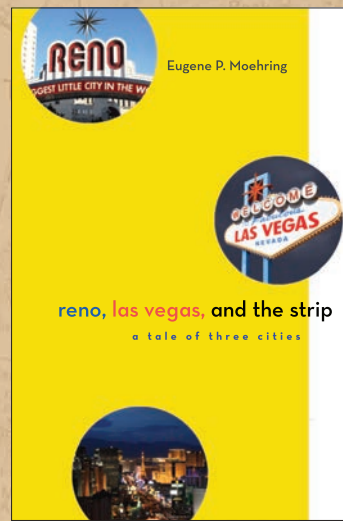




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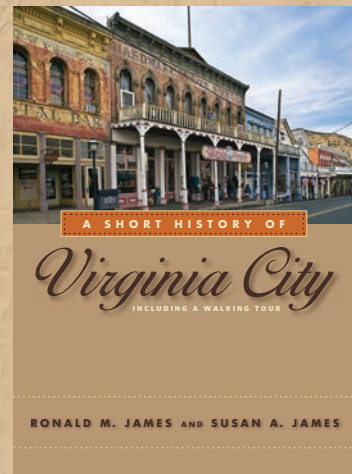


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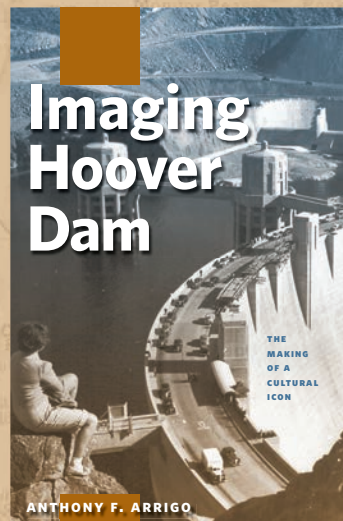


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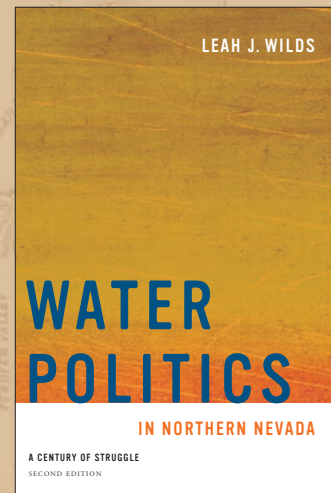


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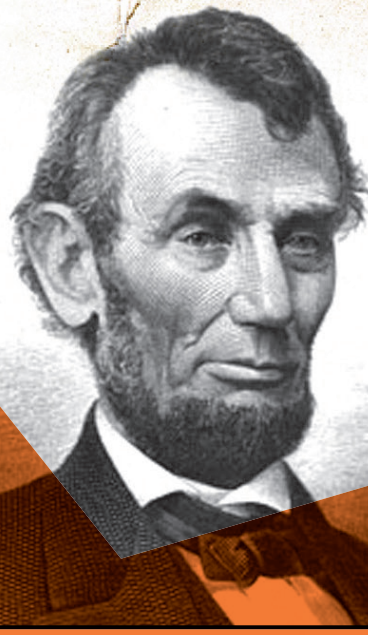
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