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ROBERT LIST, *Governor*

CAROLINE J. HADLEY, *Publisher & Editor*

DAVID MOORE, *Managing Editor*

WALTER E. MacKENZIE, *Consultant on single malt scotches*

JOHN BARDWELL, *Designer*

ANN HENDERSON, *Promotions Editor*

BETTY GOVORCHIN, *Advertising*

BRENDA CRAIG, *Subscriptions*

THERESA BROWN, *Accounting*

RICHARD MENZIES, *Derelicts & Specials Editor*

Advertising Representatives:

SOUTHERN NEVADA
Tuca Productions
557 East Sahara Avenue, Ste. 220
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(702) 731-2666

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Cynthia Kelley
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LOS ANGELES
Jay Eisenberg
JE Publishers' Representative
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(213) 659-3810

CONTRIBUTORS: David Muench, Leon Mandel, David W. Toll, Bud Hage, Guy Shipler, Harry Webb, Olivia Mandel, Russ Goebel, Patricia Stewart, Don Dondero.

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NEVADA

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September /October
1980

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EDITORIAL

The spirit of '64.

When Nevada celebrated its 100th birthday in 1964, the festivities produced hundreds of souvenirs and memorials—historical markers, books, Jim Beam decanters, special jackets and Levi shirts, not to mention the good cheer that many recall as being more enduring than the spirit of '76.

The Centennial produced another enduring item: the first widely-circulated issue of *Nevada* Magazine. It was chock-packed with Nevada history, tales of statehood, portraits of ghost towns and remote desert ranges. It's still a collector's item at three dollars a hit.

Its creator was Donald L. Bowers, an information officer with the Nevada Highway Department. Bowers was less concerned with the cover price (then 50 cents) than with the publicity and pride that the new, slick state publication could bring to the Silver State. Earlier he had convinced officials to upgrade *Nevada Highways and Parks,* published since 1936 (originally, he said, to show there were paved roads to Las Vegas). He ran the magazine for the next decade, brightening the state with each issue heralding Nevada's beauty, history and people.

Last June Don Bowers died in Carson City, where he had made his home for 20 years a few blocks from the magazine.

Bowers, who retired five years ago, was born in Fallon on December 4, 1921, and grew up in that small ranching community. He went east to college, to Kenyon in Ohio, and was a Navy man in the war. Trained in the Russian language, he served at the American embassy in Moscow and edited the U.S. magazine *Amerika,* which was written in Russian and circulated in the Soviet Union.



Editor Don Bowers and managing editor Judy Casey take a break during a press opening at the Cal Neva Lodge in 1970.

After his Cold War tour Bowers returned home to Fallon. He ran the *Fallon Eagle* for a year before joining State Highways. He was a friend and advisor of Governor Grant Sawyer and served on innumerable panels, boards and delegations in the cause of Nevada tourism and history.

Under Bowers' direction *Highways and Parks* became a forum for Nevada writers, photographers and artists in the years after the celebration of '64. Don was also known for his wit, humor and knowledge of the state he loved. Nevada will miss him. —*David Moore*

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LETTERS

SECESSION AS THE SANE ALTERNATIVE

William Jeanes (Bailing Out, May/June 1980) might get carried away at times but he knows what's in every true Nevadan's heart. When I was in Viet Nam I would have traded a month's pay for one smell of Nevada sagebrush. I love my state and its people and I'm very proud to say I'm from Nevada.

Terry M. Hansen
Jackpot, NV.

When I had a Nevada class from Professor Elliot at the University in Reno he claimed that in around 1900 Nevada was so poor there was a movement to REMOVE statehood, but there is no provision in U.S. law for this. Shortly afterward there was gold at Goldfield and the whole thing was forgotten.

Patricia Stewart
Reno, NV.

NEVADA BIG TIME?

I have gotten Nevada Magazine for quite a while but I am now thinking of not renewing my subscription because of the style your magazine now has.

It is now so commercial there are more ads than stories. I really wish you would try to gain back some of your old charm instead of being just another big time magazine.

Tim Yeager
Reno, NV.

Nevada is a state publication that has to pay its own way. Cost of publishing is enormous so advertising is necessary to increase revenues. If every subscriber would buy a gift subscription for a relative or friend, then we would have enough money to enlarge the editorial content, offering more stories and photos, thus giving advertising a smaller share of the space. For this we need your support, not your cancellation.—Ed.

JUST THE TICKET

Say, Caroline Hadley, you must be a great gal to edit that Nevada Mag. You sure do a real man's job of it. That "Confessions of a Reluctant Bull Rider" (May/June '80) was darn well done and I think the choice of pictures in the magazine are just the ticket.

Rex W. Gill
Gateway, CO.

I first saw a copy of Nevada on the newsstand and have been subscribing for many years now. Please keep sending us lots more of the same. How about every month?

Bartlett B. Eisner
Reno, NV.

SAFETY STILL IN SILVER

What did the recent collapse of the silver market do to the investment value of silver dollars? That's a question I pondered nervously for weeks. In early March I prepared an article for Nevada (May/June '80) saying the coins were invulnerable to the whims of the commodities market. In May, however, I never expected a whim as large as Bunker Hunt's to foul up things so badly that the price of silver would drop $30 in one day.

Fearing that my fledgling career as a print journalist would vanish as quick as Hunt's margin call, I agonized until the latest coin prices were published. My worry proved unjustified, for dollars continued their steady advance largely unaffected by Hunt's wheeling and dealing. The only noticeable effect was on poor quality coins. Since those are considered by investors as melt material and were intended to be converted to bullion, their value did decline. If anything, the recent collapse simply affirmed my position that investments in quality coins is relatively fool proof over the long term.

I did make one serious omission in the article by not cautioning prospective buyers of the potential of loss by theft. Police reports in Reno and Las Vegas indicate that coins and jewelry are the most frequent target of burglars. It is imperative that coins be kept secure in a safe deposit box.

Buddy Frank
KTVN-TV
Reno, NV.

NOT EQUAL RATING

As a native Nevadan (Ely and Reno), I can honestly say that Guam doesn't even rate with what Nevada has to offer.

Just wait till I get transferred to Naval Air Station in Fallon; old times again.

Bill Parsons
Agana, Guam

I have lived in Reno, Gabbs, now Tonopah and there's no place like Nevada. I love the desert, wild flowers and everything about Nevada. Thank you for a beautiful magazine.

Mrs. E. E. Colbert
Tonopah, NV.

WE STAND CORRECTED

I would like you to correct the misinformation in the article (Lens, Gregory Jackson, May/June '80) about the actual process I go through in order to manipulate the images. I do not "attack the surface of the print." I do not use a "metal tool." I do not "gouge the surface of the print as if to destroy it."

In reality, after carefully composing the image in my viewfinder in order to create the strongest possible photograph of the subject matter, I make my exposure. In about 30 minutes to an hour after the image has developed to its fullest colors, I then study the composition carefully, deciding what areas will receive what type of treatment. I then, with great care, begin manipulating the print surface with a selection of wooden pottery tools. Thus, this process is actually very subtle and deliberated.

Gregory G. Jackson
San Francisco, CA.

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THE GREAT RACES

This fall is racing season in Nevada, and daredevils on every block are racing jets, balloons, camels and mules for profit and fun. Among the bravest are Lake Mead's marathon waterskiers who like it best at the end of a rope.

Every September the scene at Lake Mead's Boulder Beach is just plain awesome. When the starter's red flare goes off, 100 unmuffled high-performance engines roar in an ear-splitting chorus and 100 boats surge away from the beach in unison. Each powerboat is pulling a waterskier whose only thought is to be the first of this human, waterborne stampede to round a point 12 miles across the lake. The skiers range from grade schoolers to grandmothers, skis braced against the wake, intent on finishing the 50- or 75-mile marathon in the fastest possible time.

At 80 miles per hour the skier has no margin for error. In spite of the 200-foot tow rope, the spray hitting the racer's shins feels more like gravel than water. When things go wrong, it is not simply a question of just letting go of the rope to sink slowly into the lake.

Unlike the usual weekend ski outing, waterskiing at the high speed preferred by Lake Mead marathoners is akin to being pulled on a skateboard behind a pickup truck. Veteran skier and driver Kurt Vieyra of Las Vegas says that the rope is the last thing you abandon even when a fall seems imminent: "By holding on, you may keep your balance and, if you do, the boat will pull you through that sudden hole in the water or over a rough section of waves. Let go and the race is all over."

Robbie Woods, an Australian racer who finished second in both races last year, says, "It also hurts less if you are holding on and sort of skip to a stop like a rock on a pond."

Although spills are always spectacular, injuries are rarely more serious than strains, sprains and bruises. Each skier must wear the racing style life jacket with leg straps, and more skiers are wearing headgear and padding. One boat jockey remembers vividly what can happen to anything not securely attached. "I was towing a little gal and we were really moving when she fell," says Las Vegan Bob Roberts. "When we picked her up, she still had on the jacket and helmet but her bikini

The Richest Air Race on Earth

Flyers in the midget and powerful unlimited classes vie for the largest air race purse in history—more than $250,000—at the Reno Air Races Sept. 12-14.



ANDY ASERCION

was gone."

With such potential for mayhem, why do speed skiers so eagerly race for nothing more than a trophy? Most are reluctant to discuss the subject—except for Ron Rumbaugh, former Las Vegas driver and skier, who says, "Of course they don't tell you why they do it. How can you explain that you race because it scares you to death? When you are out there and that adrenalin starts pumping, all you want to do is go faster and faster. It doesn't make any difference that you are petrified the whole time."

No less complex is the murky history of Lake Mead's marathons. Even though the 1980 version is called the 36th on the program, no one knows for sure what year the first race was held or who were the winners. It seems that the race originally started at Overton and ran 50 miles south to what is now Las Vegas harbor. But because the wakes in the canyon were destructive and dangerous, the National Park Service put a speed limit on the Overton Arm in the mid-1950s, and the marathon skiers moved their race to the lake's lower basin.

The present course was established about 1968 and seems to offer the best combination of distance, safety and spectator view. By spreading out the boats over a 25-mile triangle, not much of the lake is tied up and denied to other boaters, and the extra elbowroom allows for a field that gets bigger every year.

Spectators should plan to arrive at Boulder Beach before the 8 a.m. starts of Saturday's 50-mile race and Sunday's 75 miler. For late arrivals there's the 10 a.m. second heat. Parking is ample, and there are no bad seats on the beach or nearby rolling dunes. Best of all, the price is right—free. It is a good idea to bring folding chairs and a beach umbrella and to wear a hat. With this year's addition of a 25-mile mini-marathon, there will be a full race schedule through early afternoon. For more information call 702-384-7489 after 4 p.m. A word of caution: racing can be contagious. If you are not careful, you might find yourself out there in the novice class. Just hold on tight.

—Charles E. McManis



CHARLES E. McMANIS

Water-skiers hurtle across Lake Mead in the Las Vegas Boat & Ski Club's races Sept. 6-7. In '79 Californian Kurt Schoen won the 50 miler in just 33:47.

The 1980 Comstock Camel Derby

Virginia City camel jockeys risk limb and sanity as the humped wonders snort, kick and gallop madly down the old camp's E Street racetrack Sept. 12-14.



DAVID MOORE

SOUTH

ONGOING EVENTS

Las Vegas Mormon Fort Tours, Tues.-Sun.

Historic and Cultural Focus Tours, Las Vegas, 702-382-7198

Historic artifacts on display, Southern Nevada Museum, Henderson, and UNLV Museum of Natural History, Las Vegas

SEPTEMBER

Pioche Labor Day, 8/29-9/1: 29, street dance; 30, bottle show, hay scramble, horseshoe tournament, movie, swimming, fireman's dance; 31, pancake breakfast at 7am followed by horseshoe tournament, cake walk, wrist wrestling, fireman's dinner, baseball game and fireworks; 1, parade, mining events

Jerry Lewis M.D. Telethon, 1, Sahara Hotel, Las Vegas

$150,000 Sahara Fall Blackjack Classic, 2-5, Sahara Hotel, Las Vegas

International 50 & 75 Mile Ski Marathon, 6-7, Boulder Beach, Lake Mead

Nevada String Quartet Concert, 7, Flamingo Library, Las Vegas

"Oscar Wilde," 12-13, starring Vincent Price, Ham Hall, UNLV, Las Vegas

Pahrump Valley Harvest Festival, 13-14, parade, fair, booths, farmers market, gymkhana, BBQ and dance, Pahrump, info 702-727-5800

Festival Chamber Players, 14, Flamingo Library, Las Vegas

John Davidson Show Taping, 15-19, Las Vegas Hilton

Riviera Women's Tennis Classic, 15-21, Riviera Hotel, Las Vegas

"Hot Ginger and Dynamite," 16, comedy, The Meadows Playhouse, Las Vegas

Sagegrass, 20, bluegrass music, Civic Center Park, Las Vegas

Cinema 80: "Bananas," 21, Flamingo Library, Las Vegas

Fall Trapshooting Tournament, 24-28, Mint Gun Club, Las Vegas

"Dark Solstice," 27, by Faucets Performing Theatre, Civic Center, Henderson

OCTOBER

Air Show, 4, Thunderbirds and Snowbirds flying demonstrations, mid-day, Nellis A.F.B.

Boulder City Art Festival, 4-5, Government Park, 10-5, Boulder City

Nevada String Quartet Concert, 5, Flamingo Library, Las Vegas

"Tribute to the Telephone," 8, band concert, City Hall Plaza, Las Vegas

National Old Time Rodeo Assn. Finals, 10-12, Horseman's Park, Las Vegas, info at Sam's Town

"Hot Ginger and Dynamite," 11, comedy, The Meadows Playhouse, Las Vegas

"Stage Door," 16-26, comedy, Judy Bayley Theatre, UNLV, Las Vegas

Festival Chamber Players, 19, Library Tent, Boulder City

Cinema 80: "Night of the Hunter," 19, Flamingo Library, Las Vegas

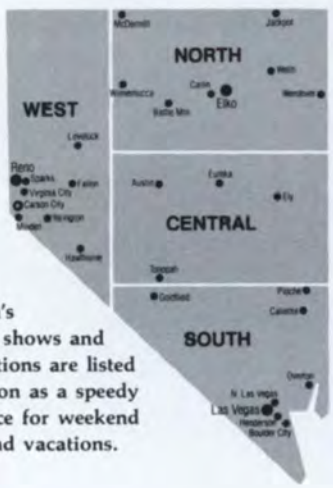
Cologne Men's Chorus, 21, concert series, Ham Hall, Las Vegas

North Las Vegas Fairshow, 24-26, art exhibits, bead making, silversmithing, antiques, dolls, fish, gem and mineral show daily; 25-26: tobacco spitting, wet T-shirt, decorated blue jean, van, and pumpkin carving contests; horseshoe pitching and dance; hot-air balloon show at 6am daily, Community College, info 702-642-9595

"Same Time Next Year," 28, comedy, The Meadows Playhouse, Las Vegas

Radio-Controlled Aerobatic Aircraft Championship, 30, Circus Circus Hotel, Las Vegas

Great North American Indian Pow Wow, 28-11/2, exhibits and dance contests daily; pottery making, rug weaving, silver jewelry and sand painting by many tribes, Convention Ctr., Las Vegas, info 702-385-0211



Nevada's events, shows and celebrations are listed by region as a speedy reference for weekend trips and vacations.

Around North Las Vegas In 3 Days

Hot-air balloons, ready on the launching pad, will sweep across North Las Vegas Oct. 24-26 to lead off 36 special events, from bluegrass to log rolling, at the city's annual Fairshow.



ANDREA WALLER

CENTRAL

SEPTEMBER

Alecrane Cross Country Motor Cycle Races & Celebration, 8/30-1, County Park, Ely, info 702-289-3736

White Pine Pro-Am Golf Tournament, 6-7, County Golf Course, Ely, info 702-289-8877

NORTH

ONGOING EVENTS

Northeastern Nevada Museum, 9-7 Mon.-Sat., 1-7 Sun., historical and natural history exhibits, 1515 Idaho St., Elko, 702-738-3418

SEPTEMBER

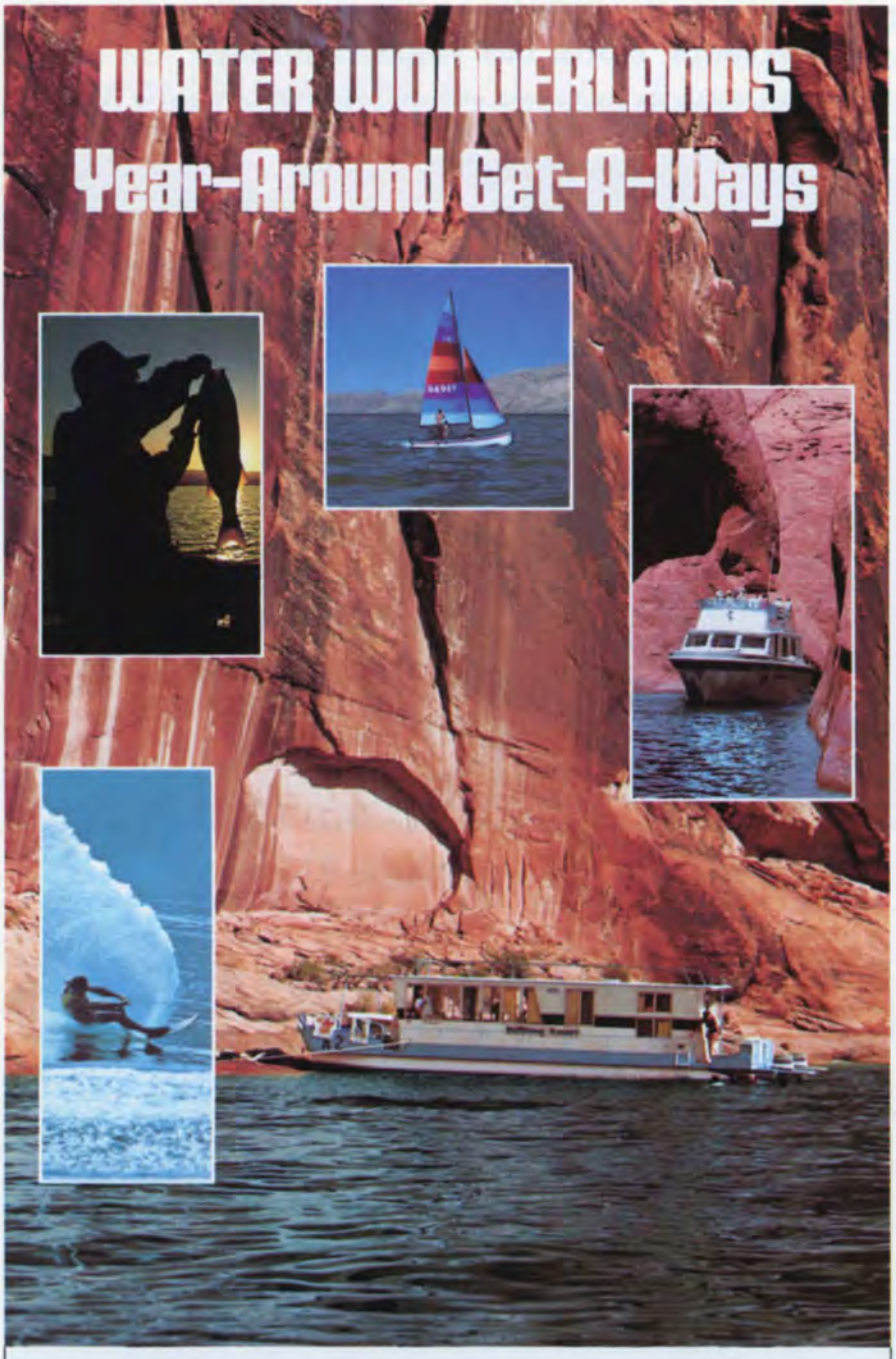
Elko County Fair, 8/29-1, livestock show and

Spectacular Vegas Jet Show

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horse races, 1pm daily, fairgrounds, Elko

Winnemucca Rodeo & Tri County Fair, 8/29-1. 29: boxing matches, 7:30pm, Jr. High School; 30: parade at 3:30pm; BBQ at 4pm, Nixon Hall lawn; street dance following rodeo; 30-31: PRCA rodeo, 7pm; 1: golf tournament

"Tuscarora Never Died," 1-8, photographic essay of 19th century silver camp, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko

Air Race, 6, Denver to Jackpot

Cactus Pete's $20,000 Open Golf Tournament, 10-13, Jackpot

"B," 10-25, paintings by Bernice Zillich, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko

Meyers 200 Fly-in, 14, Yuba City to Jackpot

Air Race, 20, Portland to Jackpot

Motocross Race, 21, Calder Cycle Park, Winnemucca, info 702-623-5085

Feed Lot Ropens & Team Roping Contest, 22-24, Spring Creek, Elko

Air Race, 27 Orland CA. to Jackpot

"Fall Festival of Art," 27-30, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko

OCTOBER

"Fall Festival of Art," 1-12, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko

Air Race, 4, Great Falls MT. to Jackpot

Trailer Rally, 3-5, Jackpot

Air Race, 11, Dalles OR. to Jackpot

It's Man Against Mule

If you've always wanted to enter a long distance race but can't run 20 feet let alone 20 miles, have we got a race for you. Just find yourself a mule or a horse and sign up for the Great Man-Mule Race from Elko to Lamoille on Oct. 11. Last year 30 joggers raced against a nearly equal number of mounted entries. They don't race that way in Boston, you say? Of course not. In Elko all contestants are welcome, and half of them are bound to be asses.

Northeastern Nevada Genealogical Society, 11, workshop, $5 fee, 8:30-11:30am, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko, info 702-738-7610

Motocross Race, 12, Calder Cycle Park, Winnemucca, info 702-623-5085

"The West Today," 14-30, photography by Linda Dufurrena, Northeastern Nevada Museum, Elko

Snaffle Bit Futurity, 16-19, fairgrounds, Elko

Elk's Crab Feed, 25, Elk's Lodge, 6-9pm, Winnemucca

WEST

ONGOING EVENTS

Dayton Flea Market, weekends

Nevada Artists Assn. Gallery, 10-4 Mon.-Sat., 12-4 Sun., 449 W. King St. Carson City

Art exhibitions, 2-6 Wed.-Mon., 699 D. St., St. Phillip's Center Gallery, Hawthorne

(Continued on page 44)

TAXES TOO HIGH? HAVE A PARTY

In early autumn, after school has started and before there is frost on the pumpkin, sleepy little Genoa, first permanent settlement in Nevada, rouses from her snug couch in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada. It's time to get spruced up for the year's social event, the Candy Dance.

More than just a dance, the town party that started 60 years ago is also a candy sale, a buffet supper, an arts and crafts fair, an egg-rolling contest and even an air show of sorts.

Last year, party-goers waited patiently to have their faces painted with bright streaks of red, yellow and blue greasepaint, or ride some 60 feet up in a brightly-colored hot-air balloon that was anchored to the ground. Parachutists dropped in, and when the wind was right hang-gliders took off from 9,000-foot Genoa Peak to float overhead and land in a green field near the Sierra Shadows Guest Ranch.

Begun in 1919 by the daughter of Territorial Judge D.W. Virgin, Candy Dance was originally intended only to buy street lights and pay the light bills for the six-block long village 43 miles south of Reno. Candy Dance still pays the bills for Genoa, but it has also grown into one of the state's most popular events and attracts as many as 3,000 visitors. This year's celebration is Saturday, September 27

Today there are 135 residents in Genoa. If you ask Frankie Schaffer about the size of the community, she laughs. "It's not very big," she says. "My house is the first one you come to, driving south from Carson City. Two of my rooms are outside our city limits."

The recipe for Genoa's fiscal success includes 500 pounds of sugar (granulated, powdered and brown) and 200 pounds of milk chocolate and chocolate chips, which are divided among 87 residents who turn out cookies, fudge, rocky road, divinity, mints, peanut brittle and cocoanut bars—all of which are sold at the firehouse.

Genoa children decorate the town hall for dancing and the firehouse for supper with streamers and cardboard candy canes. The buffet supper begins about 5 p.m. and costs about $7.50 for turkey, ham, salads, cakes, pies and crusty Basque bread.

In Genoa's block-long business district you won't find a gas station, supermarket, movie theater or fast food joint. What you'll see is the place where Nevada began in 1851.

The settlement may be only a comfortable remnant of what was once an important trading post but during Candy Dance, Nevadans can still celebrate in the pioneer fashion of those grand harvest balls. *—Doris Selby with Roberta McConnell*

Nevada on Parade

Nevada celebrates Admission Day on Friday Oct. 31 with a parade, foot races, waterfights and plenty of parties in Carson City. There's also the World Rock Drilling Championships, where the West's best single jackers drill for cash and glory.



DAVID MOORE

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LAS VEGAS NEWS BUREAU

In 1962 former president Harry Truman joined Jimmy Durante at the piano at the Sands in Las Vegas.

One Night Politics

Most presidential candidates don't give Nevada hell like Harry Truman did, but they would probably rather be in California. By Guy Shipler

Crusty old Harry Truman seldom hesitated to tell the public exactly what he thought about things he didn't like. As an object of Harry's ire, Nevada was no exception. During the Kefauver hearings on alleged mob influence in Las Vegas during the early 1950s, the president refused an invitation to visit Nevada because, he declared, "it is the black sheep of the nation."

Politically, the timing was perfect. Truman didn't need Nevada's meager little three electoral votes then, so he was free to speak his mind. But in 1948 it had been a different matter. During his campaign for re-election that year, the polls and press had predicted that Truman would be soundly trounced by Republican Thomas E. Dewey.

The president decided to go directly to the people. His famous "whistle stop" campaign took him to every state in the union, including Nevada. Whether or not he thought the state was a black sheep in '48, Harry Truman didn't say; the state's three electoral votes were more important to that shrewd politician than its lack of moral virtue.

Other presidents and candidates for the job have given Nevada considerably less hell than Harry did, but neither have they been particularly enamored of the state. Most of their visits have been little more than one-night stands, especially in campaign years. Even in close elections, the candidates have found states with more electoral votes like California and New York a lot more alluring. Presidents and candidates have generally ignored us—except when they have felt some need for our small electorate's attention.

It was such a situation that gave Nevada its statehood. Abraham Lincoln showed a more intense affection for the place than any of his White House successors. In fact, his political needs were so great that in 1864 the president

actually forced statehood on a territory that had fewer people than the typical ward of a big eastern city.

The state's questionable credentials for statehood made no difference to Lincoln, a beleaguered president running for re-election during a bloody civil war. He wanted the Thirteenth Amendment, which would abolish slavery, to become part of the U. S. Constitution. He needed the support of one more state, and the only way to get that state was to create it. It was either that, he warned, or raise another million men in the North to fight the war.

But Lincoln's move constituted a huge gamble, for neither he nor anyone else seemed to know for sure whether those wild westerners favored the North or the Confederacy, assuming they even cared one way or the other. And from most accounts, they didn't seem to care who won the war or even whether Nevada became a state. Jock Taylor, the distinguished former editor of Austin's *Reese River Reveille*, described the mood 100 years before in a 1964 booklet celebrating the state's centennial:

"Considering the fact that gun toters and gun shooters were all over Nevada throughout 1864 it is easy to realize that many matters other than possible statehood were occupying everybody's thoughts. Constitutional conventions came and went. Debates and flights of oratory filled the air without disturbing the great body of Nevadans. Nobody but the politicians was paying much attention."



Time correspondent Guy Shipler interviews JFK in Reno during a National Young Democrats Convention in the late fifties. Due to a snafu, Shipler and photographer Don Dondero were the only greeters at the airport when Kennedy arrived.

With the irreverent attitude of gunslingers and other citizens, it was largely dumb luck that Nevadans sided with the president after statehood. But once there, they momentarily gave up their preoccupation with bullets for ballots, and the majority voted to help Lincoln get re-elected and gave him the backing he needed to ratify the Thirteenth Amendment. The real icing on the cake was the state's implicit loyalty to the Union, which meant that it rather than the Confederacy would benefit from the fabulous riches of the Comstock Lode.

Since then no actual or would-be occupant of the White House has found Nevada to be anywhere near as juicy a political plum as did Abraham Lincoln.

Not all presidential visitors have come for electioneering or even for political reasons. In 1879, for instance, Ulysses S. Grant was an ex-president when he and his wife visited Virginia City as the climax to a world tour. Governor John Kinkead rode with them on the Virginia & Truckee Railroad from Carson City to the Comstock, where they were greeted with everything from a 21-gun salute to a trip deep into the Consolidated Virginia and California Mines. Returning to the surface from the mines' 2,150-foot level, where the temperature was 120 degrees, Grant remarked, "That's as close to hell as I ever want to get."

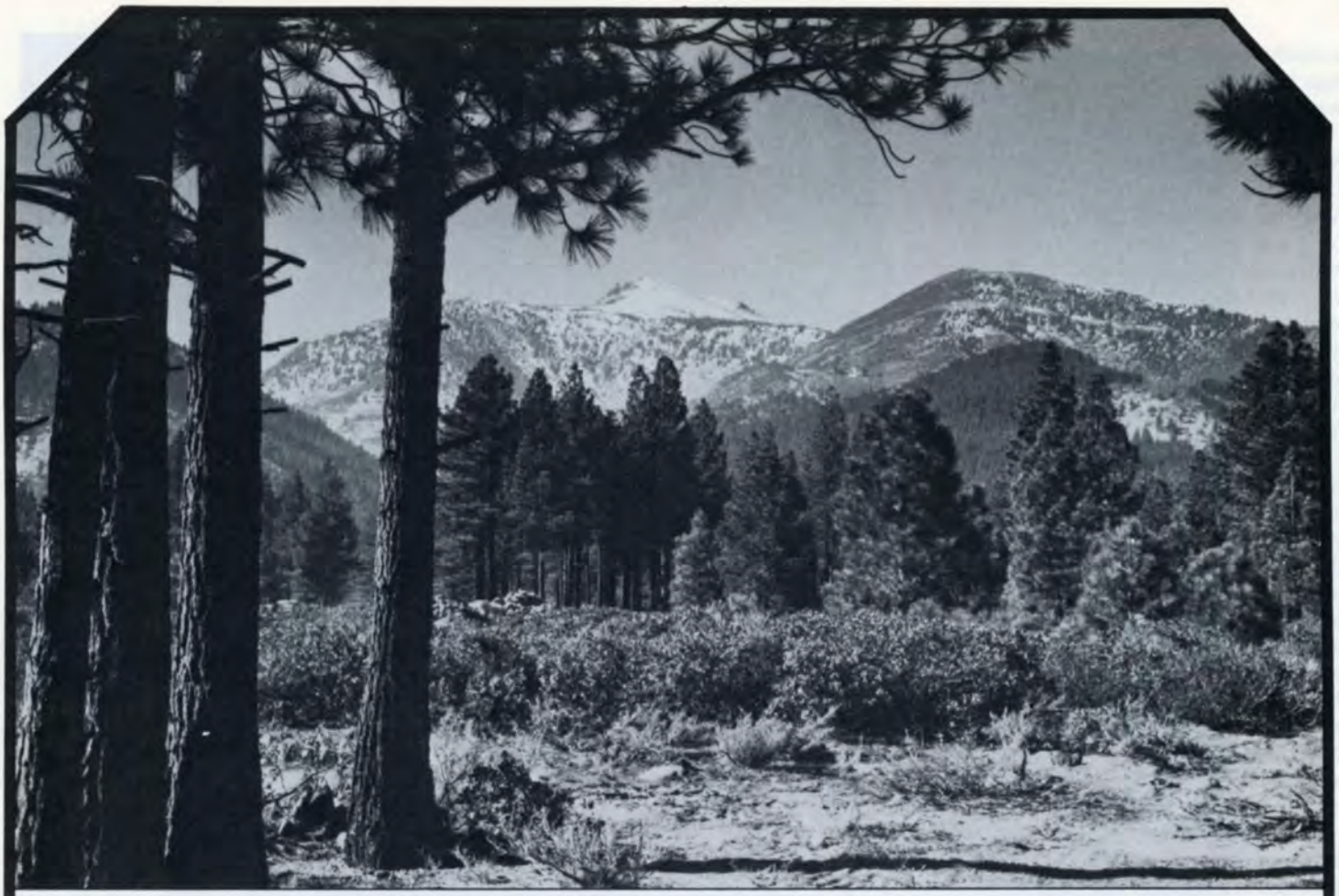
It was just a year later that the Comstock welcomed President Rutherford B. Hayes. He arrived with General William Tecumseh Sherman and other Washington officials, also to a 21-gun salute, a parade, receptions and a trip down to the 2,300-foot level of the

(Continued on page 22)

President Gerald Ford stops in Reno to meet the press.



DON DONDERO PHOTOS



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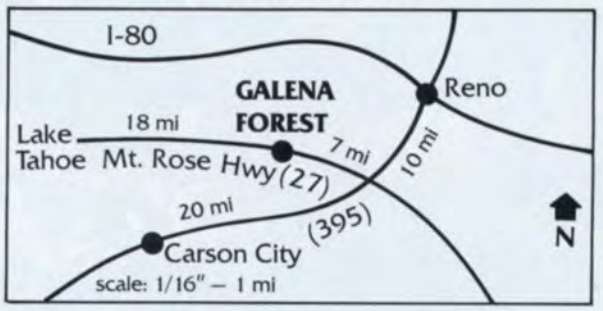
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Fancy Dancer



JOHN SLAGLE PHOTO

At Indian powwows all eyes are on the dancers, and when it comes to fancy dancing, Adam Nordwall of Fallon is the best. By Kirk Robertson and nila northSun

We're rolling down the road under a late afternoon bright blue sky when the CB crackles and sputters to life.

"How about a break for that Fancy Dancer? You out there?"

Adam reaches up and grabs the mike.

"Come on. You got the Fancy Dancer."

"Hey! All right! You got Two Beers here. You goin' to that Vegas powwow?"

"I'm on my way—wouldn't miss it. You gonna dance?"

"Yeah, Yeah."

The Las Vegas Powwow is but one of hundreds of American Indian social gatherings that take place in an almost continuous series of encampments, rural and urban, throughout the western U.S. from late May until October or November every year.

These powwows serve as meeting places for Indian people where they can dance, visit, exchange news, trade and purchase arts and crafts. But it is the dancing and dance contests that have become the focal point of these gatherings. And it is on this powwow circuit (quite similar to the rodeo circuit) that Fancy Dancers compete for first place prize money that can range from as little as $50 to more than $1,000.

Adam Nordwall is Native Nevada's National Fancy Dance Champion. A 25-year-old Shoshone-Chippewa living on Fallon's Paiute-Shoshone Reservation, he's won first place in more than 35 Fancy Dance competitions and placed second or third in at least 25 others. He has been dancing for 20 years.

"Si Williams, a Chippewa, the same tribe as my father, showed me the basic steps," he says. "He taught me to listen to the drum, taught me the importance of the drum. I was five years old when I won my first competition at Knowland Park in Oakland, California."

Nordwall started Hoop Dancing—a specialty dance in which the dancer attempts to form patterns with as many as 15 hoops while staying in time with the drum—at the age of eight. He started competing in the Men's Fancy Dance category at 15.

Family events, powwows are often financed with dance contest winnings. "Everybody's there—the whole family. There's no generation gap on the powwow circuit. There's dancing and competition for every age group from tiny tots on up."

Powwows were originally meetings between neighboring tribes or bands and were started almost a century ago. But with the adoption of White Man's technology — pickups and vans — the gatherings have become more easily accessible over greater distances. During the 1960s they became major social inter-tribal and pan-tribal gatherings representing a significant American Indian cultural renaissance.

"Even though today it's the dance competition that is the main highlight," Adam explains, "our powwows are rooted in the social dancing which occurred after the bands or tribes came

KIRK ROBERTSON





'You don't meet many people at boxing matches or drag races, but at powwows everybody gets to know each other.'





C.J. HADLEY PHOTOS

Adam Nordwall, shown Fancy Dancing in Las Vegas on previous page, works on his costume before a powwow (top left). Contestants wear buckskin in Women's Traditional Dancing (far left) while the shawl is used for Women's Fancy competition. Above, sister and brother wait at Fallon for the contests to begin.

together for trading and feasting. That's when they did their courting, visiting, and dancing—and all of that is still going on at powwows today. A powwow is where you can meet a lot of new people and visit with old friends. White society doesn't have that kind of gathering. You don't really meet many people at boxing matches or drag races—but at powwows everybody gets to know each other. So, dancing is a way of keeping up my traditions."

Special ceremonies continue to be observed at powwows even though Indian society as a whole is accommodating rodeos and other non-Indian events. Such ceremonies include the "wash away the tears" or "coming out of mourning," which mark the end of a year of mourning for a close relative; and "giveaways," in which gifts are given rather than received as an expression of one's desire to share their happiness with others.

indian campground

tree branch
arbors cover
cook stoves coleman
stoves kerosene
lamps folding chairs
next to pickups
campers tipis
a few trailers
lots of army tents
camp tents
dirt & weed floors
no indian campground
complete without plastic
outhouses

minutes after the
last 49 song
the crier announces
the day's events
tells them to pick
up their rations
meat bread potatoes
coffe & sugar
the sun comes on
people wake up too hot
to stay in stuffy
tent some in cars
windows rolled up
wake up cook
breakfast
children play in
faucet drinking water
old people visit
all get ready
for the powwow
soon to be the colorful indians
tourists take pictures of



NILA NORTHSUN PHOTOS





C.J. HADLEY PHOTOS



There's no generation gap at powwows, where tribal traditions are kept alive.

The drum is the heart of any powwow, and all dancing, both social and competitive, is done in time to the drum. Depending on the size of the powwow, there may be anywhere from two to 20 drums (or groups) with names such as Porcupine Singers, Snake River Singers, Mockingbird Singers or the Badlands Singers in attendance.

It is the Bandlands Singers that are on a cassette tape when we pull up in front of Adam's house. We go in and get a beer, then drop on the lawn. "The whole thing about fancy dancing is style—to do as much as you can with it. To have a lot of good, fast movement, a lot of grace, and to stay in time with the drum. You have to be in time with the drum and finish on the last drum beat.

"Sometimes it seems like you're competing against the drum, especially when they throw out a trick song—a song in which there can be stops in any part of the song, not just at the end. If you don't make a stop, you're disqualified."

A fancy dancer's outfit is an elaborate combination of feathers ("bustles"—one worn on the back, one on the

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113 E. San Francisco St.
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neck), beads, fringe, and bells. Assembling just the right (for the individual dancer) combination of bustles, roach (a porcupine hair headdress),beadwork and moccasins may take several years and could cost up to $1,000. Nordwall made all his own outfit and in getting ready for a powwow spends hours making sure that everything is just right, that everything is securely fastened. He is laying out his outfit, packing up the van, but continues talking.

"It will take me about 45 minutes to get dressed for a contest. I have to get dressed right. If I don't and there's something loose on my outfit and it comes off in competition, I would be disqualified."

Fancy Dancing is a strenuous, physically demanding athletic event that requires top physical and mental shape. During the winter and early spring Adam trains by running in the desert and lifting weights. "Your legs have to be strong in order to dance. You've got to be able to carry your own weight plus 12 to 14 pounds of outfit. I'm constantly working out—to build up my endurance."

Each song for the Fancy Dancing will last two or three minutes, a contest will have from two to five or more songs, and Adam will compete in 30 to 35 powwows each year. "It's both physical and mental exertion, and if you have the ability to bring these together, you'll win."

In an accident in 1979 Adam almost severed his right hand.

"Injuring my hand made me think a lot about what I want. It's your head, your will to dance, your desire to win. Each person has to prove to themselves that they're good at one thing in particular. With me it's dancing. And it's also through dancing that I can establish and maintain contact with the traditions of Indian people."

Adam stood up, anxious to get on the road to the next powwow.

"Whoa, man," he smiled. "I'm tired of talking. I've got to get the van packed and ready to go."

arlee powwow

july 4th big powwow weekend
everywhere
fair to middlin size dance
in arlee montana
brother won 1st place last year
goes again to try & reclaim
his title & $350
we check out his competition
one dancer looks real good
big colorful bustles
fast and fancy
another has a reputation
that might carry him to 1st
another big name dancer
is just watching
a death in the family
he can't dance for a year
18 dancers
elimination contest knocks it
down to 8
brother is one of them
he even has a couple cheering
sections in the crowd
when he spins or drops
they oooohh & aaaaahh
like watching fireworks
in the finals the 1st song
is a trick song by washington drummers
one guy loses his bells
the 2nd song by famous porcupine singers
causes another to drop out
the 3rd dance is a trick song too
that's bad
they're not supposed to do trick songs
for the contest
but brother doesn't miss a beat
neither do a couple others
while the judges tally the votes
he paces
sweating breathing hard
gives furtive glances our way
looks for a nod if
we think he made it
or a shrug if
we can't tell
he holds his side
has a bad ache
rechecks his outfit making
sure all is still intact
the m.c. announces the winners
brother wins 1st place again
the cheering section goes wild
so do we
$350
cost us $200 for the powwow
weekend & we had no more gas money
to get back to nevada
we buy steak dinners
& head on home
stop to watch fireworks
in a suburb of missoula

Poems in this article are by nila northSun, from her book, "Diet Pepsi & Nacho Cheese," available from Duck Down, P.O. Box 1047 Fallon, NV. 89406 for $2 plus 75 cents for postage and mailing. Reprinted by permission of the author.

HOW TO WATCH A POWWOW

Some tips on dancing, crafts, games and other action at Native Nevadan celebrations.

A powwow opens with a Grand Entry, in which all dancers enter single file behind the Indian flag (a long staff with eagle feathers) and U.S. flag. The Grand Entry is followed by a flag song; you should stand for the song just as you would for the national anthem.

Then men and women dancers of all styles and ages join in for several rounds of inter-tribal social dancing. The contest dancing begins with the Tiny Tots and progresses to Men's Fancy Dance competition. Dancers in the four main categories (Men's Fancy, Men's Traditional, Women's Fancy and Women's Traditional) often must compete in a series of eliminations to decide the finalists. Also, rounds of inter-tribal dancing usually take place between contests while the ballots are being counted.



Items for sale at powwows include finely crafted beadwork.

Dance Categories

Competitive dancing at most powwows takes place in the following order:

Tiny Tot: 3 years and under, boys and girls divisions

4 to 6 years: Boys and girls divisions

7 to 11 years: Boys and girls divisions

12 to 16 or 18 years: Boys and girls divisions

Women's Buckskin or Traditional: The "old" style of dancing in which the women, wearing buckskin dresses, dance in a single spot or area. A very slow dance style with little body movement; a graceful "walk" in time to the drum.

Women's Shawl or Fancy: The women's equivalent of Men's Fancy—a contemporary style in which the dancer is free to improvise as long as she keeps in time with the drum. The dancers wear cloth dresses covered by long fringed shawls.

Men's Straight or Traditional: The "old" style of dancing in which the dancers keep time to the drum without making any fancy moves. The dancers wear one or no bustle.

Men's Fancy: This is where the color and action are. The feathered outfits come in every color, and almost anything goes in this highly athletic, contemporary style of dancing as long as the dancer does not lose the beat of the drum. The dancers wear two bustles.

What the Judges Look For

As each dancer takes his or her turn in the arena, watch for the criteria that the judges use to score the contestants:

- Which dancers have participated in the Grand Entries (additional points are usually given for this).
- Intricacies of the dancer's footwork and style.
- Ability to keep in time with the drum.
- How a contestant's outfit looks and how the dancer presents him or herself.
- Whether a contestant drops or loses a part of the outfit (which would disqualify the dancer).

The winners are announced after the judges' ballots are tabulated. If there is a tie, a "dance-off" is held to decide the winner.

Powwow Do's and Don'ts

DO:

- Bring your camera. It is usually OK to take photos during the Grand Entries or contests, but ask permission to take other photos, especially of elders.
- Be aware of "Indian Time." Events take place when everyone is ready and in the order scheduled—but this may be a few hours after the time listed. Be patient. Enjoy yourself.
- Try the concession stands. A favorite at powwows is frybread, a fluffy, deep-fried bread that is salted or dusted with powdered sugar and honey. Frybread is also made into Indian tacos, which are meals in themselves.
- Check out the arts and crafts booths. There you'll find beadwork, turquoise and silver, baskets and many other handmade articles. Prices for these finely crafted items are usually very reasonable, ranging from $5-35 for beaded necklaces, $20-40 for beaded belt buckles, $3-15 for earrings and $30-60 for adult moccasins. Also, many craftsmen are willing to take special orders.
- Watch the handgames or stick-games. This is an Indian gambling game in which one team hides a marked and an unmarked "bone" from another team, which must guess which hand holds the marked one. Each correct guess gets that team a counter stick. The first team to get all 11 counter sticks wins the game. Sometimes these games go on for hours.
- Buy raffle tickets. Even if you don't win anything, the receipts will help support next year's events.

DON'T

- Don't try to bargain with the crafts people; their prices are fair for the time and effort they've put into their work.
- Don't sit on the benches closest to the dance area; these are reserved for the dancers. If you wish to sit very close, bring your own folding chair or stool.
- Don't ask dumb questions like, "Do you guys wear these outfits around the house?"
- Don't try to strike up a conversation by saying that your great-grandmother was an Indian princess or that you are 1/28th Cher-A-Kee. They've heard it all before. —*KR*

Indian Powwows and Celebrations in Nevada

MAY

1st weekend, Stewart Indian Days, Stewart Indian School.

JUNE

3rd weekend, Reno Rodeo and Powwow, Nevada State Fairgrounds. (The 1980 powwow was canceled so

(Continued on next page)

NEVADA INDIAN STORES AND TRADING POSTS

Nevada Indian artists and crafts people display their work at powwows throughout the year. You can find gifts of jewelry and leather work, or the turquoise carvings and fine Washoe baskets sought by collectors.

Following is a directory of 15 stores and trading posts that offer Washoe, Paiute and Shoshone items and others using the state's precious stones. Buyers and browsers are welcome. Use Nevada's area code, 702, if you call long distance.

BATTLE MOUNTAIN

Blue Gem Turquoise Shop—14 W. Front, 635-2391. 8am-5pm. Custom silver work; rings, necklaces, bracelets, watch bands, buckles, beaded chokers. Call Mr. Kimball at 635-2391.

FALLON

Fallon Indian Trading Post—1071 Shoshone Dr., at the Indian Colony, 1½ mi. NE of town. All types of beadwork such as buckles, head bands, beaded coin purses, earrings. All sizes of moccasins, feather hair ties, Indian tanned buckskin. Also, horsehair baskets (collectors' items!). Owners Willie & Iola Byers.

Fortunate Eagle's Round House Gallery—7133 Stillwater Rd. Slate carvings and sculptures, Indian art paintings and Navajo sand paintings, genuine Indian-made turquoise and silver jewelry, beaded bottles, earrings and hair barrettes, plus woven Indian rugs. For information call Adam Fortunate Eagle, 423-6663.

LAS VEGAS

The Tepee—MGM Grand Hotel—3645 Las Vegas Blvd. South. 10am-6pm. Mon.-Wed., 10am-11:30pm, Thurs.-Sun. Paiute hand-tanned and beaded dresses, purses, cradleboards, bolo ties, hair clips, neck chokers, hair ties, earrings, and turquoise and silver necklaces, bracelets, pendants, watch bands, rings and belt buckles. Also Washoe baskets. Call 735-5333.

Turquoise Chief—1408 Las Vegas Blvd. South. Work by Ray Pluta, designer of silver and turquoise jewelry, rings, bracelets, necklaces and buckles. His turquoise carvings and statues run $500 to $40,000. For special orders call Pluta at 385-7011.

MOAPA

EmPee Leathergoods—55 miles north of Las Vegas off I-15 at the Moapa Reservation. A super assortment of leather goods including handbags, belts, attache cases, and gun belts. EmPee also makes bridles and repairs saddles. Items are made and sold retail at the same site. Call Lynna Pearce, 865-2777.

Moapa Paiute Center—also on the Moapa Reservation, 55 miles north of Las Vegas. Sells tribal elders' beadwork such as necklaces, earrings and hair ties, and also ceramic items. Call 865-2727. And if you're interested in fresh vegetables, visit the Greenhouse where the tribe grows and sells cucumbers and tomatoes.

NIXON

Maggi's Gift Shop—P.O. Box 265, 36 miles east of Reno, Hwy. 34-447N. 9am-5pm daily. All types of beadwork such as hair ties, necklaces, bolo ties, watchbands, belt buckles, moccasins, coin purses, baby baskets, salt & pepper shakers and cigarette lighters. Owner Margaret Houten, Paiute craftsman; call Toll Station, Nixon No. 33.

OWYHEE

Benson Gibson Trading Post—Hwy. 51-225 on the Duck Valley Indian Reservation. Beaded head bands, barrettes, cigarette lighter cases, moccasins and gloves.

RENO

Wade's Silver Shop—358 N. Virginia St. 8:30-5:30 Mon.-Sat. Beaded baskets, bottles, earrings, necklaces, salt and pepper shakers, sugar bowls and belt buckles. Call 329-9922.

Indian Territory—110 N. Virginia St., 10-7 daily. Work done by local Indians. Beaded buckles, head bands, baskets, key chains, earrings, cigarette lighter covers, coin purses, clutch purses, bottles and Indian tanned moccasins and deer hide gloves. Call 323-7050.

Reno/Sparks Sewing Circle—34 Reservation Rd., off East 2nd St. near MGM Grand. 7pm, Tues. Crib size to king size quilts, crocheting, few small beaded items, take orders. Call Carol Frank at 786-3128, Ext. 210.

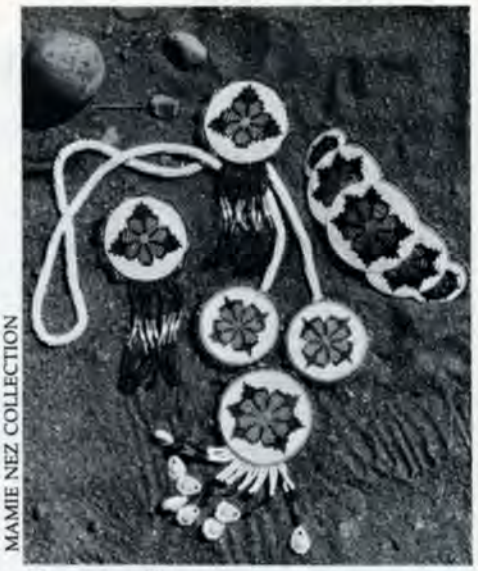
The Tepee—MGM Grand Hotel, 2500 E. 2nd St., 10am-6pm, Mon.-Wed., 10am-11:30pm, Thurs.-Sun. Paiute hand-tanned and beaded dresses, purses, cradleboards, beaded bolo ties, hair clips, neck chokers, hair ties, earrings, and turquoise and silver necklaces, bracelets, pendants, watch bands, rings and belt buckles. Also Washoe baskets. Call 322-5599.

SCHURZ

Walker River Handicraft—Walker River Indian Reservation Tribal Hall. Authentic and unique handcrafted articles by the Walker River Paiutes. Assortment of beaded earrings, key chains, cigarette lighters, salt & pepper shakers, sugar bowls, bottles, vases, necklaces, barrettes, hair ties, buckles, and bolo ties. Also assorted baskets and cradleboards. Call 773-2263.

WADSWORTH

Wadsworth Antiques & Indian Crafts Store—30 miles east of Sparks. Work by Shoshone, Paiute and Washoe Indians. Indian tanned gloves, beaded head bands, bottles, buckles, salt & pepper shakers, cigarette lighter covers, moccasins, cradleboards and stone artifacts. For information call Carl or Evelyn Kubler at 329-7047. □



MAMIE NEZ COLLECTION

Paiute crafts

check with Inter-Tribal Council in Reno, 702-786-3128, for information on 1981 event.)

JULY

4th of July weekend, Rodeo and Powwow, Pyramid Lake, Nixon.

4th of July weekend, Rodeo and Powwow, Duck Valley Reservation, Owyhee.

3rd weekend, All Indian Rodeo and Powwow, Fallon.

AUGUST

1st weekend, Fandango, handgames, cardgames, rounddance, Ruby Valley.

1st weekend, Powwow, McDermitt.

2nd weekend, Fandango, Battle Mountain.

SEPTEMBER

1st weekend, Te-Moak Festival, handgames, rounddance, South Fork, Elko.

9-11, Powwow, Duck Valley Reservation, Owyhee.

2nd weekend, Rodeo, Walker River Paiute Tribe, Schurz.

OCTOBER

4-7, Pine Nut Festival, Schurz.

Mid-month, Powwow, Convention Center, Las Vegas.

25-28, Indian Nevada Day Celebration, Powwow, Pyramid Lake, Nixon.

NOVEMBER

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Adam Nordwall is the son of Adam Fortunate Eagle who was a featured artist in our Fall 1979 issue. While Adam Nordwall is Nevada's premier Fancy Dancer, his father is one of the West's great Traditional Dancers. Poet nila northSun is Adam Nordwall's sister. —Ed

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ONE NIGHT POLITICS

(Continued from page 13)

same mine explored by Grant. Being still in office, he made no recorded cracks about the heat. Instead he offered masterful political praise about the stark countryside: "Yours is a wild and barren region, but you have surrounded yourselves with all the comforts to be found in most favored lands."

Presidential visits to Nevada dropped off until the turn of the century. In 1903 President Theodore Roosevelt was welcomed in Carson City with open arms. He had supported Nevada Congressman Francis G. Newlands in fathering the Reclamation Act of 1902, which provided the nation's first federal irrigation project—the Lahontan Reservoir near the new town of Fallon. In a speech at the capitol Roosevelt pointed with pride to a fact that in these Sagebrush Rebellion days some people might regard as grounds for complaint: "Nevada holds the greatest proportion of public lands in the nation, and the need of Nevada for federal assistance was one of the strongest arguments used in discussions which preceded the Reclamation Act."

In 1911 the Hero of San Juan showed up again, this time in Reno, presumably just to make a speech praising the University of Nevada. This was a year before another run for the White House. He split with the Republican Party in 1912 and ran on the Bull Moose ticket, hoping to win a third term. He came in second, ahead of Republican William Howard Taft. But Woodrow Wilson was elected president.

In 1919 Wilson himself visited Nevada as a president seeking favors. Stumping for American acceptance of the League of Nations, Wilson made a highly unpopular speech in Reno and was blasted by the local press for being on "a propaganda tour trying to bypass the Senate showing autocratic arrogance."

Since those days there has been little change in the value of Nevada as a "leg-up" state for presidential ambitions. We still have only three electoral votes, with premium value only in the closest of elections. Thus most presidential visits from Wilson's until the late 1950s revolved around reasons other than re-election campaigning. In 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt visited Southern Nevada with fanfare and flourish to dedicate Boulder Dam. His predecessor, Herbert Hoover, for whom the great dam was later renamed, stopped in Carson City in April 1933, a month after moving out of the White House. Hoover also spent much time looking over his mining interests in Pioche in the thirties.

But in the fifties there came a candidate who knew he needed every electoral vote he could get. John F. Kennedy was a Roman Catholic, and never had Americans put a man of his faith in the White House. Between 1956 and 1960 the senator from Massachusetts made five visits to northern Nevada and about the same number in the south. In the election he carried Nevada and its three electoral votes which, as it turned out, helped him in his squeaker of a victory over Richard Nixon.

Kennedy's Nevada politicking helped establish a trend toward close ties between presidents and top officials of the state. Governor Grant Sawyer had a close enough relationship with JFK to call on him personally for help in critical situations. The most important was a successful Sawyer trip to the White House to persuade the President to have his brother, Attorney General Robert Kennedy, drop a proposed federal strike force raid on Nevada's major casinos.

In 1960 Hubert Humphrey, Kennedy's chief rival for the Democratic nomination, also visited the state for some handshaking, conferences and a speech or two. One evening in Carson City (then 5,000 population) the Minnesota senator spoke at a small banquet room crowded with party members and charmed his audience with a vintage Humphrey oration.

Since then we have had all the rest. Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ted Kennedy, Ronald Reagan and other candidates have made their pitches to us during their one-night stands in Las Vegas and Reno. Sometimes they're between planes, usually on their way to or from California, a state as rich in votes for present-day politicians as Nevada's gold and silver mines were for Lincoln.

Today Nevada still has those three lonely electoral votes. But mark well that we now have a little gimmick that may make presidential candidates think twice about giving Nevada the brush-off this year. That gimmick is an item on the ballot called "None of These Candidates." It does remarkably well here on election day—without campaigning, shaking hands or spending a single dime. □



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Photographs by David Muench

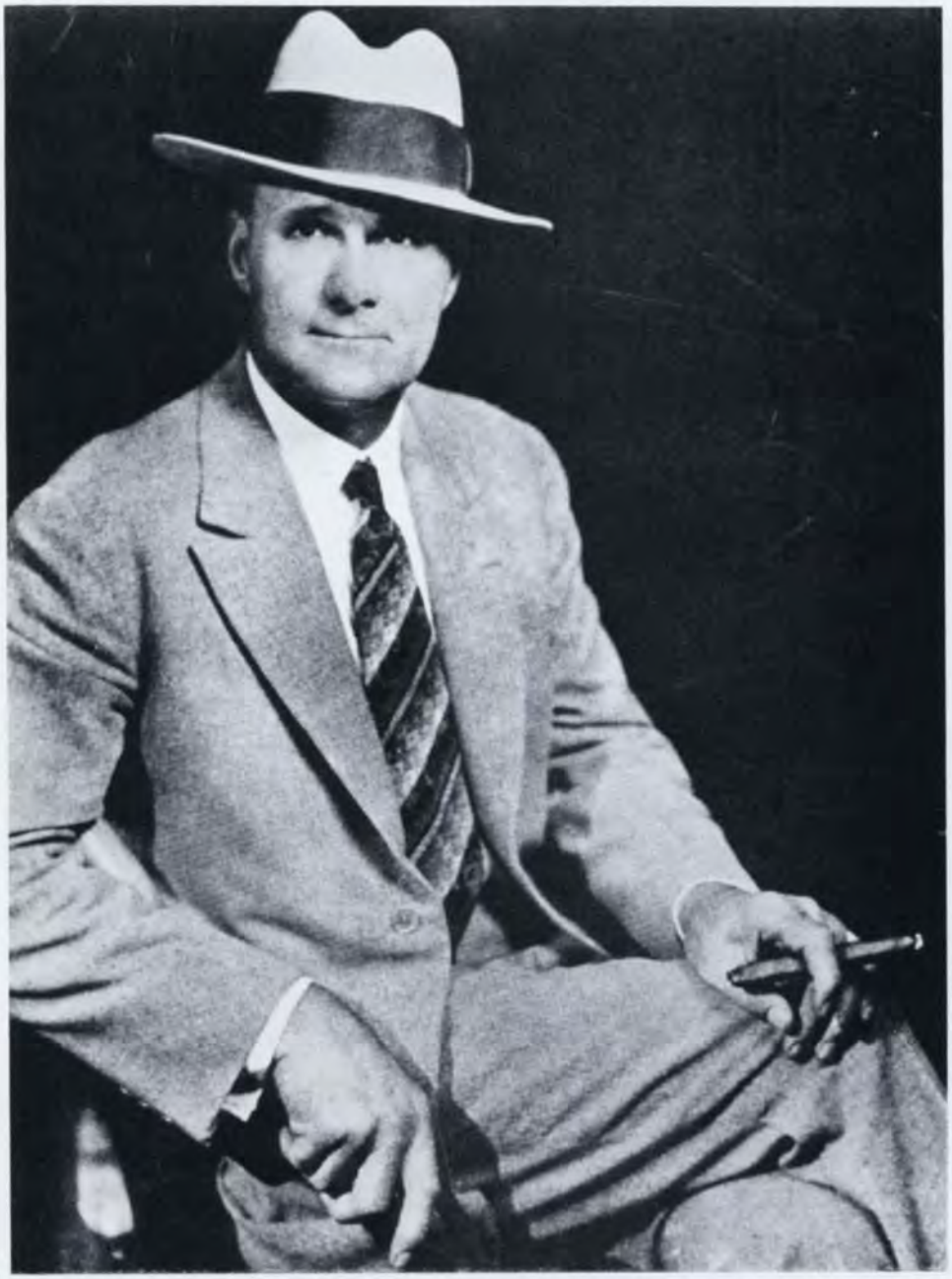
Muench's Gallery

In summer, stands of quaking aspen blend with the sturdy pine and cedar covering the mountains of Nevada, noticeable only at close range by the cool shimmer of their silver leaves. But come fall, the quakies are a symphony of change. Dabs of riotous color spread until the mountains are dotted with splendid hues of yellow, orange and rust. It's harvest time, and autumn at its glorious best. —AH

David Muench enjoys showing what he calls "the spirit of the land, a spirit of place" in his work. Muench, one of the Southwest's great landscape photographers, presents selections from his Nevada portfolio in each issue.

King of the Matchmakers

Nevada saloonkeeper Tex Rickard became boxing's greatest promoter and introduced a new style of money and magic to American sport. By Phillip I. Earl



Tex Rickard, known for his snap brim and cigar, parlayed a Nevada gamble into a career as the ring's most famous promoter.

Tex Rickard was a Nevada gambler who became the foremost boxing promoter America has ever known. From his saloons in Goldfield and Rawhide to New York's Madison Square Garden, he made fortunes by knowing what risks and pleasures stir men the most; he lost fortunes by betting on the wrong people and the wrong gold towns. He was an honest man, at least by the standards of his sport. As his friend Jack Dempsey said, "His eye was his bond."

He introduced an exciting promotional style to American sports, largely based on wringing every ounce of publicity from the large purses he was able to promise. He was part Barnum the showman, part Napolean the persuader, and with Dempsey he staged some of the most exciting and most profitable spectacles in ring history.

Rickard was an engaging person, a tall man with small, twinkling eyes and an infectious smile. In his prime he had three trademarks: a light-colored fedora with the brim turned down, a gold-headed malacca cane and a cigar. Although he dressed like a dandy, he had an aura of the West about him, something of wide open spaces, saloons and six-guns. He looked and talked like the frontier. Gazing in awe at the crowds gathered for one of his fights, he would drawl in hickish wonder, "I never seed anything like it."

And the American sporting world had never seen anyone quite like Rickard.

He spent his later years in New York and Florida, but his roots were as western as his Texas accent. A cowboy in his teens, he served as town marshall of Henrietta, Texas, in 1894 before following the gold rush to the Klondike. He ran gambling halls in Dawson, Circle City and Nome, where he developed his native talent for cards

and his nose for the Big Score.

Moving to Nevada in 1904, Rickard and two partners opened the Northern in Goldfield in February 1905. The Northern thrived with 14 gambling tables and a 60-foot bar manned by three shifts of bartenders, with six to 12 men on a shift to serve Goldfield's thirsty populace. Northern cashier Billy Murray later estimated he handled $10,000 a day during the saloon's first two years, or more than $7 million total. That was not gross earnings, since Rickard also acted as a banker for miners and grubstaked any prospector who seemed deserving.

As a cash keeper Rickard is said to have saved the John S. Cook Bank from bankruptcy during a local panic. As miners withdrew their savings from Cook's bank, they took the money to Rickard, believing it would be safe with him. Northern employees then returned the money to the bank through a back entrance, and once again it was paid out to panicky depositors, who brought it back to the Northern. The bank closed with its reputation intact, and a reverse operation was carried out in the middle of the night so the men could collect from Rickard and redeposit their funds in the bank the next morning.

Rickard had promoted bareknuckle matches in Alaska, but it was in Goldfield that he stepped into the world of boxing. And what an entrance it was. His first promotion was the great 42-round lightweight championship match between Joe Gans and Oscar "Battling" Nelson in 1906. Designed as a promotional stunt for Goldfield and its mines, it became under Rickard's able stewardship one of the most memorable fistic events in history.

The nationwide Bank Panic of 1907 and labor disputes took the edge off the camp's boom, and Rickard moved on. In the fall of 1907 he acquired an interest in a hotel in Ely that was renamed the Northern. Then he sold his interest in the Goldfield Northern and was in the new camp of Rawhide by February 1908.

Rickard opened a new Northern near Stingaree Gulch, Rawhide's red light district. He became associated with George Graham Rice, as rascally a promoter and confidence man as ever set foot in the Silver State. The two teamed up to promote the camp through such devices as Herman W. Knickerbocker's famous oration at the funeral of Riley Grannan and a poker game that ended in a Wild West shoot-

NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTOS



Crowds outside Tex Rickard's Reno headquarters gather before the great 1910 boomer fight, Johnson vs. Jeffries.

out for the benefit of English novelist Elinor Glyn, a visitor to Rawhide. They also concocted the story of how a boulder had been dynamited on Main Street—scattering $30,000 in gold all over town.

Checking his bet at Rawhide, Rickard returned to Ely, but boxing was already in his blood. He drifted back to Goldfield and promoted a featherweight contest between champion Abe Attell and Freddie Weeks, a Tonopah boy who claimed the title in Nevada, Colorado and Montana. The fight, however, did little to bolster Rickard's sagging finances.

But if Rickard had seemed to lose his golden touch, he regained it the next year when he staged the "Fight of the Century," the great Johnson-Jeffries battle in Reno. He not only promoted the fight, he refereed it. The bout drew 30,000 fans and focused international attention on Reno and Rickard.

The $135,000 he made from the gate and film rights gave him the big grubstake he wanted. In 1912 he moved to Paraguay and spent the next three years running a cattle ranch in the Gran Chaco. He reentered the U.S. and the fight game in 1915 by promoting Jess Willard's first heavyweight title defense. Rickard staged other Willard bouts and became the nation's best-known fight figure, but it wasn't until he signed his man for a match with an up and coming brawler from the West, Jack Dempsey, that he achieved enduring fame.

In his heyday Rickard was not above making payoffs and secret deals to obtain a license, a contract, a stadium. He was not dishonest but had a simple, easy-going sense of ethics. He tended to do business as he learned in the West, and probably tended to trust people more than he should have. When he managed New York's Madison Square Garden in the twenties, battles with the state boxing commission and Tammany Hall forced him to stage his promotions in other cities. Rival promoters harrassed him with lawsuits, resenting the success of the ex-faro dealer in their midst.

One skill that confounded Rickard's rivals was his ability—a throwback to his Alaska and Nevada gambling days—to generate money fever. In Goldfield he dumped the full amount of the Gans-Nelson purse, $32,000 in $10 and $20 gold pieces, in the window of the Northern to advertise the fight.

He pulled a similar stunt to get Jack Johnson to sign with him in 1910. He bought the boxer's wife a new fur coat and advanced the champion $2,500 in $100 bills. In return, Johnson tipped him that the highest bid to promote the match with Jeffries was expected to be $100,000 and suggested that Rickard bid $101,000. When Rickard guaranteed

Dempsey and George Carpentier the unheard of sum of $1 million for a title fight in 1921, everyone thought he was crazy. But the publicity produced what was then the largest crowd in boxing history—80,183 fans—and $1,789,238 in box office receipts.

Perhaps Rickard's greatest influence was in making the fight game more respectable. Turn-of-the-century boxing was characterized by the dives where fights took place, the dangers of toughs and knuckleduster wielders, pickpockets, drunks and others who lived on the fringes of the fight world. You never got the seat your ticket called for, and, of course, it was simply no place for a lady.

Rickard changed all that. Tickets to his fights in Madison Square Garden bore portal, aisle, section and seat numbers, and special police were hired for public protection. It became as safe for a couple to attend a Rickard fight as it was to go to a Broadway play.

The famous, high-living promoter had his share of personal tragedies. His first wife died in childbirth in Texas, and a brief second marriage to a saloon singer in Alaska ended in divorce. An adopted daughter died in 1907, and as Rickard was building a new Garden in New York, his wife Edith Mae died in 1925.

But a year later Rickard married Maxine Hodges, a Broadway actress. Thirty years younger than Rickard, she not only presented him with a daughter a year later, but also got him to relax. He bought a yacht, took up golf and purchased a handsome home on a lagoon near Miami. He dreamed of establishing an American Monte Carlo in Miami complete with casino, hotel, dog and horse track and arena.

It was in warm, sunny Miami that Tex Rickard died of an appendix infection on January 6, 1929, at age 59. His body was brought to New York to lie in state in a $15,000 bronze casket in the center of the arena he had built. Jack Dempsey wept openly at the sight of his old friend, as did those whom Rickard had touched in the course of his eventful life.

One newsman was moved by the thousands of mourners who shuffled in an endless line past the casket. He later wrote, "I could never quite detemine whether they came because Rickard's last show was free, because they were curious, or because they had a genuine affection for this stranger from the West." Whatever the reason, Tex would have been pleased with the turnout. □

The Battle of Goldfield

After Joe Gans and Battling Nelson said yes to Tex Rickard, the young mining town of Goldfield was the center of the sporting world.

By Steven R. Nicolaisen

The year was 1906. Theodore Roosevelt was president; the automobile was just becoming popular; the Wright brothers were flying; and the Old West was dying. But still there were prospectors and miners looking for that one big strike, and thousands of them came to Goldfield.

In 1906 the mining town of Goldfield, located 25 miles south of Tonopah in the Nevada desert, was ready to explode. It had been settled by a handful of eager prospectors in 1903, a year after Billy Marsh and Harry Stimler discovered gold on nearby Columbia Mountain. In three years the population had topped 10,000. Fine brick homes and businesses were built as production increased and stocks flourished. In 1905 the Tonopah & Goldfield Railroad was completed, and in 1906 the richest strike yet was made at the Mohawk mine.

Indeed, Goldfield was ready to trade its dusty boom town image for that of a prosperous city. Town leaders were anxious to find new investment capital. And a good way to catch the world's attention, they discovered, was to stage a prizefight.

The idea came from George Lewis "Tex" Rickard. Born in Texas in 1870, Rickard had been a cowpuncher in his teens and a town marshall at age 24. In the mid-1890s he joined the gold rush to the Klondike. His travels finally brought him to Goldfield, and in 1906 he was operating the Northern Hotel. Like any promoter worth his salt, he also had an interest in a gold mine.

At a local gathering that summer Rickard suggested promoting a fight. His colleagues' interest was piqued since Jack Clifford, a prominent lightweight of that era, was in Goldfield at the time, challenging any and all comers who dared to meet him in the ring.



NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTOS

Battling Nelson and Joe Gans, backed by their seconds, shake before pounding each other for the world lightweight championship.



Fight fans pack the stands in Goldfield. The wild-eyed gentleman in the first row, second from left, has been identified as Death Valley Scotty.

Battling Nelson, an outstanding lightweight contender, was fishing near Salt Lake City when he heard Clifford's challenge. He wired Rickard that he would fight Clifford for $5,000, and it looked like a Nelson-Clifford fight was on.

But Rickard, seeking the best match he could find, wired Joe Gans, the world lightweight champion, that the Goldfield Athletic Club would guarantee a purse of $20,000 for a Gans-Nelson title bout. In turn, Nelson wired his willingness to meet Gans for $30,000 in Goldfield on Labor Day. Gans announced he was heading to Goldfield and would agree to any split of the purse.

Rickard and three partners put up $20,000 each to back the bout, and on August 11, 1906, Gans and Nelson signed for a fight to the finish with five-ounce gloves for the lightweight championship on September 3. Nelson would get $23,000 and Gans $11,000. George Siler, famed third man of that era, was named referee.

Gans and Nelson were opposites in every detail. Gans was a soft-spoken black man from Baltimore, born there in 1874. He began fighting profesionally in 1891 and had compiled an outstanding record: only six losses in 145 bouts. Known as the "Old Master," Gans had won the lightweight title from Frank Erne in 1902 by a one-round knockout. He had scored victories over many contenders. He twice knocked out Mike (Twin) Sullivan, later to become welterweight champion, and had fought for the welterweight title in 1904 against Joe Walcott. The agreement was to call the fight a draw if both were still standing after 20 rounds. A draw it was, but Gans easily outclassed Walcott.

Gans, however, had not looked impressive in his last title defense. Fighting Jimmy Britt only a month after fighting Walcott, he was weakened from making the lightweight limit of 133 pounds and came close to losing before winning on a foul in five rounds. Thereafter fighting at that weight was a hardship for Gans, but he couldn't turn down the money he would make from meeting Nelson in Goldfield.

Nelson was born in Copenhagen, Denmark, in 1882 and had emigrated to Hegewich, Illinois, near Chicago, as a child. Brash, outspoken, rough and tough, he began fighting in 1896. Known as the "Durable Dane" because of his ability to absorb punishment, nearly all of his early fights were short distance bouts. There was one notable exception: in December 1902 he scored a 17-round knockout over Christy Williams in Arkansas. Nelson had been on the deck seven times but rallied to floor Williams 42 times before knocking him cold. Those 49 total knockdowns set an all-time record for the most knockdowns in a single fight.

In 1904, when Goldfield was still a tent town, Nelson came west. After winning two fights by knockouts in San Francisco, he fought Aurelio Herrera, a Mexican who trained on cigars and whiskey and could hit like a piledriver. Nelson's ability to absorb punishment became legend after their fight in Butte, Montana. In the fifth round Herrera nailed Nelson on the chin with a sledgehammer right. Nelson did a complete backward somersault and a headstand on the canvas, but he roared back to win a 20-round decision.

Continued



NEVADA HISTORICAL SOCIETY PHOTOS

Tex Rickard's Northern is on the right in this scene of Goldfield in 1905.

After their telegraph exchanges with Rickard, both Nelson and Gans began training. Nelson's manager, Billy Nolan, knew of Gans' weight problems and stipulated in the fight contract that both men would have to weigh in three times on fight day, a record number of weigh-ins for a bout with no postponements. Failure to make the weight meant paying a $5,000 forfeit.

It was unfair, but Gans, fighting without his regular manager, agreed. Gans had claimed after his fight with Jimmy Britt that he needed time to rest and regain his strength. His manager, Al Herford, conceded but later walked out on him, thinking Gans was through as a fighter. What neither man knew was that Gans had contracted tuberculosis. But for the Goldfield fight Gans stood to pocket nearly all of his $11,000 purse, whereas Nelson would have to split his $23,000 with Nolan. Gans agreed to all the demands, and this attitude won him many friends; his admirers outnumbered Nelson's five to one.

The night before the fight Goldfield bustled with activity. Legend says more than $5 million was wagered on the two boxers. Paul Tarpey of the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported, "Tonight this mining camp presents a scene unparalleled in the history of the State of Nevada. The streets of the camp which three years ago was unmarked by a single building, tent or other human habitation of any kind have taken on the appearance of a thriving metropolis. Hundreds of visitors are walking the streets, because even the saloons and gambling houses are too crowded to permit of a place to sit down and rest. There is not a single bed or room to be had, and many have planned to secure a few hours rest by sleeping in the great arena in which the fight will take place."

The day of the fight was warm and dry. All three weigh-ins went without a hitch. At three o'clock, in front of 5,000 spectators, referee Siler gave the fighters their instructions. The Battle of Goldfield was underway.

Gans opened the first round with a burst of speed. At round's end, Nelson was bleeding from his ears. Gans kept up the pace, bloodying Nelson's nose in the third and rocking him in the fifth. At this point the betting went up in Gans' favor from 10-7 to 2-1.

Gans continued battering Nelson in the sixth and then began to pace himself. He won the next three rounds, but Nelson won the 10th, drawing blood from Gans' mouth.

From the 11th through the 14th, Gans had the edge, and in the 15th he floored Nelson with a right to the face. Nelson had the better of the next four rounds, but Gans rallied to nearly knock out Nelson in the 20th. The betting odds shot up to 3-1, Gans.

Then the bout became an endurance contest. Nelson began to tire at the 30th round, and soon the referee was giving him foul warnings. Both men were weary. In the 33rd Gans broke his right hand, but he continued to dominate.

It finally ended in the 42nd. Gans threw a left. Breaking from a clinch, Nelson deliberately threw a vicious right into Gans' groin. Gans dropped to the canvas in agony, and referee Siler immediately disqualified Nelson. The spectators had seen the foul, and they booed Nelson and cheered Gans as the fighters left the ring.

The Battle of Goldfield had been spectacular in every way. It had gone 42 rounds (nearly three hours, at three minutes a round), the record for a modern championship. The $34,000

(Continued on page 70)

GREAT NEVADA FIGHTS

Boxing has enjoyed a recent upsurge of popularity in Nevada, with such favorites as Muhammed Ali, Larry Holmes and Sugar Ray Leonard plying their trade in Las Vegas, Stateline, and other cities. This is nothing new, however, and the list below includes a selection of Nevada's greatest moments in fistic history:

1897—Bob Fitzsimmons KO'd James J. Corbett in 14 rounds on March 17 to win world heavyweight title in CARSON CITY

1905—Marvin Hart KO'd Jack Root in 12th on July 3 to claim vacant world heavyweight title in RENO

1906—Joe Gans defeated Battling Nelson on a foul in 42nd on Sept. 3 to retain world lightweight title in GOLDFIELD

1907—Mike Schreck KO'd Marvin Hart in 21st on May 30 in TONOPAH

1910—Jack Johnson KO'd James J. Jeffries in 15th on July 4 to retain world heavyweight title in RENO

1931—Paulino Uzcudun decisioned Max Baer in 20 rounds on July 4 in RENO

1932—Max Baer decisioned King Levinsky in 20 rounds on July 4 in RENO

1962—Carlos Ortiz decisioned Joe Brown in 15 rounds on April 21 to win world lightweight title in LAS VEGAS

1964—Emile Griffith decisioned Luis Rodriguez in 15 rounds on June 12 to retain world welterweight title in LAS VEGAS

1969—Leotis Martin KO'd Sonny Liston in 9th on Dec. 6 in LAS VEGAS

1976—George Foreman KO'd Ron Lyle in 5th on Jan. 24 in LAS VEGAS

1977—Ken Norton decisioned Jimmy Young in 15 rounds on Nov. 5 to win the WBC heavyweight title in LAS VEGAS

1978—Roberto Duran KO'd Esteban DeJesus in 12th on Jan. 21 to retain world lightweight title in LAS VEGAS

1978—Leon Spinks decisioned Muhammed Ali in 15 rounds on Feb. 15 to win world heavyweight title in LAS VEGAS

1978—Larry Holmes decisioned Ken Norton in 15 rounds on June 9 to win WBC heavyweight title in LAS VEGAS

1979—Larry Holmes beat Ernie Shavers by TKO in 11th on Sept. 28 to retain WBC heavyweight title in LAS VEGAS

1979—Sugar Ray Leonard beat Wilfredo Benitez by TKO in 15th on Nov. 30 to win WBC welterweight title in LAS VEGAS

1980—Alan Minter decisioned Vito Antuofermo in 15 rounds on March 16 to win world middleweight title in LAS VEGAS —*Steven R. Nicholaisen*

Boomer Fights

At the turn of the century, boxing for some Nevada cities was as good as gold. By Guy Louis Rocha

The Gans-Nelson bout in Goldfield was a "boomer fight," and so were all other major fights held in Nevada between 1897 and 1910. Practically every community in the Silver State vied for the right to stage a world championship boxing contest. "Boost, don't knock" was the phrase of the day, and what better way to do it than by sponsoring a battle between two ranking pugilists that would bring national, if not international, attention to an enterprising sagebrush burg.

During those 13 years, Nevada was the boomer fight capital of America. For many of the state's turn-of-the-century residents, boxing was as good as gold.

Enthusiastically promoting the Attell-Weeks contest for the featherweight championship of the world, the *Goldfield Daily Tribune* reported in late December 1908 that "the event will equal, if it does not exceed in importance, the famous Nelson-Gans contest two years ago when the entire country had its attention riveted on Goldfield." The local journal heaped praise on promoter Tex Rickard—responsible for both fights—and noted that the "camp secured a tremendous impetus from the Nelson-Gans mill, in fact, the advertising growing out of the contest and bestowed upon the Goldfield district could never be measured by dollars and cents."

But dollars and cents were really what booming and boxing in Nevada were all about at the turn of the century. As the state was mired in a severe depression, Nevada's legislators passed a bill in January 1897, which the governor quickly signed, permitting public prize fights. It was hoped that by being the first state in the union to legalize what many people considered to be an immoral activity, Nevada would attract the big contests and thus all the trade and news coverage associated with them.

Carson City jumped at the promotional opportunity. On St. Patrick's Day, 1897, Bob Fitzsimmons wrested the heavyweight crown from "Gentleman Jim" Corbett with a 14th round knockout in the capital city. Longtime Nevada journalist Alf Doten noted in his diary that "pugs, gamblers, newspaper reporters, scrubs, whores and sons of bitches in plenty" roamed the streets of Carson. The local *Appeal* ignored the seamier side of such a spectacle and conspicuously claimed that the "slow sleeping town" looked, at least for awhile, "just like Frisco."



Champion Jack Johnson and sparring partner pose before his great 1910 boomer fight with Jim Jeffries in Reno. Johnson's headquarters were at Rick's Resort just west of town.

Reno staged the Hart-Root heavyweight contest in July 1905 as a part of a five-day promotional carnival extravaganza. Hart claimed the heavyweight title, and Reno's newspapers boasted that the fight put the town on the map. Goldfield soon followed suit with the Gans-Nelson "Battle of the Century" in September 1906. Local mining stocks went sky high as thousands of gold-crazed fight fans excited a stock trading frenzy.

Then on New Year's day 1907, Tonopah, the "Queen of the Silver Camps," held the Gans-Herman fight for the lightweight championship of the world. Gans easily won, and much to the joy of area mining entrepreneurs, the Tonopah Stock Exchange did a thriving business. Rival Goldfield had to have the last word in its competition with Tonopah for first-rate exhibitions of the pugilistic art, and in January 1909 staged the Attell-Weeks world featherweight contest, which Attell won by a knockout.

But Reno outdid them all in 1910 with the "Fight of the Century." The Johnson-Jeffries heavyweight championship fight on July 4 brought worldwide attention and some 20,000 fight fans to what sportswriter Rex Beach called "the focal point of all things terrestrial" and "the precise magnetic center of the civilized world." The fans were treated to a bruising match in which Johnson, the champion and a black man, put down Jeffries, the Great White Hope, several times in the 15th before the challenger's seconds threw in the towel. If Hart-Root had indeed put Reno on the map, then Johnson-Jeffries kept it there. □



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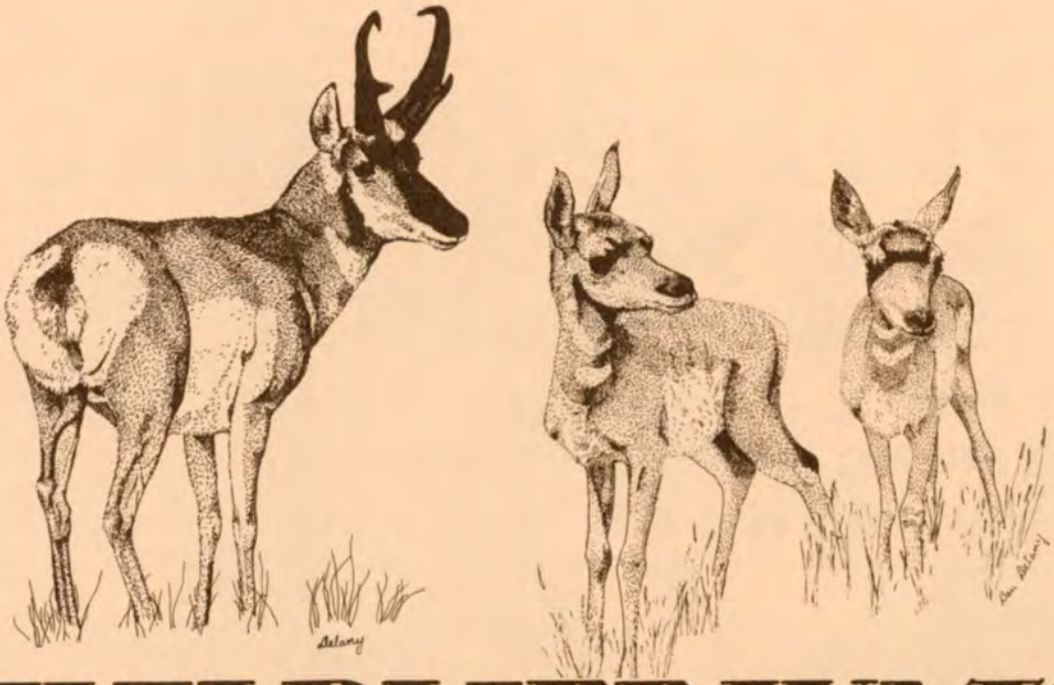
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Bobcat



WILDLIFE WATCHING

An animal watcher who doesn't have the eyes of a cat or the speed of an antelope can sometimes spy on nature's wild creatures with field glasses, a little knowledge and a lot of luck.

By Dan Delany



Bald Eagle

Even for an experienced hunter or wildlife watcher, spotting Nevada animals is not an everyday pasttime. "Where are the animals?" is a frequent question from travelers. "I didn't see a single thing out there!" Except for squirrels and black tailed jacks scampering across the asphalt, it's a creatureless world out there on the highway.

But then you stop, set up camp and watch the birds darting between the trees, and the kangaroo rats and perhaps a rare, wary coyote in the firelight. Or you may get out into the desert and mountains, where hunters and hikers find tracks and occasional glimpses of big game.

Here's a close-up look at five of the state 's most fascinating creatures, their desert and forest homes, and their wild habits.

Bobcat

(Lynx rufux)

The bobcat is a sly and secretive hunter, ranging widely for a nightly diet of rabbits and mice. During the day it finds a snug nest on a ledge or under the sagebrush and sleeps. Like your



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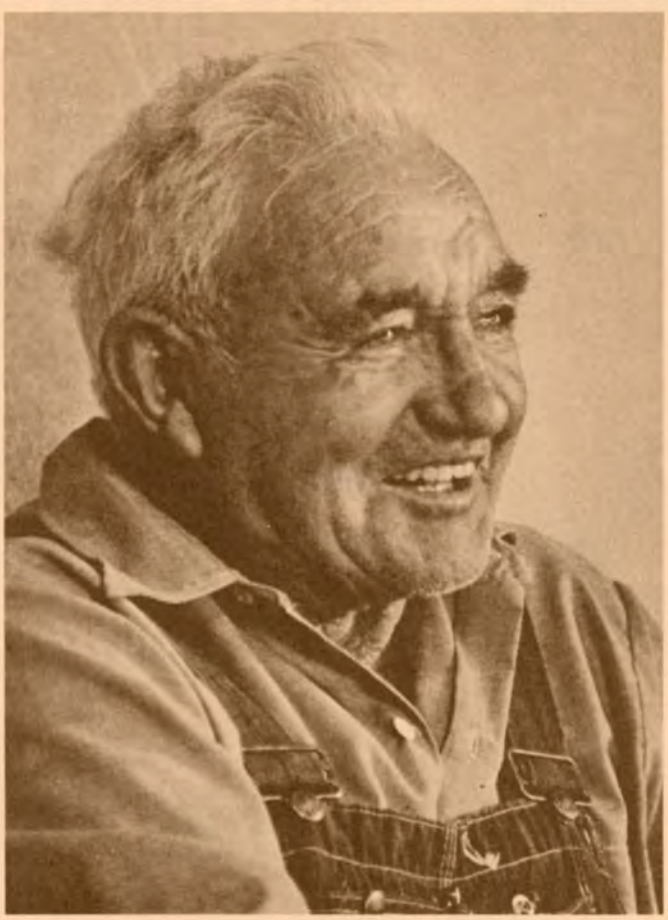
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Beltran: Basque Sheepman of the American West

by Beltran Paris, as told to William Douglass

$10.00

As a youth raised on a tiny farm in the Pyrenees Mountains of France, Beltran Paris lived a life of almost unceasing work and few expectations. As he was to recall in later years, "Somehow, I thought I could do better."

It was this motivation that prompted him to join the many hundreds of young Basques in similar straits who made the momentous decision to emigrate to the American West where they began a pattern of experiences which typified the Basque sheepherder early in this century.

But Beltran was not satisfied to remain a sheepherder or a camptender, and eventually he built a successful livestock operation which today extends over three Nevada counties.

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WILDLIFE WATCHING

Continued



neighborhood house cat, the bobcat disdains water but is a good swimmer in an emergency. Trapping of the cats is managed by the Nevada Department of Wildlife.

Description: The bobcat gets its name from its short "bobbed off" tail, which has a black tip. Ears are pointed, and fur is long and soft, grey or brown with dark spots and stripes. Weight averages 20 pounds.

Where found: Throughout the West and in Nevada's deserts and high mountains, most frequently in foothills and rocky areas.

Diet: Rabbits, mice, ground squirrels and woodrats. Bobcats are capable of killing mule deer, particularly in winter snows, and occasionally kill sheep.

Young: Kittens are born in the spring in litters of three or four. When very young they resemble house cats except for the bob tail, ear tufts and extra large feet. They are very playful.

Bighorn Sheep



Bald Eagle

(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)

A strong and impressive flyer, the bald eagle is not the fierce villain of the skies that some people imagine. It is mild-tempered but a determined hunter, able to steal fish in mid-air from osprey with a single threatening dive. Its favorite roosts are in tall trees or cliffs.

In 1782 the bald eagle was chosen as America's symbol of freedom. Today the big bird is protected by law as an endangered species.

Description: The bald eagle has a yellow bill, dark brown body and white head and tail. Wingspan is six and a half to eight feet. Birds less than four to five years old have dark bills and dusky-colored heads and tails. They also show some white under the wings.

Where found: From Mexico to Alaska. Although they no longer breed in Nevada, some bald eagles spend the winter in the state. Preferred Nevada habitats include rivers, lakes, valleys and marshes.

Diet: Fish, waterfowl and shorebirds when hunting near water, and jack rabbits and carrion in valleys. Stories of bald eagles packing off young sheep, dogs and even babies are not documented.

Young: Early in the year the adults build a nest four to six feet across and 60 to 120 feet up in a tree or a cliff near water. Young birds are covered with light down, gaining adult feathers at 10 weeks and leaving the nest two weeks later. Both parents incubate and bring food. Bald eagles mate for life; if one dies, the other will find a new mate.

Pronghorn Antelope

(Antilocapra americana)

Antelope are timid, curious and fast. They can run up to 40 mph and travel over a large home range, sometimes covering 400 square miles between summer and winter ranges. They are known for "flashing"—signaling alarm to other members of the herd by raising their white rump hairs, which also help the herd stay together at night.

Description: Slightly smaller than a mule deer (about three feet at the shoulder) but with longer legs, the pronghorn's upper body is golden buff.

The belly, rump and two throat bars are white. Hairs are hollow, constructed of air cells for maximum insulation. Each year bucks and does shed the outer sheath of their black horns.

Where found: Sagebrush grasslands of gently rolling hills in Nye, Mineral, Lyon, Washoe, Humboldt, Elko, Eureka, White Pine and Lincoln counties. Large herds live on the Sheldon National Antelope Range, a favorite hunting area, near the Oregon border west of Denio.

Diet: Wildflowers, grasses and shrubs.

Young: In early spring the pregnant does leave the herd. Usually two kids are born in a shelter of low brush, and at two weeks the young are up and running.

Predators: Coyotes, bobcats and golden eagles.

Tracks: Similar to mule deer's except tips are farther apart.

Bighorn Sheep

(Ovis canadensis)

These nomadic, highly social animals travel widely in search of water and forage. Bighorns are wary; while some feed, others in the band keep watch. They can run quickly across steep rocky hillsides, their favorite habitat. During the day desert bighorns favor the restful refuge of a cave or shaded ledge, seeking water every three or four days.

Description: Rams weigh 150-180 pounds and ewes 110-120. The ewe's horns are short and sickle-shaped, and the rams have massive horns that curl full-circle at maturity.

Where found: Rugged mountain ranges of Clark, Lincoln and Esmeralda counties. Historically three races—the desert, Rocky Mountain and California bighorns—lived in all major Nevada ranges, but bighorns disappeared from most of the north by the late 1800s due to contact with domestic sheep disease and unregulated hunting by miners and settlers. Today the Nevada Department of Wildlife is re-introducing all three types to historic ranges and carefully manages bighorn hunting.

Tracks: Tips of the toes are farther apart than the bases.

Diet: Grasses and wildflowers in spring and summer, and shrubs in fall and winter.

Young: One lamb is born to each mother, usually in the spring. Ewes nursing lambs require water daily and seldom travel far from water.

Predators: Coyotes, bobcats, golden eagles and mountain lions.



Barn Owl

Barn Owl

(Tyto alba)

The barn owl is a strange bird. Unlike other owls it doesn't give a hoot but rather a loud hiss when it calls. It prefers to hunt at night, relying more on its sense of hearing than on sight. The barn owl is a powerful flyer, but its soft feathers allow it to hear the movements and voices of its prey. It's also called the "monkey-faced owl."

Description: The only owl with a white heart-shaped face, dark eyes and no ear tufts, and its breast is not streaked like most owls' Lower coloring is cream to pale cinnamon and upper parts gold to rust. In headlights or under a street lamp, the barn owl appears almost white. Wingspan is 14 to 20 inches.

Where found: Throughout North America though rarely in northern states. Barn owls prefer open fields and meadows, canyon lands, farm areas and towns, usually as a permanent resident.

Diet: Field mice, deer mice, gophers, barn rats and occasionally birds and insects.

Young: Nesting occurs early in the year in old barns, belfries, tree cavities or holes in clay banks. Five to seven white eggs are laid, and both sexes incubate. When feeding young, a single barn owl can capture more rats and mice in one night than a dozen house cats. After two months, the young owls are on their own.

Predator: The much larger and more aggressive great horned owl. □

Now that you've shot it, what in the world do you do next? By Baird Davies

DRESSING BIG GAME RIGHT THIS FALL

All the beer in camp has been drunk, all the stories told, and you have finally shot the buck you've been talking about all year. It might seem like a letdown, but the post-trophy pause can be the most enjoyable part of hunting. It's the time when you reap the benefit of the harvest, and how good that harvest will taste on your table depends on what you do when your trophy is on the ground.

Certainly the best way to field dress big game was developed by Lovelock hunter Smokey Baird. Old Smokey has killed at least one deer every year since he was 12, or about three or four dozen deer in all. What Smokey did was to make sure someone was with him when he got his deer. Sometimes it was a stranger, sometimes a friend. Once the deer was killed, Old Smokey would scratch his head, look dumb and say something like, "Shucks, I've gutted a few of these deer but I never really did get the hang of it. Do you think you could show me how?"

This method worked on one of his best friends three years running. And it always worked on strangers. No one really wanted to gut Old Smokey's deer, but they couldn't pass up the chance to show off.

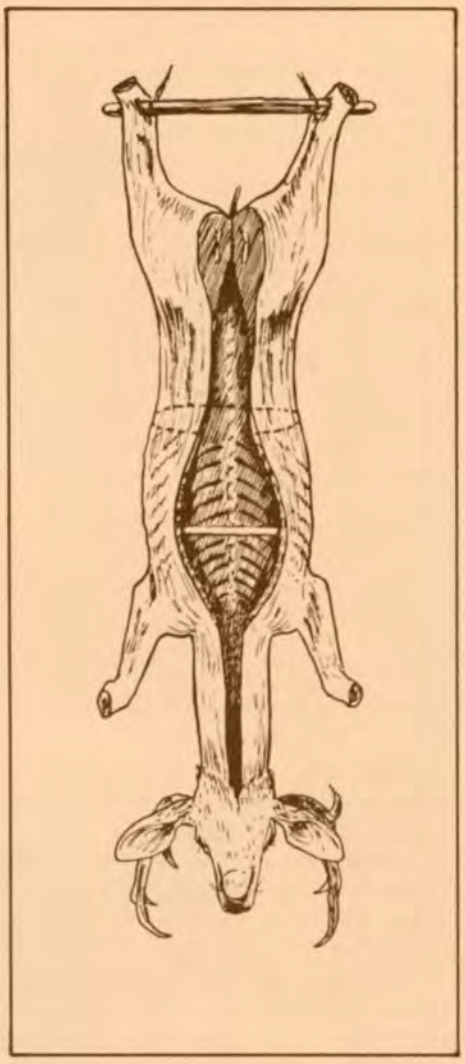
Perhaps his technique will work for you this fall. But in the event it doesn't, you can use the following method of field dressing and other suggestions on caring for game. If you do, you will be serving delectable meat this winter. If you don't, the result will be tainted meat.

What You Need

A good, sharp pocket knife (large hunting knives look better than they work); nylon rope to hang the animal; a cheesecloth bag to cover carcass; and a heavy cotton or canvas bag to transport the meat home.

How to Have a Best Dressed Deer

• Punch your deer tag. It's illegal in Nevada to kill a deer out of season and without a tag. At all times the tag must be with the animal.



• Assuming you have no intention of mounting your trophy, turn the animal so its head is pointing downhill. If the ground is flat, just drape his rear end across a bush. Slit his throat just below the jawbone to bleed the animal and sever the windpipe (which is a hollow, firm white tube).

• While the hind quarters are elevated and the animal is bleeding, sever and discard the genitals. Then remove the scent glands located on each rear leg near the knee joint. These glands are easily identified by the hair protruding from them; cut well beyond the gland areas to make sure no part remains.

• Very carefully cut a circle around the anus so that it is completely free and loose of any connecting skin. Don't puncture the intestines because the meat's flavor can be tainted if intestinal material comes in contact.

• Turn the animal on his back with his hind quarters downhill. Cut the genitals free all the way to anus so both organs will be free to move in or out of the previously cut circle. Do not remove yet.

• Your next step is to open the stomach cavity. Hold the back of your knife blade against your index finger. Start your cut at about the point where you began cutting the genitals free, sliding your finger and blade just under the skin. Be careful to cut *only* the skin leaving all organs intact to avoid flavoring the meat. Cut all the way to the rib cage.

• Connected to the rib cage and extending to the spine is a thick skin called the diaphragm, which separates the stomach from the chest cavity. Cut this loose from the body.

• Cut through the ribs all the way to the neck with your heaviest blade or a large hunting knife. If your knife is properly sharpened you'll have no trouble at all.

• Hold up one side of the rib cage and with your free hand grasp the windpipe above the lungs and pull downward. Remember, you severed the windpipe earlier. Everything should now be sliding towards the rear and over the pelvis. All the innards must exit through the stomach opening. If you missed anything, you can find it easily now and cut it loose.

• If there is a tree nearby, hang the animal by its head and let it drain

completely. Wipe all blood and foreign material out of the cavity with clean rags. If there is no tree, prop the animal on a rock or bush.

• From the innards separate the liver, heart and any other organ you fancy. Place in bags to keep clean and store in the coolest possible place.

You have now finished field dressing your animal. Gene Thacker of Cosgrave, one of Nevada's most professional hunters, says, "If you did it properly you should not even have had to roll up your sleeves. At most, your hands will be wet, but for the most part there should be no blood or mess."

Time to Carry It Out

Now it's time to figure out how to get the carcass back to camp.

The least desirable method is dragging, but if this is necessary you should tie the cavity tightly so no dirt can enter. If you do not intend to drag out at once, then leave your animal hanging in the shade with the cavity propped open to allow the air to circulate freely. If no trees are available, position the carcass in the coolest spot you can find. No direct sun should touch the meat.

If you feel strong enough to carry your trophy back to camp, it's a simple matter to make a slit in the space between the tendon and ankle on each rear leg and put one front leg through each slit. You have now created a "backpack" through which you can slip your arms and head for camp. You will be carrying with the head up, *so be sure you cover any horns with light cloth to completely hide them.* Hunters have been shot at and sometimes killed for neglecting to take this precaution.

Saving Your Hide

Ideally you will have a pack animal or vehicle in which to transport your meat. The sooner you get the carcass back to camp the better, because the hide should be removed as soon as possible—always the same day, preferably the same hour. Once back at camp, with the carcass on the ground, remove the legs by cutting a circle all the way to the bone at the ankle joint and breaking across your knee as you would a piece of wood. Be sure you cut below the tendons on the back legs as these tendons make a perfect loop for hanging the carcass.

To skin the deer, hang it head down so the rear legs are at your chest level. This makes it easier to work on the animal. Make a slit down the inside of each leg to the stomach cavity and pull (sometimes cutting) the hide loose from the legs and hindquarters. You can now raise the animal higher and continue to pull or cut the hide all the way down to the neck. You will also have to slit down the inside of each front leg.

The head and hide can now be severed from the carcass by continuing the cut previously made at the throat.

Roll the hide up with the head. In Nevada (and many other states) it is illegal *not* to bring out the head and hide with the carcass. Also, switch the tag to the meat if you previously had it tied to a horn. Completely cover the carcass with a good cheesecloth bag, leaving no openings for flies or other insects, and hang the carcass in the coolest place possible. If the weather is cool—38 degrees or less is ideal—you have nothing to worry about. If not, consider heading for the nearest commercial refrigerator. Meat will begin spoiling in just a few hours if not properly cooled.

X-RATED!

Transport your animal in a dustproof, heavy cotton or canvas bag placed in the coolest part of your vehicle.

The organs you previously saved should be washed, drained and placed in clean containers. Unlike the carcass, the organs should be placed in airtight

HOW TO MAKE JERKY & VENISON STEW

After your venison has properly aged, you're in for a winter of delicious eating. Here's some recipes that are favorites with Nevadans—deer jerky and venison stew with beer.

JERKY

Jerky can be seasoned and cured in several ways, but no matter which way you dry it, the best cuts to use are one-inch thick strips of round steak, flank steak or other very lean meat. Important: trim away all fat as the fat will become rancid.

The Way Dad Made It

Mary Fogliani Scott of Pioche makes her jerky using a recipe brought by her father from Switzerland a century ago.

Combine: 1 cup salt, ¼ cup fresh ground pepper, 1 tablespoon cinnamon, ½ teaspoon nutmeg, ¾ teaspoon ground cloves and 3-4 tablespoons fresh minced garlic. Layer seasoning and meat. (Mrs. Scott prefers a stainless steel container, never aluminum.) Refrigerate for four days. Hang strips indoors on a wire in a cool, dry place leaving about two inches between each piece. In about a week—after the meat shrivels and shrinks and is almost black in color—it's ready to eat. Store in a covered container.

If You're in a Hurry

If you can't wait a week, cure your jerky in the oven at 150 to 170 degrees. Put meat directly on wire oven racks placed over large sheets of heavy duty foil, with foil edges securely turned to catch the juices that drip from the meat. After about three hours, the meat should be dry enough to get rid of the foil; this is also a good time to turn the meat. Dry in the oven two to three more hours, according to the texture you like and how thick you have cut the strips.

Seasoning in Salt

Or, season your strips by placing them in a salt brine (prepared by dissolving two pounds of salt in six quarts of water) and store for two days in a cool place. Then remove the meat and wipe it dry, curing it in the oven or by hanging in a cool place.

VENISON STEW WITH BEER

For a delicious stew you need: 1½ pounds meat cut in 2-inch cubes, 2 tablespoons olive oil, 6 medium, sliced fresh mushrooms, 4 sliced shallots, 1 tablespoon flour, ½ teaspoon black pepper, ½ teaspoon salt, ¼ teaspoon dry tarragon and 1 bottle of beer.

Brown meat in olive oil and place in a glass casserole. Melt butter in the saucepan and add mushrooms and shallots and sprinkle in the flour. Saute until tender and add to meat. Heat beer and pour over venison and mushroom sauce, then stir and add seasonings. Bake at slow heat about one hour or until meat is tender. Invite over three friends and start eating. □

containers such as plastic bags. Complete cooling of these pieces is also necessary.

Aging and the Deep Freeze

If you intend to butcher the meat in the traditional manner, proper aging is necessary. Ideally, fresh meat should be aged at a temperature of 34 to 38 degrees. The higher the temperature the faster meat ages, but you lose quality, too. Aging usually takes five to seven days, but the key is to watch the meat. When you have a crust of about ⅛ inch (no less than 1/16 inch), your meat is ready to cut.

A reputable butcher is recommended for this process. Some unscrupulous butchers will just start cutting up meat, and you could end up with someone else's game. Or if yours is stored with meat not properly cared for, there is a good possibility it will absorb odors or be tainted by the other game.

It is usually recommended that you do not keep meat frozen longer than six months, but up to a year should be okay if properly wrapped and kept below zero degrees Fahrenheit. Temperatures above zero, even though it's still frozen, can cause meat to become rancid.

From this point on you have only to enjoy the fruits of your efforts. □

NEVADA HUNTING SEASONS

Fall seasons for Nevada hunters have been set by the state's Wildlife Commission. Big game tags were issued for deer, antelope, elk, bighorn sheep and mountain lion last summer, but waterfowl seasons are still to come. Complete information on hunts and licenses can be obtained from the Department of Wildlife, Box 10678, Reno, NV 89520, or from Nevada sporting goods stores. Resident licenses are $10 and non-resident are $50. Junior resident licenses for ages 12-15 and senior citizens 65 and over are $2.

Mule deer—Archery hunt Aug. 16-Sept. 12 with 1,250 resident tags and 250 non-resident, and muzzleloader Sept. 13-20 with 750 resident tags. General hunt runs four weeks starting Oct. 4, 11, 18 or 25 depending on area, with 19,799 resident tags and 2,100 non-resident.

Pronghorn Antelope—Archery hunt Aug. 2-17, and general hunt Aug. 23-Sept. 1 plus a second week at the Sheldon Antelope Range Aug. 30-Sept. 7 Hunting in northern, eastern and central Nevada. Archery quota is 200, general is 485.

Rocky Mountain Elk—General hunt Sept. 20-28 south of Ely and northeast to Schell Creek Range, quota 12.

Bighorn Sheep—Nov. 15-Dec. 14 with hunting east of the Desert Range Dec. 20-Jan. 3. Areas included Clark and Esmeralda counties, with total quota of 86.

Mountain Lion—Statewide hunt Oct. 1-April 30 with controlled hunt in eastern Nevada. General quota is 181 with controlled quota of 56.

Sage Grouse—Sept. 15, 2 days to a week depending on area.

Blue Grouse—Sept. 15-mid Nov.

Chukar—Oct. 4-January.

Rabbit—Oct. 4-February.

Quail—Nov. 5-January in valleys.

Pheasant—Nov. 5, 2-3 days.

Duck—early October-January except in Clark County, Oct. 18.

Geese—early October-January in Elko County and Ruby Refuge, starting Nov. 29 in Clark and Oct. 18 in all other counties. □

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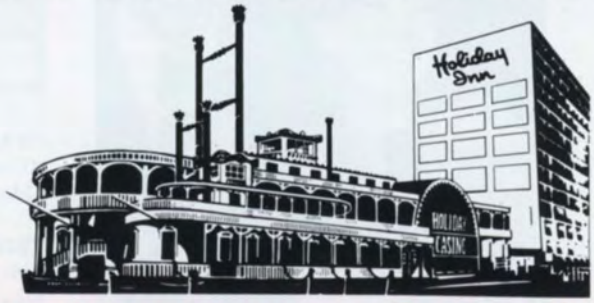
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HOLIDAY CASINO

CENTER STRIP
BETWEEN SANDS & FLAMINGO HOTELS

Show Guide

Las Vegas

ALADDIN
736-0111
Lola Falana, thru 9/1
Vikki Carr-Hudson Brothers, 9/11-18
Lola Falana, 9/25-10/15

CAESARS PALACE
731-7333
Cher, thru 9/3
Paul Anka, 9/4-10
Cher, 9/11-17
Paul Anka, 9/18-24
Ann-Margret, 9/25-10/1
Frank Sinatra, 10/2-8
Tom Jones, 10/9-22

CIRCUS CIRCUS
734-0410
Round the World Circus Acts
11am-midnight, free

DESERT INN
733-4444
Les Alcazar de Paris, indf.

DUNES
737-4110
Casino de Paris
Dinner show 7:45pm, from $15; cocktail show 1:45am, $14 includes 3 drinks

FLAMINGO HILTON
733-3111
Razzle Dazzle

FOUR QUEENS
385-4011
Nightly entertainment

FRONTIER
734-0110
Juliet Prowse-Norm Crosby, thru 9/10
Bobby Vinton-Norm Crosby, 9/11-24
Glenn Campbell-Lonnie Shorr, 9/25-10/15
Wayne Newton-Dave Barry, 10/16-11/5
Dinner show 8pm, from $23.50; cocktail show midnight, $20

HACIENDA
739-8911
Ice Fantasy
Dinner show 8pm, from $10.95; cocktail show 11pm, $7.95 includes 2 drinks

HOLIDAY CASINO
732-2411
Wild World of Burlesque

LANDMARK
733-1110
Continuous entertainment

LAS VEGAS HILTON
732-5111
Liberace, 9/23-10/20
Steve Lawrence-Eydie Gorme, 10/21-27
Bill Cosby, 10/28-11/17
Dinner show 8pm, from $22; cocktail show midnight, $14.50, Sun-Thurs.

MARINA
739-1500
Bare Touch of Vegas

MAXIM
731-4300
Olde Tyme Burlesque
8pm, 10pm, 12:30am, $9.50 includes 2 drinks

MGM GRAND HOTEL, LAS VEGAS
739-4567
Ziegfeld Room:
Halleluja Hollywood
Celebrity Room:
Engelbert-Stewie Stone, 9/4-10
Rich Little-Suzanne Somers, 9/25-10/8
Englebert-Stewie Stone, 10/9-15
Captain & Tennille, 10/16-22
Mac Davis, 10/23-11/5



Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme, Las Vegas Hilton, 10/21-27

RIVIERA
734-5110
Neil Sedaka-Milton Berle, thru 9/3
Shirley MacLaine-Freddie Roman, 9/4-10
Barry Manilow, 9/11-17
Ben Vereen-Pia Zadora, 9/18-10/1
Tony Orlando-Roger & Roger, 10/16-29
Neil Sedaka-Bernadette Peters, 10/30-11/12

ROYAL HOTEL CASINO
733-4000
Rare & Bare Burlesque, indf.

SAHARA
735-4242
Tennessee Ernie Ford-Florence Henderson, dinner, 9/2-10
George Carlin & The Sahara Girls, midnight, 9/2-10
Bobbie Gentry & The Sahara Girls, 9/11-17
Charo, dinner, 9/25-10/1
Flip Wilson-Mel Torme, midnight, 9/25-10/1
Charo-Jack Jones, dinner, 10/2-8
Flip Wilson, midnight, 10/2-8
Don Rickles, 10/9-22
Helen Reddy, 10/23-29
Jerry Lewis-Buddy Greco, dinner, 10/30-11/5
Buddy Hackett-Joey Heatherton, midnight, 10/30-11/5

SANDS
735-2916
Wayne Newton-Dave Barry, thru 9/16
Shecky Greene-Tammy Wynette, 9/17-30
Tony Bennett, 10/1-14
Alan King, 10/15-28
Shecky Greene-Jerry Vale, 10/29-11/4

SILVER BIRD
735-4111
Roger Miller, thru 9/2
Brenda Lee-"Goober" Lindsey, 10/1-12
Roger Miller, 10/14-28
Freddy Fender-"Goober" Lindsey,10/29-11/17

SILVER SLIPPER
734-1212
Boylesque, indf.

STARDUST
732-6325
Lido de Paris '80

TROPICANA
739-2411
Folies Bergere '80
Dinner show 8pm, from $17.50; cocktail show midnight, from $14

UNION PLAZA
386-2444
Mickey Finn Show, indf.

Lake Tahoe

CAL-NEVA LODGE
831-1511
Nightly entertainment

CRYSTAL BAY CLUB
831-0512
Nightly entertainment

HARRAH'S LAKE TAHOE
588-6606
Melissa Manchester-Shields & Yarnell, thru 9/4
Tony Orlando, 9/5-18
Burt Bacharach-Peaches & Herb, 9/19-25
Anne Murray, 9/26-10/2
Sammy Davis Jr., 10/3-7
Bill Cosby-Florence Henderson, 10/8-9
Sammy Davis Jr., 10/10-16
The O'Jays, 10/17-23
Don Rickles, 10/24-30

HARVEY'S
588-2411
Top of the Wheel:
Ron Rose, thru 9/1-10/10
Lenny Herman, 9/8-28
Ernie Menehune, 9/29-10/5
Esquires, 10/20-11/2



Burt Bacharach, Harrah's Tahoe, 9/19-25

HYATT LAKE TAHOE
831-1111
Young Country, thru 9/7
Charlie Dawson Band, thru 9/8
Martha's Children, 9/9-28
Garfin Gathering, 9/10-29
The Motifs, 9/30-10/5
Tony Castro & Friends, 10/1-20
Judy Crawford Affair, 10/7-26
Dotson, Lee & Middleton, 10/22-11/10

SAHARA TAHOE
588-6211
(800-648-4322 toll free CA, AZ, OR, ID, UT)
Engelbert, thru 9/1
Rich Little, 9/2-8
Mac Davis-Tom Dreesen, 9/9-22
Wayne Newton-Dave Barry, 9/23-10/6
Doug Henning-James Darren, 10/7-14
George Benson, 10/15-21

TAHOE MARINER
831-3100
Nightly entertainment

Reno Area

CARSON CITY NUGGET
882-1626
Jerry Sun, 9/30-10/31

CIRCUS CIRCUS
329-0711
Round the World Circus Acts
11am-midnight, free

ELDORADO
786-5700
Dixieland Jazz, indf.

FITZGERALD'S
786-3663
Kenny Laursen, thru 9/8
Opus & Kathi Hayes, 9/1-21
Boos Brothers, 9/2-21
Kicks, 9/10-22
Galen, 9/23-10/19

HAROLDS CLUB
329-0881
Honky Tonk, indf.

HARRAH'S RENO
329-4422
Ben Vereen, thru 9/10
Bill Cosby, 9/11-24
Bernadette Peters, 9/25-10/8
Melissa Manchester, 10/9-15
Sister Sledge-Fred Travalena, 10/16-22
Loretta Lynn, 10/23-11/5

MAPES
323-1611
The Good Life, 10/7-11/7

MGM GRAND HOTEL, RENO
789-2000
Ziegfeld Theater:
Hello Hollywood Hello
Lion's Den:
Sass-Bruce Zarka, thru 9/9
Dae Han Sisters-Fancy Free, 9/10-30
Carter & Chanel-Sister Max, 10/1-21
Liz Damon's Orient Express-Shazam, 10/22-11/11

JOHN ASCUAGA'S NUGGET, SPARKS
358-2233
Celebrity Room:
Roy Clark, 9/18-10/1
Eddie Rabbitt-Dottie West, 10/2-7
Tammy Wynette-George Jones, 10/8-19
Casino Caberet:
Follies on Broadway, thru 9/9
The Lelands, 9/10-23

ONSLOW
786-7310
The Good Life, 9/1-10/4
Myles Sherman, 10/6-11/4

ORMSBY HOUSE, CARSON CITY
882-1890
Esquires-Two of Clubs, thru 9/7
Rag Time Bob Darch, thru 9/21
Ernie Menehune, 9/8-21
Maty's Brothers, 9/22-10/5

RIVERSIDE
786-4400
Toni Ingraham, 9/2-28
Zella Lehr, 9/30-11/2

SAHARA RENO
322-1111
Nightly Entertainment

SHY CLOWN
358-6632
Country Western Music

Rural Nevada

Elko:	Commercial Hotel, 738-3181 Stockmen's Hotel, 738-5141
Ely:	Hotel Nevada, 289-4414
Fallon:	Fallon Nugget, 423-3111
Gardnerville:	Sharkey's, 782-3133
Hawthorne:	El Capitan, 945-3322
Jackpot:	Cactus Pete's, 755-2321 Horseshu Casino, 755-2331
Tonopah:	Mizpah, 482-6202
Wendover:	Stateline Casino, 668-2221
Winnemucca:	Winners Inn, 623-2511

Dates and performers subject to change.

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SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER CALENDAR

(Continued from page 11)

Atmospherium-Planetarium, open daily, UNR, Reno, show info 702-784-4811

Photographs & Memories and Encyclopedia of Collectibles, Mon.-Sat. 9-5, Sun. noon-5, Churchill County Museum, Fallon

SEPTEMBER

Men's Western Slow Pitch Championships, 8/29-1, Division C teams from nine states, Shadow Mt. Sports Complex, Sparks

"Birds of Prey," 1-30, drawings by Cristi Bonds, Morrill Hall, UNR, Reno

Pederson Bowling Classic, 1, Town & Country Bowl, Reno

$150,000 Sahara Fall Blackjack Classic, 2-5, Sahara Reno and Sahara Tahoe

Reno Gem & Mineral Society, 3, fossil program, 8pm, 480 S. Rock Blvd., Sparks

Nevada's Biggest Fair

Country singer Dottie West headlines a five-day marathon of music, carnival rides, livestock shows and special events at the Nevada State Fair, Sept. 3-7. Evening events are: 3, opening ceremonies, Young Life Singers, fireworks; 4, 4-wheel drive competiion; 5, performances by Dottie West at 8 and 10 p.m.; 6, destruction derby; 7, destruction derby, performances by the rock group Groundstar at 8 and 10 p.m.

"Erte," 5-30, art exhibit, years 1911-70, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, Reno

Kokanee Demonstration, 6, how to catch Kokanee salmon in Lake Tahoe, 3pm, Cave Rock, on Hwy 50 between Glenbrook and Zephyr Cove

Evening Stargaze, 6, bring your own BBQ, 7pm, Sand Harbor

Chamber Music Concert, 9, Brewery Auditorium, 8pm Carson City

Rock Concert, 12, Robert Palmer, fairgrounds, Reno

Camel Races, 12-14, Virginia City

Reno National Championship Air Races, 12-14, Stead air base, 11:30-4, info 702-826-7500

Schurz Indian Rodeo, 12-14, traditional events, rodeo grounds

Pinenut Festival, 12-14, Indian games, gambling and dancing daily; 13: blessing of the pinenuts, Schurz Park

Gymkhana, 14, Fuji Park, Carson City

Tour of Historic Homes and Buildings, 14, Nevada Landmarks Society, 10-4, Roberts Park, 1207 N. Carson, Carson City

Reno Chamber Orchestra, 14, pre-season concert, 3pm, The Chateau, Incline Village

Empire Brass Quintet, 16, Church Fine Arts Theatre, 8pm, Reno

Antique Show & Sale, 19-21, Forsythe Production, Community Center, Carson City

"Chapter II," 19-27, comedy by Neil Simon, Reno Little Theatre

100-Mile Horse Endurance Race, 20, Virginia City

Rock Concert, 21, Robin Trower, fairgrounds, Reno
Snaffle Bit Futurity, 22-28, Coliseum, Reno
Candy Dance, 27, arts and crafts all day, dinner, 5:30pm, dance, 9pm, Town Hall, Genoa, info 702-782-4577
Bird Hike, 27, Silver Springs area in Lahontan
Ferrari Races, 27-28, Virginia City

Please Whistle 'Louise'

You need more than pucker power to be a world-class whistler. It helps to have an ear for music, practice time, an understanding family and a sense of humor. This Sept. 27-28 whistlers from around the world troop to Carson City for the annual International Whistle-off.

OCTOBER

Bella Lewitzky Dance Co., 1, Church Fine Arts Theatre, UNR, 8pm, Reno
"Erte," 1-6, art exhibit, years 1911-70, Sierra Nevada Museum of Art, Reno
Rock & Gem Show, 3-5, KOA Kampgrounds, Lovelock
Silver State Cat Fanciers Show, 4, fairgrounds, Reno
Doll & Miniature Show & Sale, 4-5, V & T Room, noon-6, Coliseum, Reno
Reno Philharmonic Concert, 7, Pioneer Theatre, 8:15pm, Reno
Oktoberfest, 11, 2nd floor Convention Ctr., 7-11pm, drink, food and dancing, admission $2.50, Sparks Nugget
"Political Cartoons in Art and History," 11-31, exhibit of European and American cartoons 1750-1890, Sierra Nevada Museum, Reno
Chamber Music Concert, 14, Brewery Auditorium, 8pm, Carson City
Harvest Farm Sale & Auction, 19, country music, local residents' arts, crafts and hobbies, home-baked goods, auction, Smith Valley Community Hall, Wellington, info 702-463-3721
Crystal Hill Antique Show, 17-19, Coliseum, Reno
"Merry Widow," 24-25, opera, 8:15pm, Pioneer Theatre, Reno
Truckee Meadow Quilt Show, 25-26, Gold Hill Room, Coliseum, Reno
World Wide Flea Market, 26, V&T Room, 9-6, Coliseum, Reno
"Irish Light Orchestra of Dublin," 29, Washoe Community Concert, 8:15, Pioneer Theatre, Reno
Nevada Day Eve Boxing Festival, 30, Community Ctr., 8pm, Carson City
Nevada Day 1864 Ball, 30, Ormsby House, Carson City
Nevada Day Celebration, 31, parade at 10am followed by world championship rock drilling contest, water fights, music, exhibits and dance, Carson City
Great Pumpkin Festival, 31, decorating contest, Walker Wassuk Arts Alliance, Hawthorne
Sekulich Antique Show, 31-11/2, V&T Room, Coliseum, Reno

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A STEP ABOVE THE REST IN THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTHWEST

MeadowRidge

The Dodge automobile case was in court and the lawyers were pacing, but Judge Eather decided everyone could wait while he and I cured his 'sore throat.' By Harry Webb

HORSE SENSE & NONSENSE

When a lawsuit was filed in Elko, Nevada against the Simcox Garage in the early '30s it promised to be a hard fought case.

A man, who claimed to be a "Business Man" from St. Louis, had left a late model Dodge in the Simcox Garage for some slight repair and said he would call for the car "in a couple days."

However, the days lengthened into weeks, the weeks into months until a year had elapsed, so Simcox sold the car to Sam Zunino for $600. But Sam had no sooner driven the car home when the stranger showed up at the Garage asking about his car.

"Sold it yesterday," he was told.

"Sold it!" the man yelped. "What the hell right did you or anyone else have to sell my car?"

"Needed the storage space," Simcox replied, "and it had set here 10 months past the time limit. That sign, there, tells our customers any repair job left over 60 days will be sold. So, she's sold."

"I didn't see no damn sign," the man raved," and you didn't tell me it was your policy to "

"You see it, now," Simcox said by way of dismissal.

"By God, we'll see about this!" the man said and shortly thereafter Simcox and Zunino found themselves in litigation. Not only for possession of the car but there was a goodsized amount tacked on for "Punitive damages." According to the complaint the owner had suddenly been called home, so was unable to pick up said Dodge car.

Time had dragged on until the case was forgotten by all except the litigants when it suddenly came to trial. I had gone into Elko, parked my car in front of the Mayer Hotel one forenoon and was going inside when I was hailed by Judge Edgar Eather of Eureka.

"Come on up to my room," the judge invited. "I've a hell of a sore throat and I have to be in court in a few minutes. Got to gargle my throat." In his room he mixed two whopping hiballs of half whiskey, half ginger ale. We had "gargled" our throats for an hour when Billy Mayer came up with a message.



"Judge," he said to Eather, "the lawyers have all their witnesses and have been waiting for you. You better be getting over there."

"My throat's still bad, Billy, so fetch us up another quart of my medicine—and tell'em I'll be over in a few minutes." The "Old Yellowstone" and ginger ale came up and we resumed the gargling as the judge received incessant calls from the Court House. "Be there in a few minutes," he would tell them. "Throat's pretty bad but I'll be there."

"How come," I managed to think to ask, "they're having you try this case when you're from Eureka County?"

"Elko judge dish-qual'fied himshelf," Edgar said, thickly. "Close friend of the defendants."

"Well, so'er you," I observed. "Better you get over there. But you're in bad shape, Edgar. Yuh won't know what the trial's about."

At this point Billy Mayer appeared. "Christ, fellows," he ordered, "Pipe down! Sounds like a Tong War up here! And," he added as he went out, "do you know it's *two o'clock* and the lawyers and witnesses are damn well fed up with sitting there since 10 this morning?"

"Tell 'em Judge Eather on his way. C'mon Harry."

As we headed the four blocks across town about the only clear thing I recall was the Judge saying, "I'm keen, t'day. Give 'em d'cision right from bench! Just like that!" As he snapped a thumb and finger the recoil sent him on his back. Retrieving his hat—which he jammed cross-wise—he threw back his shoulders and with both of us trying to act sober we had trouble climbing the series of Court House steps.

I dimly recall seeing Edgar rocking back and forth, looking like a pigmy in that monstrous chair. The bailiff went through a mumbo jumbo and court was in session.

I can't recall who represented the plaintiff as he was a stranger but

(though I viewed the proceedings as if looking through the wrong end of a telescope) I believe our local James Dysart represented the defendants.

As the plaintiff stated his case the judge appeared to be sleeping but when some remark brought a roar of laughter the judge shot up like a jack in the box and said, "Be no levity in my Court! Furthermore, stick to facts."

The "facts" must have been a jumble of contradictions from the way the judge would say "Either blow hot or blow cold." Then amid argument by the attorneys he would give a thick-tongued order to the court reporter, "Strike all that out. Mere hearsay!"

Then a mechanic followed Simcox to the witness chair and just as it had been with the garage owner there followed a barrage of "Objections!" from the attorney for the plaintiff only in turn to bring a sleepy "Overruled!" from the judge.

Then the judge was half lying down on the bench as he scratched away with his pen. However, he did manage to straighten up as he went through a rigamarole of stating something about the "law of limitation and the court finds in favor of defendant." His gavel banged and "Court adjourned!" brought a howl of sarcasm from the plaintiff's attorney.

"We're giving Notice of Appeal!" he shouted as he shook a fist at His Honor. "And when this case comes before the Appellate Court we'll get a reversal so quick it will make a jackass of you! Thank God we still have a few judges who aren't suffering with chronic constipation of the brain like you are!"

As the audience and principals went their respective ways Judge Eather was being thanked by the defendants for a good job well done, but Simcox saw fit to add, "But, Lord God, Edgar, when we saw you coming in I said to Sam, Oh, Oh! Our judge is so damn drunk he won't know the law from a razor-back hog! That fellow's attorney will make an idiot of him! You see, Edgar, our case had become so complicated, I was sure you wouldn't be able to figure out just who *did* have a right to that damned automobile."

"Nothin' complicated about it!" Eather replied (after inviting us up to help him gargle his throat). "Just a plain case o' good ol' horse sense! Justice boils down t'just that. Plain horse sense."

Guess he was right, at that. The Appellate Court upheld Judge Eather's decision. □

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DESERT WINDJAMMERS

For sailors, Lake Mead is always somewhere between panic and paradise By Charles E. McManis



There are two lines from a Mother Goose rhyme that describe Lake Mead rather well:

"When she was good, she was very, very good, And when she was bad, she was horrid."

Anyone who tells you that Lake Mead is a sailing paradise is either a liar or someone who has not sailed the lake for very long. Sure, there are times when everything seems perfect. But perfect sailing conditions and Lake Mead are not really compatible, at least for extended periods. Like a child, the lake wants to show off all the things it can do, if possible several times each day. "Flukey" is the most common description of winds on large inland bodies of water, and it applies to Lake Mead in spades.

For sailors the lake can be frustrating, infuriating and intimidating. Once you experience its wild habits, however, it gets under your skin, and you find yourself drawn back again and again. It's a sure sign the lake really has a grip on you when you start making excuses for its weather when other people complain about it.

What Lake Mead may lack as a paradise it more than makes up for as a sailing school. It is possible that any given 24-hour period will have everything from "survival conditions" to "what to do while becalmed." Even for those sailors who rarely venture more than a mile or two from the marina, each trip is a little bit different. Just as sailing is a lifetime learning experience, knowing all of Mead's subtle faces is part of its challenge and charm.

While the Southern Nevada climate offers year-round boating weather, most sailors would agree that spring and fall are the best sailing seasons on Lake Mead. In spring the wind is more consistent than at any other time of year. Temperatures are settling into the 80s and then the 90s, and the water is warming up nicely by June.

The lake also has fine sailing in the fall, especially after mid-September when the weather, which tends to be hot and still in summer, perks up, and more and more sailors can be seen tacking up and down the lake. My own favorite month is October; the summer heat has passed, winds are good and, most of all, the water is still warm.

It is no surprise, then, that most sailors prefer those two seasons. The local Nevada Sailing Club has several weekend events from September through November and March through May. Activities include races, usually from two to 10 miles, and cruises in which sailors form a flotilla and head for a weekend camp at one of Mead's secluded coves.



Sailing is a sport for lone eagles and also for cruisers who enjoy weekend beach camping.



CHARLES E. McMANIS PHOTOS

The cruising sailors probably have the best deal. Since they don't have the time pressures associated with racing, they can enjoy light air periods and if necessary use an auxiliary motor to find anchorage for the weekend. Even sailboats with keels extending several feet below the bottom can enjoy most of Mead's coves. Because the lake is essentially a canyon full of water, the banks are steeply sloped. In most cases even a deep draft boat can put the bow on the beach and still have clearance for the keel. The customary stern anchor to hold the boat off and a bow line to the beach is usually sufficient if the weather should take a nasty turn.

The suddenness with which the weather can change from very, very good to horrid is most responsible for giving Lake Mead and other inland waters a bad name. It is those times when the weather is doing its worst that the sailor has a slight edge over the powerboat aficionado. Most sailboats are built to take green water on deck, over the bow and shake it off. It may not be comfortable, but the strong wind that creates high waves is, after all, the sailboat's element and can be used to minimize wave motion and somewhat stabilize the craft.

There are times, however, when even the diehard heavy air sailors find themselves no match for Mead. One such occasion took place during a lovely Nevada Sailing Club spring cruise in what seemed to be perfect weekend weather. But on Sunday morning the lake gave us notice that the party was over. Although the surface of the cove showed hardly a ripple, a climb to the ridge overlooking the lake revealed a steady deterioration in the weather. Whitecaps were on the march and recruiting more as each hour passed. The route back to Lake Mead Marina from Swallow Cove (west of Callville Bay) pointed directly into that building gale; the trip would not be fun.

Word reached the cove via our high-



CECILIA HACKMAN

Sailors' congress convenes on the east shore.

frequency radio that one of the boats departing earlier had lost its mast as soon as it hit open water and the full fury of the wind. Fortunately all hands were safe on the beach in the next cove where they had blown ashore.

I was one of the last three cruisers to start back in late afternoon. The plan was that all three of us would try to look after each other during our roller coaster ride to the marina. But soon after we pushed off it became obvious that keeping in touch would be impossible. Instead of subsiding as usual at dusk, the wind was increasing. As darkness fell, each crew was on its own.

A radio check of the marina was not encouraging. The high winds had broken the marina—docks, restaurant and all—loose from its moorings. The same winds, gusting to 60 miles per hour, also were building eight- to 10-foot waves in the open water that made progress both wet and uncomfortable. Instead of the long swells found in ocean storms, Lake Mead produces a short, steep chop that lifts the hull and then pounds it solidly into the next wave, showering the topside with a spray that finds a way to permeate everything not battened down or sealed shut.

The six miles to Lake Mead Marina against the wind was out, as was a return to the cove in the dark. Both choices were too risky. The most attractive option seemed to be the shorter four-mile run into Las Vegas Wash Marina. By snuggling as close as possible to the windward shore, I encountered less wind. It was also now broadside to my boat, and although the motion was still fairly violent, it was not as bad as the pounding created by heading directly into the gale. Fortunately, Lake Mead's harbor entrances are well lit with white lights on buoys that mark the center channel. By taking a position reading each time one of the lights and the boat were simultaneously on top of a wave, I was able to make slow but steady progress through the night.

The four miles from cove to dockside took four hours. As it turned out, I was the only one whose craft made it to a marina that night. The other two boats had to settle for coves near Callville Bay.

By morning, a blue sky and an idyllic calm prevailed. So why hadn't we waited in the safety of the cove? Hindsight 20/20, and as I said, the lake is a great sailing instructor, not a sailing paradise. One of the joys of sailing is that there is always something new to experience and to learn, and that especially holds true for Lake Mead. Its possibilities for discovery are limitless—just be sure to do your homework. And don't try to sail home in a storm. □

LAKE MEAD MARINAS, RACES AND RENTALS

While they may not always be pampered by the weather, Lake Mead sailors usually have great conditions for launching, camping and group activities.

Marinas: There is practically no limit to the size or type of boat you can trailer in. Excellent launch ramps are located at Hemenway Harbor, Lake Mead Marina, Las Vegas Wash, Callville Bay, Echo Bay, Overton Beach and Temple Bar. The ramps can accommodate deep-keeled hulls as well as small centerboards. The marina's protected harbors also offer excellent sailing for small boats, and you will see vessels ranging from 20 to 40 feet, capable of world cruising, in Mead's wide, open basins.

Rentals: What if you have the will to sail Lake Mead but not the means? You can rent a sailboat at Callville Bay, operated by Del Webb, where four kinds of rentals are available. There are two Hobie Cats (catamarans with mainsails and jibs) of 14 and 16 feet in length, each renting for $40 a day. A 20-foot Chrysler sailboat with head is $90 a day, and a 22-footer with head, galley and room to sleep five is $100 a day. Each can be used for camping cruises. Call 702-565-8956 or see boat rental manager Jim Borden at Callville, 30 miles east of Las Vegas.

Races, cruises and tips: Thinking about taking a sail but want some company? Or perhaps you need to know where to sail or what kind of event is scheduled on a certain weekend. Probably your best source will be the Nevada Sailing Club, Box 164, Henderson, NV 89015. The 100-member club has monthly social meetings in Las Vegas and an active, year-round program of races and cruises on Lake Mead. If you're interested in joining, the initiation fee is $10 and annual dues are $20.

Sailing school: Have you thought you might enjoy sailing but don't know how? Sailing classes are offered occasionally at the lake by the Southern Nevada Community College. Students, who must provide their own life jackets, learn how to handle 15-foot Laser class sailboats. Tuition for a recent 20-hour class was $65. For course information call the instructor, Art Johnson, at 702-732-0343. —*CEM*



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And the one that's toughest to shoot.

NEVADA Magazine's annual photo contest has drawn the largest roundup of photo talent ever held in the Silver State. It has been so successful, with entries so excellent, that we have added 10 runner-up awards to the five main prizes.

The contest is open to amateur photographers only, who believe they have terrific photos of Nevada. (Less than a dozen professional photographers entered last year so they're being barred from entering future GNPH's. Pros are encouraged, however, to send in photos for use in our LENS section and other regular features.)

Once again judges will be looking for photographs that show the essence of this fabulous state and (obviously) all entries must have been taken from within its borders.

As a winner you will share over $1,000 in prizes, receive immense prestige and fame by having a photo published in an upcoming issue of NEVADA, the Magazine of the Real West. And if you can get to Carson City to pick up your Pentax MX, the 1st Place Winner is also invited to a fabulous lunch with the magazine's three most important editorial types! (An extra value close to $3.25.)

ENTRY DEADLINE is Nevada Day, October 31st, 1980.

THE PRIZES

1st — **PENTAX MX (Value $454)**
with 50mm 1.7 lens. The world's smallest, lightest, most complete full featured 35mm single lens reflex camera. **PLUS:** Lunch!

2nd — **$150 GIFT CERTIFICATE**
from Luke's Nevada Photo in Reno

3rd — **20 ROLLS KODAK COLOR FILM (Value $100)**
Kodachrome, Ektachrome or Kodacolor

4th — **$50 GIFT CERTIFICATE**
from Boulevard Camera Exchange, Las Vegas

5th — **20 ROLLS KODAK BLACK & WHITE FILM (Value $40)**
Plus X, Tri X or Verichrome Pan

6th-16th — **$25 CASH EACH**
from the Department of Economic Development, Division of Travel and Tourism

THE RULES

Contest open to amateur* photographers only. All rules must be followed exactly, or entries will be disqualified.

1. Completed entry blanks must be signed and included with photos.
2. All photos submitted must be previously unpublished.
3. Up to five black & white, and five color photos allowed per entrant. No minimum entry, but no more than 10 total per person.
4. Each individual photo must bear entrant's name, full address, plus brief description and location where taken.
5. Color transparencies must be 35mm or larger. Color prints must be 8x8" to 11x14", glossy or matte (no silk finish) and unmounted.
6. Black & white prints must be 8x8" to 11x14", glossy or matte (no silk finish), unmounted.
7. Entrants must enclose Self-Addressed Stamped Envelope and proper packing material to assure safe return.
8. Entries should be sent in packages no larger than 12x16"

* Our classification of 'amateur' is a photographer who earns less than half of his or her total annual income by photography.

THE JUDGES

NANCY FRAZIER, professional photographer, ex-Colorado cowgirl, ex-Las Vegan, rodeo person. Currently responsible for media relations, public relations and agency liaison as Administrative Assistant to Governor Robert List. Frazier has had photos published in the *New York Times, Colorado Magazine* and *Mountain Gazette* among others. (Only *Colorado* has since folded.)

"I look forward to this opportunity to review contest entries and experience Nevada through the eyes of others," the good-looking blond bubbled. "CJ says all I get for this complicated analysis of more than a thousand photos is a cup of coffee. I think it's worth at least a beer at the Outdoor Inn in Jarbidge."

HOWARD HICKSON, dictator, Northeastern Nevada Museum. As a professional photographer, artist, speechmaker, Hickson is also Elko's resident wit and the man voted by a western media committee as "most charming" and "a corker."

Hickson is responsible for the immense success of the Nevada 80 photo contest (see winners in March/April '80) and was a judge for the Third Annual Great Nevada Picture Hunt. He is anxiously awaiting your entries. "Judging this contest is like touring our great state," he mused. "One minute I am seeing a great Nevada sunset, the next a branding scene, and then a ghost town soon, I am filled to overflowing with the color and emotion of Nevada, an experience I would not trade for anything.

"Whether the photograph or slide is a magnificent view of miles and miles of Nevada beauty, or is a close-up of a colorful bird, I feel as though I am there—a spectator awed by the beauty of the Silver State."

As you can see, Hickson really gets into it and will be looking for whatever he said above.

C.J. HADLEY, commonly referred to as "Mister" on all correspondence coming in to the office of Nevada Magazine. Professional publishing person, reluctant bull rider, Hadley is known to prefer western images, close-ups, long shots, and any photo at all of Nevada. She has lived mostly in Birmingham England and Paris France and New York New York but says she prefers Nye County without MX and the Basic Plant at Henderson in morning light. Pouted all year because she was asked NOT to judge last year's contest.

"I'm ready for the photographers of the Fourth Annual Great Nevada Picture Hunt," said Ms. Hadley at a recent parking lot press conference in Carson City, "but are they ready for the judgment?"

THE PROMOTERS

DROP-OFF POINTS:

If you prefer not to mail your photographs the following camera stores will accept your entry packages:

LAS VEGAS
Boulevard Camera Exchange
Boulevard Mall
735-2855

RENO
Luke's Nevada Photo
4966 South Virginia
825-2333

TAHOE CITY, CALIFORNIA
North Lake Photo
375 North Lake Boulevard
916-583-1300

Plus: CARSON CITY
Nevada Magazine
101 South Fall Street
(behind the Capitol)
885-5416

Mail to:
NEVADA MAGAZINE PHOTO CONTEST
Capitol Complex, Carson City, NV 89710

No. of entries: _____ b&w

_____ color

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ *Zip* _____

"I am an amateur photographer and the photos submitted have not been published before. If my photograph is included with the winners, Nevada Magazine is hereby granted permission to use it in future state promotions and advertising."

Signed _____



The pianist's spirit and likeness are everywhere in his museum.

Mr. Showmanship's dazzling Las Vegas museum demonstrates that nothing succeeds like excess.
By Richard Menzies

Liberace's Museum



Sifting through the rubble and stardust that once was Las Vegas, archeologists of the future are sure to be mystified by what they uncover at 1775 East Tropicana Avenue. Is it the long lost motorpool of young King Tutankhamen? The fabled clothes closet of Quetzalcoatl? In fact, it's the personal museum of Wladziu Valentino Liberace, known to his contemporaries of the twentieth century as "Mr. Showmanship" and the richest pianist in the world.

Since the museum opened a year ago, more than 100,000 visitors have filed past the piano-shaped reception desk to pay their respects to Liberace's possessions, locked in glass showcases and looked after by curators in gleaming white jackets. A continuous tape of Liberace at the keyboard fills the air with music that, mingled with the murmur of hushed conversation, creates a funereal ambiance that is somewhere between Graceland and Forest Lawn. Indeed, one of the most frequently debated topics here is the state of the performer's health.

"He must be getting pretty well on in years," speculates the man on my left. "I remember hearing him when I was a kid."

"He works out, I'm sure," offers the woman on my right.

Floor manager Wayne Bloomberg, an elegant figure in a white suit, soon puts our fears to rest. At age 61 Liberace is alive and well and yes, he does work out every day, maintaining his six foot frame at a muscular 185 pounds.

The museum, we're told, is not merely a monument to one man's ego. One purpose is to raise money, but in this case the proverbial trail of tears leads not to the bank but to the nonprofit Liberace Foundation for the Performing and Creative Arts. Funds accumulated through donation admissions will provide $10,000 scholarships to advance the careers of promising musicians, who will be selected from worldwide competition. Another purpose is to provide storage space for the countless mementos and vast store of memorabilia accumulated by the star during his half century in show business.

"He never throws anything away," explains Mr. Bloomberg, who estimates the current collection represents only an eighth of the total Liberace treasure.

Among the things he doesn't throw away are gifts from his fans. These run

the gamut from stuffed hound dogs from Colonel Tom Parker to a golden chalice from Cardinal Cushing, an inlaid scepter given him in Rome by Pope Pius XII to a mosaic portrait in sequins, courtesy of Marion Dropinski of Albuquerque.

Liberace's other favorite things include pianos and cars, both miniature and life-sized. Amid the statuary and candelabra repose a gold flaked Bradley GT, a Durham-designed Cadillac limousine with built-in television and backseat bar, and a red, white and blue Rolls-Royce with a mere 900 miles on the odometer, most of it logged onstage during his 1976 bicentennial salute at the Las Vegas Hilton. Some of the more esoteric knickknacks are a fur lined violin, a vial of crude oil from his Enid, Oklahoma, oil well, and a gold mold of the pianist's disembodied hands vaguely reminiscent of the film "The Thing That Wouldn't Die." Decorating the walls are numerous framed awards, yellowing newspaper clippings, family photographs and a life-size oil painting of Liberace, whose "smiling eyes seem to follow visitors as they pass."

Other eyes, less smiling, wink from ceiling portholes, and lest anyone be tempted to carry off a souvenir, a plain clothed Pinkerton agent circulates among the crowd during peak hours. Camera bags and umbrellas are forbidden, while a sign by the doorway warns that the premises are protected by the Las Vegas Canine Patrol, Inc. The dogs, like the Pinkerton man, keep a discreetly low profile.

Because of insurance considerations, museum officials hesitate to put a price on the Liberace treasure; however, the star's wardrobe of bejeweled stage costumes, even with the heavier carats removed, is appraised at a cool million. Some of the flashiest outfits are modeled by custom-made mannequins, each bearing the familiar grin.

During a recent Las Vegas engagement, Debbie Reynolds was heard to remark that what the world needs now is a museum of show business. That people will already pay good money to see an empty costume is, I think, a pretty fair measure of that need. The success of Liberace's museum also seems to contradict Liberace's own dictum that "without the show, there's no business." □

RICHARD MENZIES PHOTOS



Visitors can't resist a close-up inspection of Liberace's million-dollar clothes closet.

NEVADA NOTES

PIGEONS BEAT BIG BLAST

Pigeons are keener meteorologists than pilots, or at least more astute in avoiding volcanoes.

Five thousand small-headed homers were released May 17 at Jackpot by the Bay Cities and San Jose Pigeon Racing Combines. Starting weather was calm and clear, and the birds kept it that way by veering south at snow-courting Donner Pass. The winning bird, owned by lofter Peggy Largas of Fremont, California, averaged 46 mph for the 507-mile journey.

The pigeons were safely roosted by the time Mount St. Helens blew its top the next day and began raining ash over the Northwest. But on May 31 intolerable weather conditions in Seattle, aided and abetted by Mount St. Helens' volcanics, scrubbed a scheduled airplane race to Jackpot from that city.

Also brought to light is one potential advantage of pigeoning from Jackpot to northern California: the voluntary fertilizing of a diagonal strip of land across northern Nevada. In time exhuberant weeds and sagebrush will stand as a memorial to the Jackpot Special.

—Carl Hayden

HAWTHORNE BY A HAIR

The town of Hawthorne established a new kind of civic contest last summer in answer to a Sacramento newspaper report that the Mineral County town was the "armpit of the nation." Rising to the challenge, the Hawthorne folks took the remark in the only sensible way—they created an armpit contest.

Staged during the town's annual Armed Forces Day celebration, the contest had three categories—best decorated, hairiest and smelliest—and a crowd of more than 500 onlookers. Hairiest honors went to Jake Connelly of Gardnerville, and the best decorated was former Hawthorne resident Mark Powell, whose left armpit had a pigtail and a painted face.

The smelliest category, however, went unjudged, disappointing one woman who said she had gone five days without bathing in hopes of staggering the competition. The test was called off when the Hawthorne Army Ammunition Depot was unable to bring an odor meter, and judges declined to do it themselves.

SUSAN B. FLOPS IN VEGAS

The idea was flawed from the start and didn't have a prayer, but that didn't stop the Feds from minting millions of dinky Susan B. Anthony dollars that are gathering dust in various repositories. Instead of admitting their boner, a fact finding team of Treasury bureaucrats met at Caesars Palace last winter, six months after their silly simoleon flopped. They asked gaming industry leaders, "Why?"

They were told (1) it's too close to the size of a quarter and is confusing; (2) quarters can be counterfeited into dollars with little effort; (3) the coins of 31 other countries are the same size but of far less value, and on and on.

Las Vegas casinos are now using a combination of Ike dollars and dollar tokens, the latter because players cart off the Ike cartwheels by the thousands every day, and casinos need the tokens to meet the demand of dollar slot players. In Las Vegas the dinky dollar is dead. *—John Reible*

GET YOUR KICKS ON ROUTE 376

Motorists and map readers have been noting odd, three-digit route numbers on Nevada's state highways in place of good old familiar routes like 6, 11 and 3A. Venerable State Route 8A through the Big Smokey Valley, for instance, is now Route 376. Route 7 near Moapa is 168, and old Highway 3 south of Yerington has been renamed Route 208.

The change has been made by the State Department of Transportation to make the public names of Nevada highways conform to the federal bookkeeping designations long used by the department in highway planning.



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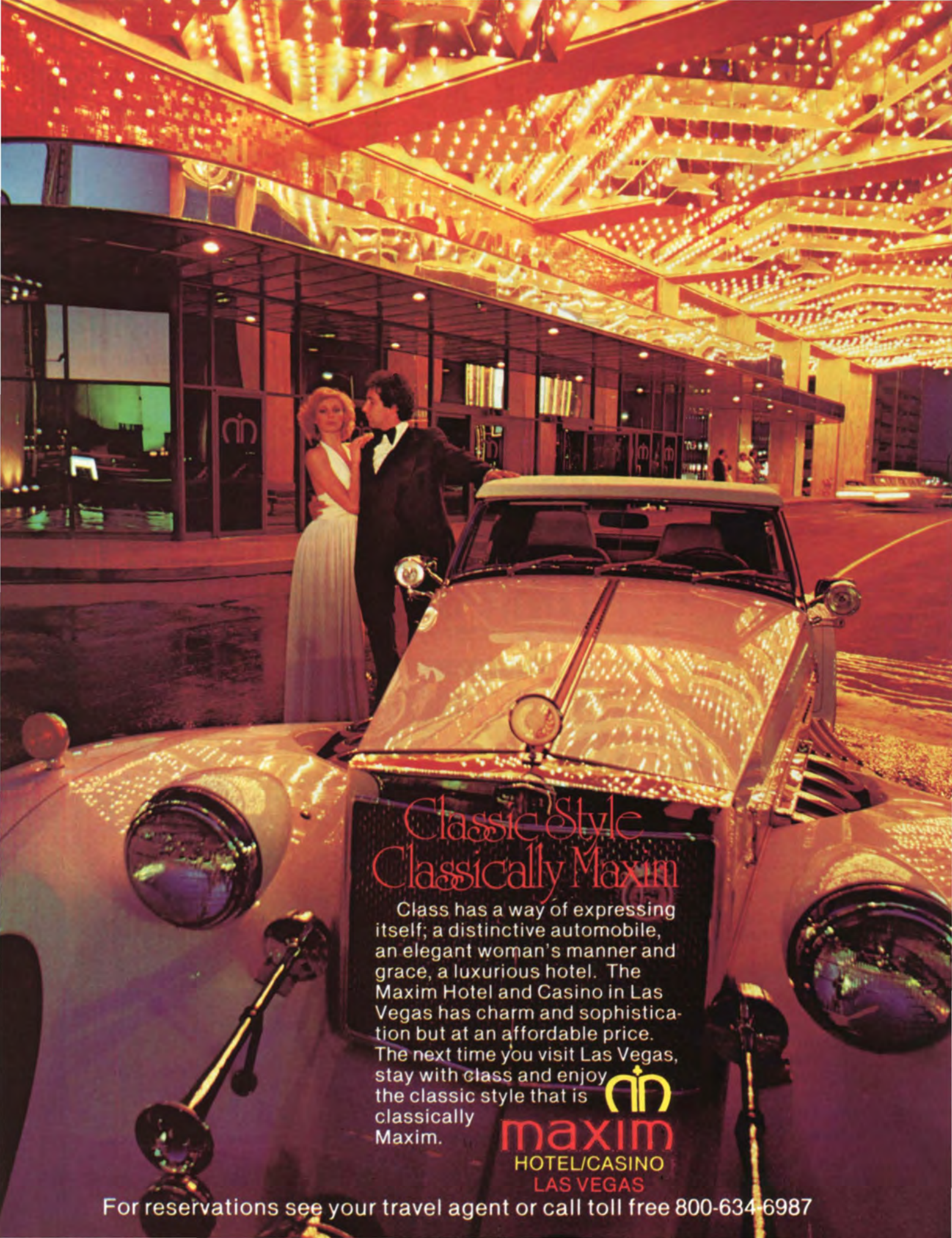
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The Relentless Gourmand



Featuring food and drink in the Sagebrush State.

BREAKFAST, LUNCH AND LAUNDRY

I got away from the hot dog stands and cotton candy parlors and decided to do my own thing," says Johnny Cole, "and I love to cook breakfasts." It's been five years since he left his cafe counter on Virginia City's busy boardwalk and opened the Hungry Miner at the quiet corner of C and Mill streets, and his regular customers have shown they are happy about Cole's decision too.

Like the Hungry Miner's casual table and counter decor, the breakfasts are nothing fancy, just down-home good country cooking. Take the eggs. If you ask for yours over easy, that's the way you get them. Like 'em poached? They come pure and delicate but won't disintegrate at the first poke of your fork. Breakfast meats are served unsinged, and the cottage fries, thin whispy slices of potato, taste homemade. The pancakes are buckwheat and good; some breakfasters looking for protein and carbos favor the $1.75 two eggs and short stack special.

Other specials include the Powder Keg Omelet ($2.95), a morning mind-snapper of chili, cheese and onions wrapped in three eggs, and the Spanish omelet (also $2.95) with its home-made sauce.

Cole has a modest luncheon menu of hamburgers, chili, tacos and sandwiches, but on the weekends it's breakfast only. He rarely changes the menu and keeps the same hours summer and winter: 7:30a.m. to 1:30p.m. Wednesday through Sunday.

The Hungry Miner's location, a long block removed from Virginia's usual tourist action, would seem to put Cole at a disadvantage, but that's not the case. In fact, the building is an historic local hangout. Built in 1884, it opened as the Old Timer's Club and was known by locals as the North End Rest. When Cole bought the building in 1974, it was an apartment house with a laundromat next to the original bar. He dug up some old photos of the place and remodeled the bar-turned-apartment into the restaurant and restored the front windows, which give customers a fine view down Six Mile Canyon.

Today Cole not only offers the original view, but he serves up booze as well. Many Sunday mornings find locals lined up at the doorstep waiting for "the bloodiest bloody marys in town," as Cole puts it.

Inside, the Hungry Miner is clean and modest, seating 24 people at tables and eight more at the counter. On the walls hang photographs of old miners, Indian petroglyphs and paintings by local artists. On one wall is a collage of fishing photographs, complete with captions. Twice a year Cole organizes a fishing party of Comstockers for two days of salmon and roc cod fishing in the Bay Area. Cole is always planning a trip or talking about the one that got away, and he can give directions to many secret fishing holes in the Silver State.

A local bachelor says, 'It's the only place I know where you can eat breakfast and do your laundry at the same time.'

Another plus to Cole's operation is the laundromat next door. As one local bachelor says, "It's the only place I know where you can eat breakfast and do your laundry at the same time." It's also the only place in town where you can buy a Reno or Carson Sunday paper.

Do the laundromat and restaurant give Cole a good living? He smiles and says, "I make enough to go fishing every year, and that's all I need."

—Jim Crandall

The Hungry Miner, C and Mill Sts., Virginia City. Open Wed.-Sun. 7:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Breakfast prices, $1.75-$4.50. Travelers checks are fine, but no credit cards.

TURKEYS IN LAS VEGAS

Good food is definitely a family matter at The Country Inn. The quaint eatery is operated by an industrious family with a storehouse of palette-piquing recipes dating back to the 1940s, when Grandma and Grandpa Prestwich had a restaurant in Delta, Utah. Kent Prestwich worked alongside his parents and learned those recipes by heart.

In 1959, Kent and his wife Pauline moved to Las Vegas and opened a restaurant offering fried chicken and scrumptious home-style breads and pies. In 10 years, the single location grew to 23 stores in Nevada and California. Among the staffers were Kent's sister Evelyn, her husband Cliff Conk and sons Phil and Terry. Today the Conks own and operate The Country Inn, Southern Nevada's favorite turkey house.

Why turkey? Matriarch-in-residence Evelyn Conk explains: "My brother Kent knew the people who own the Norbest turkey farms, so we decided to use their birds. And we wanted people to appreciate turkey year-round instead of just on holidays."

At the Inn, she says, "Everything is made from scratch. We serve pure Utah honey, and our cheese is shipped direct from Wisconsin." Evelyn is a cheery, energetic woman who spends long hours at the family business. She helps with hostessing, oversees the staff and handles the bookkeeping.

(Continued on page 62)

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THE RELENTLESS GOURMAND

(Continued from page 59)

Fifteen different turkey selections highlight the Inn's menu. Moist, tender fowl appears as entrees and in salads, stew, soup and sandwiches, with pit-roasted pork and lamb for variety. Hearth-baked rolls and home-made noodles add delicious calories. A fresh green salad is served with just about everything; house dressing is ambrosial. Dieters will like the lightly steamed broccoli and carrots, which provide aesthetic and flavorful additions to the generous platters of succulent white meat.

The menu promises "you won't be sorry" if you order La Parisien Turkey Salad. At $3.95, the cold plate includes thick slices of turkey breast on a bed of lettuce and shoestring beets. It's a satisfying bargain.

Even stuffy gourmets thrill at the flavor of the Inn's spit-roasted oranged-glazed duck, a steal at $10.95. And don't miss dessert. The fudge cake is outrageously sweet and rich—a perfect binge food.

Breakfast is a real treat at The Country Inn. Biscuits and gravy, home fries and fresh fruits embellish the usual eggs and morning meats. Again, portions are healthy and prices fair.

Quiet and homey, with high-backed wood booths or overstuffed wing chairs, The Country Inn attracts local clubs and business folk seeking a cozy meeting place. In the lobby a fat turkey turns over an open fire, filling the Inn and the neighborhood with an inviting aroma. *—Judee Quillin*

The Country Inn, 2425 East Desert Inn Road at Eastern. 702-731-5035. Breakfast from $1.80 (7-11 a.m.); lunch from $2 and dinner from $4 (11 a.m.-10 p.m. weekdays and till midnight Friday and Saturday). Children's menu and sandwiches available evenings. No liquor is served. MC & VISA.

ATTENTION GOURMANDS

Nevada gourmands are invited to share experiences and judgments of their favorite eating and drinking establishments in the Sagebrush State. Reviews should be 500 words or less in length and note atmosphere, quality, prices, location, hours, phone, and whether reservations or credit cards are accepted. If your review is published you'll be paid at least enough for a night out. Send with a self-addressed stamped envelope to The Relentless Gourmand, Nevada Magazine, Capitol Complex, Carson City NV 89710.

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Al Jolson's sleek 1933 Cadillac All Weather Phaeton has a V-16 engine and custom Fleetwood coachwork as ordered by the famous singer. His elegant limo is featured in a special jazz age display at Harrah's collection.



The personality cars at Harrah's great collection in Reno recall the days when style and horsepower were more important than miles per gallon. By Brian Lawson.

STARS' CARS

Forget what F. Scott Fitzgerald said about the rich and famous. They may have more money, but when it comes to cars, they really aren't that different from you and me.

Celebrities, too, shop for cars that suit their personalities. Hollywood stars from the twenties onward have indulged in the kinds of automobiles that match their screen personas. The cars of dignitaries, with the exception of California Governor Jerry Brown's '74 Plymouth, usually symbolize their owners' high station.

They're cars that recall the fantasies of childhood matinees, symbols of the good life, the bigger and more exotic the better. Back in the days when horsepower and prestige were more important than miles per gallon, the "personality cars" of celebrities were as much a part of the American scene as handprints in concrete and gala premieres.

You can see some of the best cars of the stars at Harrah's Automobile Collection in Reno, the biggest collection of

cars in the world. More than 1,000 makes and models are on display, including antique, vintage, classic and one-of-a-kind vehicles.

Some draw at least part of their mystique from their owners, from the regal 1951 Rolls-Royce Phantom IV, a seven-passenger limousine owned by Princess Marina, aunt of Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, to the brutishly powerful '53 Corvette convertible once owned by John Wayne. Other autos were celebrities themselves, like the 1915 Model T Ford from the movie, "The Absent Minded Professor."

If the stars picked their transportation by whim or fantasy, the cars in Harrah's collection are for real. Each vehicle is mechanically and aesthetically perfect upon completion; it is "no better and no worse" than the day it rolled out of the factory. Everything, from the smallest brass manufacturer's plate to the color of the upholstery, is as it was when the car appeared on the street.

Although most of the star cars were not technologically noteworthy, they vividly reflect the American fascination with the automobile. Perhaps the collection's most unusual car is the 1948 Chrysler Town & Country Convertible Coupe once owned by western movie and television star Leo Carillo. Carillo, the perennial Pancho to Duncan Renaldo's Cisco Kid, had the car made to order with a life-size steer's head as a hood ornament. He used the car for publicity tours.

If Carillo liked flash, entertainer Al Jolson preferred understated elegance. The Jolson Cadillac is a sleek black convertible boasting a rare V-16 engine. Only 400 of the massive three-ton cars were built, and they sold for the then-exorbitant sum of $8,000.

The traditional style of Jolson's Cadillac contrasts dramatically with one of the most exotic star cars in the



Leo Carillo's horned 1948 Chrysler Town & Country was a real traffic stopper when the Cisco Kid's sidekick was on publicity tour. So that Carillo could use his car for everyday transportation, Chrysler provided another hood with a less prominent ornament.



This supercharged 1937 Cord Beverly Sedan had more than a bit of dash: it set AAA speed records in '37 at Indianapolis and the Bonneville Salt Flats with racer Ab Jenkins at the wheel. The engine is a V-8 capable of 170 horsepower.





AUTOMOBILE PHOTOS COURTESY HARRAH'S



The 1938 Phantom Corsair is a one-of-a-kind dream machine designed by 23-year-old Rust Heinz of the "57 Varieties" family and later owned by TV star Herb Shriner. The futuristic design includes airplane instruments and room for four in the front seat. The car was featured in the movie, "The Young in Heart," starring Paulette Goddard, Janet Gaynor and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.

collection, the one-of-a-kind 1938 Phantom Corsair. The Phantom, once owned by television entertainer Herb Shriner, was the brainchild of Rust Heinz, 23-year-old scion of the famous "57 Varieties" Heinz family. The ultra-streamlined car features airplane instruments—including altimeter, barometer and compass—and seating for four persons in the front seat and two in the rear-facing second seat. Heinz' plans to put the car into production ended with his death in an auto accident.

Contemporary celebrities are also represented. Nestled among exotic Ferraris and Aston Martins is the 1961 Ghia Hardtop once owned by Frank Sinatra. Only 26 of the powerful cars were ever built, and Sinatra's was the first brought into the United States. Just down the aisle is a 1935 Aston Martin Mark II Open 2-4 Seater on loan to the collection by comedian Bill Cosby.

You can also see the 1932 Ford De Luxe Phaeton formerly owned by Dick Smothers. The comedian's Ford represents the first model with the large V-8 engine that Henry Ford gambled would become the power plant of the future. The gamble paid off: more than six million cars with big V-8s rolled out of Detroit before World War II.

Other star cars on display include a 1919 McFarlan owned by silent movie actor Wallace Reid; Smothers' 1965 Lotus-Ford Indianapolis race car; a 1962 Maserati Superlegera Coupe on loan from Carroll O'Connor; an 1899 Beesten Quadracycle owned by actor Steve McQueen; a 1962 Lincoln-Continental convertible, the White House car assigned to President John F. Kennedy; and a 1941 Chrysler Dual-Cowl Phaeton formerly owned by actress Lana Turner.

At the collection you can watch craftsmen working on newly-acquired automobiles at Harrah's restoration shops. The complex also has the world's most comprehensive auto research library, the Pony Express Museum's collection of western memorabilia, and a showroom with more than 80 restored antique slot machines. There's a saloon and cafeteria, too.

The collection is located three and a half miles east of downtown Reno on East 2nd Street (Glendale Road). You can ride to it free on a doubledecker or vintage Renault bus from Harrah's; the buses leave on the hour from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is $4 adults, $2 ages 13-21, $1.50 ages 5-12 and free for younger kids. □

Harrah's Goes Public

If you have some time, money and a car like a 1936 Hispano-Suiza you've been dying to restore, you can now take advantage of the restoration shops at Harrah's Automobile Collection.

For the first time the collection is taking on restoration projects for the general public. Collection Director Clyde Wade explains the new service is geared for "frame up work"—complete restorations of antique, classic, vintage or special interest vehicles.

"We started the service this spring with two cars, and we expect to handle about 10 public restorations a year," Wade says. "This isn't for people who just want a new fender or a paint job. It's for someone who wants a complete restoration of his vehicle from the frame up."

Cost to the car owner depends on the amount of work needed, availability of parts and difficulty of restoration. The facilities are the most complete in the nation and can handle virtually all aspects of a job in-house.

"Right now we're restoring cars on the basis of when our technicians have time in their schedules," says Wade, "but if the demand is there we could conceivably expand the service and assign more technicians to work full-time on public restorations." —*BL*



George C. Pardee, Governor of California from 1903 to 1907, was the original owner of this 1911 Winton, a 48-horsepower touring car with room for seven passengers. The collection also has a 1917 Winton House Car, an early self-contained RV custom-built for a campaigning Pennsylvania politician.

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THE BATTLE OF GOLDFIELD

(Continued from page 31)

purse was a lightweight record, and the gate receipts were $69,715, astounding for that era and locale. Another unusual note: after the 38th round the cameraman ran out of film, so there is no complete motion picture of the fight.

Most important to Goldfielders, the fight put their town in the spotlight. Thousands of fans and spectators came to see the match, and many gambled not only at the fight and the faro tables, but also on the stock exchange. Goldfield received a healthy rush of investor interest and new capital, two crucial commodities for any boom town.

After Goldfield, Gans and Nelson met two more times. They were rematched for a 45-round title bout in San Francisco on July 4, 1908. Gans went in as a 10-4 favorite, but his long years of making weight and the tuberculosis caught up with him; Nelson knocked him out in the 17th. Matched a third time in September, Nelson finished Gans in the 21st.

Gans fought only once more, a 10-round no-decision with Jabez White in March 1909. He moved to Arizona, where he hoped the hot, dry climate would improve his health, but his condition worsened. Wanting to see his mother before he died, he returned to Baltimore where he passed away on August 10, 1910, shortly before his 36th birthday.

Nelson held the lightweight title for two years. His long years of hard-fighting took their toll when he lost his title to Ad Wolgast in a bloody 40-round bout in 1910. Nine months later the impossible occurred: Owen Moran, a tough British lightweight, floored Nelson for the full count in 11 rounds.

Nelson's career at the top was over. He had earned about $500,000 but lost everything in the crash of 1929. He later worked in a Chicago post office, but in 1950, in failing health, Nelson and his wife were forced to live on a $22-a-month pension and handouts from friends. Fans joined in fund-raising drives in Chicago and San Francisco, raising $1,800 for the Nelsons. Early in 1954 his wife died. On February 7, 1954, only a month after being committed to a Chicago mental hospital, Nelson died of lung cancer at the age of 71.

As for Tex Rickard, he went on to bigger things. After promoting the Jack Johnson-Jim Jeffries heavyweight title fight in Reno in 1910, he left for New York. There the peak of his career coincided with the rise of Jack Dempsey to the heavyweight championship in the 1920s, and he promoted all of Dempsey's major battles. Rickard died in 1929 at 59, acclaimed as the greatest promoter in boxing history.

Goldfield itself continued to boom. Financiers George Wingfield and George Nixon took control of the area's richest properties, and the town entered a brief era of prosperity. In 1907 the population reached an estimated 20,000, and Goldfield wrestled the county seat from Hawthorne.

The town hosted one more big prizefight, the Attell-Weeks featherweight title fight of 1909, and the next year mine production hit a record $10.7 million. But the flush times were over. Ore and population dwindled until major mining ended in 1918.

Today Goldfield, population 350, is a well-preserved reminder of another day. The great Goldfield Hotel has been revived and is open for tours, not far from where thousands stood three hours on a hot afternoon, cheering the Old Master and the Durable Dane. □

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