



CONTACT: Mary Paoli, RSCVA
775-827-7654 / mpaoli@rscva.com

RENO-TAHOE, AMERICA'S ADVENTURE PLACE BOASTS NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EVENTS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

RENO, Nev. — With an abundance of special events and festivals held 145 days a year, there is plenty to choose from throughout the year. Ranging from arts and culture to athletic and adventurous – events in Reno-Tahoe, America's Adventure Place offer something for everyone.

OCTOBER 2007

- 6 – 7 **Great Italian Festival:** The 26th installment of this proud Italian heritage celebration is held in the streets surrounding the Eldorado Hotel Casino in downtown Reno. Enjoy a fun-filled day including grape-stomping, spaghetti-eating contests, Italian food, gelato and café booths, face painting, a farmers market and live entertainment. Contact 800-879-8879 for details or visit www.eldoradoreno.com/events.
- 6 – 7 **17th Annual Reno Celtic Celebration:** Experience true tradition at this Celtic celebration featuring bagpipe bands, Irish and Highland dancing, Celtic crafters, athletic competition and much more. Contact 775-233-9954 for details or visit www.renoceltic.org.
- 20 **Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk:** Visit the spirits of yesterday on a walking tour of the Kit Carson Trail in Nevada's state capital, historic Carson City. Select homes are open during the tour with character actors portraying scenes from the past. Call 800-NEVADA-1 (800-638-2321) for details or log on to www.visitcarsoncity.com.
- 25 – 28 **Nevada Day Celebration:** Enjoy four days of events in Carson City during the celebration of Nevada's birthday into statehood including a best beard contest, food, music and the largest parade in the state, the Nevada Day Parade. Call 800-NEVADA-1 (800-638-2321) or check out www.visitcarsoncity.com for more details.

NOVEMBER 2007

- 23 – 24 **North Lake Tahoe Holiday Jazz Festival:** The 12th annual North Lake Tahoe Thanksgiving Weekend Jazz Festival takes place over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend at the Hyatt Regency Lake Tahoe Resort, Spa and Casino in Incline Village. Located along the shores of beautiful Lake Tahoe, it's the perfect way to get in the holiday spirit. Log on to www.LakeTahoeHyatt.com or call 775-832-1234 for more information.

DECEMBER 2007

- 1 **Sparks Hometowne Christmas:** This annual celebration showcases a colorful holiday parade, family entertainment, photos with Santa, arts and crafts vendors and a spectacular tree lighting ceremony. It is a true Nevada tradition to warm the winter. Contact 775-353-2291 for details or visit www.ci.sparks.nv.us/living/com_events.
- 6 **Silver and Snowflake Festival of Lights:** Witness the lighting of the state Capitol building and all of downtown Carson City during this spectacular festival of lights. Other activities include a visit with Santa and caroling. For more information, visit www.visitcarsoncity.com or call 775-887-1294.
- 9 **Victorian Home Christmas Tour:** Experience the magic of Christmas on a tour of beautifully decorated Victorian homes along the historic Kit Carson Trail in Carson City. The tour is presented by the Nevada Landmark Society. Call 775-882-1805 or log on to www.visitcarsoncity.com for more details.

- 28-31 **Nevada Chamber Music Festival:** The 4th annual Nevada Chamber Music Festival, sponsored by the Reno Chamber Orchestra, is an eight-concert series featuring some of the finest musicians in the world performing the great works of the chamber music canon. Already established as a favorite among Reno-Tahoe audiences as an integral part of the area's winter arts scene, the Festival has featured musicians such as Grammy-nominated violinist and frequent performer with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center, James Buswell, and Pascal Rogé, one of the most recorded pianists in the world today. Visit www.renochamberorchestra.org/ncmf or call 775-348-9413 for more information.

JANUARY 2008

- 23-27 **Blue Gay-la 2008:** World class skiing and nightly entertainment. South Lake Tahoe's Gay and Lesbian celebration is 24/7 non-stop action on ...and off the slopes. The celebration will include everything from the late-night wild antics of all night dance parties to the "Queen of the Mountain" competition at the no holds barred, Drag Race. For more information, call 800-AT-TAHOE (800-288-2463) or log on to www.bluelaketahoe.com.
- 31 **Directions 2008 Economic Forum:** This is the largest economic forum in northern Nevada, and will look at current demographics and trends in business; explore how we "navigate" in our region now and in our future with reports on where our roads will take us, reports on how our air service measures up to what the region needs, and what effects bringing the Olympics to our area would be on our transportation service. National keynote speakers will present outlooks and solutions for our region and see how we measure up to other similar cities. This ½ day forum will bring insight and excitement to the growth of our region. Contact: Reno Sparks Chamber at 337-3044 or www.renosparkschamber.org OR EDawn at 829-3712 or www.edawn.org

FEBRUARY 2008

- 29 - March 9 **Snow Festival:** Every spring since 1982, North Lake Tahoe comes alive with ten fun-filled days and nights, jam packed with events and activities for all ages. This year, the annual favorites will be back, along with expanded music events, and a host of great new ones! On and off the mountain, there's something for everyone. Enjoy on-snow events at resorts like Squaw Valley USA, Alpine Meadows, Homewood, Diamond Peak, and Northstar-at-Tahoe; Participate in special events, parades, races, parties, concerts, theater; and of course, there's plenty of wining and dining to be had at North Lake Tahoe's fine restaurants and lively establishments. For details, visit www.tahoefestival.com or call 530-583-7167.

MARCH 2008

- 1 **Winter Blue Adventure Race:** The Winter Blue Adventure Race returns to Lake Tahoe and Reno, kicking off with clinics and practice runs that culminate with the race in Reno. Teams participate and compete in a series of backcountry and Nordic activities including freeheel skiing, all terrain skiing, snowshoeing, transceiver location, Nordic skiing, orienteering and map and compass skills. Now in its fourth year, the Big Blue Adventure Race Series challenges adventure seekers, while showcasing the spectacular views of Lake Tahoe and Reno. Contact 530-546-1019 or visit www.bigblueadventure.com for more details.
- 2-9 **Lake Tahoe WinterFest:** WinterFest is Lake Tahoe's original Gay and Lesbian Ski Week since 1996, with a full week of World Class Skiing, Nightly Entertainment and non-stop action. Lake Tahoe WinterFest is the largest Gay and Lesbian Event in Lake Tahoe and provides non stop action all week long. For more information, log on to www.LakeTahoeWinterFest.com or call 877-777-4950.
- 17 **St. Patrick's Day Celebration:** Think green and celebrate St. Patrick's Day with traditional Irish food and live music in downtown Reno. This event features an arts and crafts fair and a Ceilidh, a party with Celtic music and dancing. Contact Fitzgerald's Hotel Casino at 800-535-LUCK (5825) for details or visit www.fitzgeraldsreno.com.

APRIL 2008

- 10-13 **CSTV Collegiate Nationals:** The 3rd annual Collegiate Nationals is a college championship showcase featuring more than 2,000 of the nation's top young athletes competing in a four-day series of high-endurance sporting events. The competition brings together athletes from 40 different colleges and universities around the country to participate in such sports as wakeboarding, snowboarding, kayaking, boxing and beach volleyball at a variety of locations throughout Reno including the Truckee River Whitewater Park. For more information, log on to www.cstv.com/thecollegiatenationals.
- 24-26 **The Reno Jazz Festival:** ranks as one of the largest and most vibrant jazz festivals of its kind in the nation, attracting thousands of participants each year. The annual festival hosts hundreds of performances and clinics featuring popular jazz artists along with middle school, high school and college groups from around the West. Contact 775-784-4046 for details or visit www.unr.edu/rjf.

MAY 2008

- 1-4 **8th Annual Reno Film Festival:** The best of short independent films from adults and local students, a screenwriting seminar by Hollywood insiders and much more are ready to take the spotlight. A complete event schedule with times and locations is available at www.renofilmfestival.com or by calling (775) 334-6707.
- 3-4 **Cinco de Mayo Festival:** Produced by Nevada Hispanic Services on Victorian Square in downtown Sparks, this celebration of Mexican culture is a two-day event featuring a variety of popular national and local entertainment with food, craft and informational booths along Sparks' Victorian Avenue from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. For more information, please call 775-826-1818 or visit www.nhsreno.org.
- 9-11 **Reno River Festival:** Known for attracting top professional kayakers and amateur athletes from around the world, the Reno River Festival returns in 2008 to celebrate five years on the Truckee River. With a new vision and new ownership, the three-day event ventures beyond whitewater and boating competitions to showcase a new avenue of adventure. Expect land-based competitions including mountain bike speed trials and the "Run Amuck" fun run, bringing a whole new class of competitive athletes to downtown Reno's Truckee River Whitewater Park at Wingfield. The adventure begins May 9, 2008 and the weekend also includes instructional clinics, an industry expo featuring the hottest outdoor products on the market, food and beer gardens, live music and plenty of nighttime activities to keep guests entertained. For more information, visit www.RenoRiverFestival.com or call 775-784-9400 x 119
- 11 **Arts in Bloom:** Treat mom to a special Mother's Day under the springtime sun with Arts in Bloom. View spectacular chalk drawings and other artwork while enjoying fine food and entertainment at the Sparks Marina from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Proceeds from the 6th annual Arts in Bloom festival benefit the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. For more information, visit http://www.ci.sparks.nv.us/living/com_events/arts_bloom/ or call 775-353-2291.
- 24 **Kit Carson Trail Wild West Tour:** Visit the spirits of yesterday on a walking tour of the Kit Carson Trail in Nevada's state capital, historic Carson City. Select homes are open during the tour featuring character actors portraying scenes from the past. Call 800-NEVADA-1 (800-638-2321) or log on to www.visitcarsoncity.com.
- 31 **River Roots Reggae:** River Roots Reggae kicks off summer 2008 and honors the Reggae "Prophet" and Legend Bob Marley through his spiritual music. This Memorial Day, Bantu Spirit celebrates the life Bob Marley led with joy & passion. On stage: Reggae sensations Jahzilla of Reno and unique Roots-Man, Blackman Clay of Tucson, AZ. For more information visit www.bantuspirit.com.

JUNE 2008

- 1 **America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride:** This 18th annual ride around Lake Tahoe has built a reputation for its spectacular scenery, as well as for its great support. Held annually the first Sunday in June, the event includes a boat cruise, 35-mile fun ride and a 72-mile ride around the lake, as well as a 100-mile "century" ride. The course circles the lake with a challenging 800-foot climb to a vista point overlooking serene Emerald Bay. Proceeds benefit the Lake Tahoe Bikeway, a program dedicated to building interconnecting bike lanes and trails around Lake Tahoe, and is the culmination of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society of America's National Team-in-Training spring fund-raising program. Call 800-565-2704 or log on to www.bikethewest.com for more details.
- 5-8 **Autoexotica:** an event that celebrates modern-day sports cars with a track day for enthusiasts at the Reno-Fernley Raceway, and a downtown Reno sports car festival. This continues the tradition established by 'Sports Cars and All That Jazz' to provide a weekend where car clubs and enthusiasts can enjoy the power and beauty of modern sports cars. For more information please visit: www.autoexotica.org .
- 6-7 **Reno-Tahoe Odyssey Relay Run Adventure:** This relay run is a mighty challenge at 178 miles. Traveling through the Sierra Nevada, along the shores of Lake Tahoe and circling back through the Northern Nevada high desert, the relay is divided into 36 legs of varying lengths, difficulties and altitudes. Each runner completes three legs of the course over two days. Contact 775-825-3399 for details or visit www.renotahoeodyssey.com.
- 6-8 **Street Vibrations – Spring Rally:** All the excitement of Street Vibrations condensed into one weekend in Victorian Square in Sparks. Concerts, VIP Parties, Ride-In-Show, Poker Run, Bike Games, Bike Competition, Cruises, Parade, Vendors and food & beverages will create a great mini Street Vibrations Rally. Participants will experience the thrill of touring Virginia City, Carson City and Lake Tahoe, in addition to the Reno and Sparks area. Call 775-329-SHOW (7469) or visit http://road-shows.com/street_vibrations_spring.php for more information.
- 12 – Aug. 21 **Sparks Hometowne Farmers Market:** Get it fresh at this weekly summertime celebration of food and family fun. The market features more than 100 vendors offering fresh-picked produce, breads, pastries and gourmet foods, plus cooking demonstrations, live entertainment and unique items for the home and garden. The Farmers Market is held on Thursday evenings from 4 to 9 p.m. at Victorian Square in Sparks. Call 775-353-2291 for details or visit www.ci.sparks.nv.us/living/com_events/farmers_market.
- 13-15 **Carson City Rendezvous:** This event is a rendezvous of all things "Wild West" including a mountain man encampment, Civil War reenactments, cowboy stunt shows, camel rides, Pueblo de Nevada village, a blacksmithing competition, Native American dancing, live music, arts and crafts and great food. Call 800-NEVADA-1 (800-638-2321) for details or log on to www.visitcarsoncity.com.
- 18-21 **Northstar at Tahoe Tour de Nez:** The 16th annual Tour de Nez is part of USA Cycling's national race series comprised of 33 events throughout the United States with participants earning points toward individual national rankings. The schedule includes a Masters and a Pro race with cyclists winding through the streets of Reno's downtown Truckee River Arts District along with other Lake Tahoe area courses. The event also features an expo area and live music. Call 775-348-6673 or visit www.tourdenez.com for details.
- 19 **Dodge Xtreme Bulls:** the only officially sanctioned bull riding tour of the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA), Dodge Xtreme Bulls kicks off the 89th annual Reno Rodeo. Forty (40) top cowboys will compete for a \$40,000 purse in Reno and a chance to qualify for the year-end National Finals Rodeo (NFR). This event is an exciting 2-hour "high-energy" production that features music, special effects and fan engaging activities. For more information please visit: www.renorodeo.com .

- 20 – 28 **Reno Rodeo:** The 89th installment of the “Wildest, Richest Rodeo in the West” features the best Rodeo athletes from around the world, as well as a parade, carnival and numerous craft booths. Kids can try their hand at Mutton Bustin’ or just grab a ringside seat for the excitement of steer wrestling, bronc riding, bull riding, barrel racing and more. Call 775-329-3877 for details or visit www.renorodeo.com.
- 21-22 **Opening day at the Lake:** Lake Tahoe South Shore is kicking off a summer-long season of activities with Opening Weekend on the Lake. Two days of events will be highlighted by one of the largest geocaching treasure hunts in history, the Great Lake Tahoe Sternwheeler Race, a traditional opening day boat parade, a dance party, entertainment and the combination of 24-hour indoor and outdoor activities that will have Blue Avenue rocking. For more information visit www.bluelaketahoe.com .
- 22-26 **Nevada Humanities Chautauqua Festival:** Travel through history as scholars portray major literary and historical figures in a tented outdoor setting. Celebrating its 17th anniversary, the 2008 Chautauqua will focus on Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War . The Great Basin Chautauqua Festival also incorporates Young Chautauqua that includes children aged eight to 18 who research and develop characters for six months before performing in front of the festival audience. Located at the Hawkins Amphitheater at Bartley Ranch Regional Park. Visit www.nevadahumanities.org or call 775-784-6587 for more information.
- 28 **Lake in the Sky Air Show:** The biggest and best air show in the High Sierra! The 19th annual Lake In The Sky Air Show at the Lake Tahoe Airport, in South Lake Tahoe, CA. Be here at the Lake of the Sky Air Show for all the action! You’ll see many of the country’s top aerobatic performers including living legends Bill Cornick, Rob Harrison, the Tumbling Bear, Spencer Suderman and Jon Melby defying gravity in his famous Pitts. For more information visit www.lakeintheskyairshow.com .
- 28 **Xterra Tahoe City / Off-Road Triathlon:** Defined by both the incredible beauty of Lake Tahoe and the towering peaks of the High Sierra, Lake Tahoe is one of the world’s most famous sporting playgrounds. The region has an almost endless variety of spectacular mountain biking trails, adventurous hikes and, of course, waterborne activities on the “Big Blue” - Lake Tahoe - one of the largest, deepest and purest alpine lakes on earth. XTERRA Tahoe City is an off-road triathlon that will celebrate the natural environment of the North Shores excellent terrain, trails and blue water. For details visit www.bigblueadventure.com .
- 28 **Great Eldorado BBQ, Brews & Blues Festival:** Nothing washes down good barbecue like a cold beer and live Blues in the heart of downtown Reno. And party-goers will find it all, plus vendors, artists and much more during this annual summer event. Contact 800-648-5966 for details or visit www.eldoradoreno.com.

JULY 2008

- 1-31 **Artown:** Consisting of more than 350 events each July, Artown was noted by the National Endowment for the Arts as one of the most comprehensive art festivals in the country. With more than 100 partners, the 31-day festival takes place at venues citywide and brings to life theater, dance, film, history, multi-cultural, musical, visual and performing arts activities and events, as well as dozens of children’s activities aimed at educating youth on the importance of the arts. Festival favorites include the Food for the Soul World Music Series, Movies in the Park, Rollin’ on the River music series, Artouring and the Discover the Arts children’s series. Logon to www.RenolsArtown.com or call 775-322-1538 for details.
- 4 **Fourth of July:** It wouldn’t be Independence Day without fireworks and Reno-Tahoe takes pyrotechnics to a whole new level. Catch firework shows at Rancho San Rafael Park in Reno, the Star Spangled Sparks event at John Ascuaga’s Nugget in Sparks, Carson City’s Cavalcade of Spectaculars at Mills Park or at any of four Lake Tahoe locations including Kings Beach, Tahoe City, Incline Village and South Lake Tahoe. Call 800-FOR-RENO (800-367-7366) or log on to www.VisitRenoTahoe.com for more information.

- 4 **Star Spangled Sparks:** This event celebrates the 232nd birthday of the United States with a day-long extravaganza starting at Sparks Marina at 7:30 a.m. and featuring numerous fun-filled activities for the entire family. The celebration moves to Victorian Square at 7 p.m. with more events and a spectacular fireworks show beginning at 9:30 p.m. Visit www.ci.sparks.nv.us/living/com_events/star_spangled or call 775-353-2291 for details.
- 5-7 **Great International Chicken Wing Society Cook-Off:** Restaurants and bars from all over the world come to downtown Reno to serve up their own version of chicken wings for tasters to judge. Visitors can wander throughout the cook-off to purchase sampler plates from each participating restaurant. For more information, call 775-358-8376 or log on to www.thegreatinternationalchickenwingsociety.com.
- 8 – 13 **American Century Celebrity Golf Championship:** Watch more than 75 of your favorite athletes and stars of the big and small screen as they vie for top honors in this annual tournament held at the Edgewood Golf Course in South Lake Tahoe. Past tournaments have included celebrities such as Michael Jordan, Donald Trump and John Elway. More than 27,000 spectators attend annually. Call 775-588-3566 or log on to www.tahoecelibritygolf.com for details.
- 10 – Aug 17 **Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival:** Mix the fresh Sierra Nevada air, the crystal blue waters of Lake Tahoe and an amphitheatre carved in the white sandy beach and there's no other venue in the country that provides the sensory stimulation found at the Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival. Contact 800-74-SHOWS (800-747-4697) for details or visit www.LakeTahoeShakespeare.com.
- 11-13 **World Wakeboarding Association:** The WWA Wakeboard World Championships presented by Supra is organized by World Sports & Marketing of Orlando, Fla. This four-day competition adds a splash of fun to the summer by bringing the world's best wakeboarders to the Sparks Marina to determine the champion of what is currently the world's fastest growing water sport. Call 407-628-4802 or visit www.kingofwake.com for details.
- 12-13 **Tahoe Arts Festival:** The 10th annual Tahoe Arts Festival celebrates the best in visual and performing arts at the Cal-Neva Resort, Spa and Casino in Crystal Bay in North Lake Tahoe. The festival features street painting and other special events including an artists' marketplace and an amateur artist area for children and adults to create their own works of art. For details, call 530-583-5605 or visit www.laketahoeartsfestival.com.
- 12 – Aug 2 **Lake Tahoe Music Festival:** Sit back and relax under the stars as the Lake Tahoe Music Festival celebrates its 26th anniversary of bringing exciting contemporary artists to venues in the North Lake Tahoe area. In 2007, top performers including Kenny Loggins, David Benoit, David Sanborn and Craig Chaquico among others, belted out timeless classical masterpieces. Visit www.tahoemusic.org for the 2008 schedule or call 530-581-1184 for ticket details.
- 19 **41st Annual Reno Basque Festival:** Celebrate Reno's Basque heritage at this annual event featuring traditional food, dancing, a Basque mass and games for children and adults, in addition to sporting competitions including soka tira (tug-of-war), wood chopping and weight lifting. Contact 775-762-3577 for details or visit www.renobasqueclub.org.
- 28 – Aug 2 **PGA Tour's Reno-Tahoe Open at Montréux Golf and Country Club:** A top field of PGA TOUR professionals face off at one of the area's toughest and most scenic golf courses, Montréux Golf and Country Club, for the 10th year. The popular event offers competitors a \$3 million purse as well as a pro-am tournament. Contact 775-322-3900 for details or visit www.RenoTahoeOpen.com.

AUGUST 2008

- 1-3 **Silver Dollar Car Classic:** One of Carson City's legendary events and a precursor to Reno's Hot August Nights, the Silver Dollar Car Classic offers a spectacular fireworks show, treasure hunt, drive-in movies, champion speedway parade laps, contests, prizes and the country's only \$1 million poker run. Help celebrate the show's 12 years of classic cars, speedway excitement and hot-rod magic. Visit www.silverdollarcar.com or call 800-NEVADA-1 (800-638-2321) for more details.
- 2 **Pyramid Lake Sprint Triathlon:** This USA Triathlon-sanctioned event takes place near the azure waters of Pyramid Lake -- a remnant of an ancient inland sea. Events include a swim in 68-72 degree water, a fast bike course with several rolling hills and a flat and fast run. The start and finish is located just south of the Sutcliffe Marina at Pyramid Lake. Visit www.renoareatriathletes.com or call 775-852-5954 for more details.
- 2 – 10 **Hot August Nights:** This nationally recognized annual celebration of vintage music and autos returns for another famous cruise on the streets of Reno-Tahoe. Featuring thousands of classic cars, top entertainers of the '50s and '60s, car auctions, poker runs, drag races and parades, this event promises to be the best of the best for car lovers. Contact 775-356-1956 for details or visit www.hotaugustnights.net.
- 8-9 **Wooden Boat Week and Concours d'Elegance:** A weeklong celebration of classic wooden boats and a chance to be a part of Tahoe's classic history, the 36th annual Concours d'Elegance is a two-day competitive and educational event offering various social events presenting participants an opportunity to show off and enjoy their wooden boats with the spectators, while the remainder of the week is filled with social gatherings and competitions. Call 530-581-4700 or log on to www.tahoeyc.com for more information.
- 16-17 **Reno Gay Pride:** Each summer, downtown Reno is home to Reno Gay Pride. Join the 12th annual event and enjoy two free days of gay pride activities including a parade, vendors, food, parties and live music and entertainment. Log on to www.renogaypride.com or e-mail glvcb@aol.com for more information.
- 16 – 17 **Reno-Tahoe Blues Festival:** The 4th annual Reno-Tahoe Blues Festival kicks off at Rancho San Rafael Park in Reno, offering a total festival experience including food, merchandise and fun in a beautiful outdoor park setting. The Blues Fest has played host to some of the biggest names in rhythm and blues, including Patti LaBelle, Chaka Khan, Shemekia Copeland, Eddie Cotton, Gladys Knight, Etta James, Blind Boys of Alabama, Keb Mo and Sista Monica. For more information, call 775-857-FEST (775-857-3378) or log on to www.renotahoebluesfest.com.
- 20-24 **Nevada State Fair:** Everything that makes the Silver State great is at this annual event. Visit the Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center from noon to midnight for exhibits and events, entertainment, rides, carnival games and more. Contact 775-688-5767 for details or go to www.nvstatefair.com.
- 22-23 **Reno Cowboy Poetry and Music Gathering:** Bartley Ranch Regional Park plays host to this 3rd annual event that celebrates all aspects of life on the open range. Activities include cowboy poetry readings and musical performances, open mic sessions, documentary screenings, photography exhibitions, food and vendor booths. Tickets start at \$20 and weekend packages are also available. Call 775-830-7087 or visit www.RenoCowboyPoetry.com for more information.
- 27 – Sept 1 **Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off:** Thousands of visitors make their way to Victorian Square in Sparks each Labor Day to experience the biggest and most prestigious rib cook-off in the United States, the Best in the West Nugget Rib Cook-Off. Bringing together dozens of cooks, hundreds of craft and vendor booths and free entertainment including nightly headline acts on the main stage, the 20th annual rib cook-off is a great way to say goodbye to summer. Contact 800-648-1177 for details or visit www.nuggetribcookoff.com.

SEPTEMBER 2008

- 5-7 **49th Annual Virginia City International Camel Races:** While they're not known for their speed and agility, these desert troopers hit the racetrack as a nostalgic reminder of the Comstock Lode's bonanza days. In addition to the camel, ostrich and emu races, there are numerous specialty acts, daily parades and more. Contact 775-847-0311 for details or go to www.visitvirginiacitynv.com.
- 7 **Tour de Tahoe Bike Big Blue:** This 6th annual bike ride challenges riders with a 72-mile ride around Lake Tahoe including an 800-foot climb overlooking Emerald Bay. Other activities include a sightseeing boat cruise and 35-mile fun ride. Call 800-565-2704 or log on to www.bikethewest.com for more details.
- 5 **Professional Bull Riders Built Ford Tough Series:** The Professional Bull Riders Built Ford Tough Series at the Reno Events Center is a premier bull riding tour bringing together the top 45 bull riders in the world to test their skills against the planet's toughest animal, all in downtown Reno. For more information, visit www.PBRNow.com or call 1-800-732-1727 Option 1.
- 5 – 7 **The Great Reno Balloon Race:** More than just an exhibition of gorgeous flying machines, the Great Reno Balloon Race brings together the nation's top balloonists competing in events like the Hare and the Hound, Target Drop and Key Grab. A trademark of the race is its Dawn Patrol that takes place as the sun rises and provides an amazing spectacle as balloons glow, twinkle, and fly along with choreographed music. Contact 775-826-1181 for details or visit www.renoballoon.com.
- 6-7 **Lake Tahoe Autumn Food & Wine Festival:** Where picnic meets party! Annual weekend of food, wine, seminars, grape stomp, celebrity chefs, culinary demonstrations, wine tastings, live wine auction and Sunday Grand Tasting and Culinary Competition. This fantastic annual festival is a feast for the senses, appealing to locals and visitors alike for over 20 years. Past events have included wine tastings, special dinners, cooking contests, cocktail making seminars, raffles and auctions, celebrity appearances and much more! For more information call 888-229-2193 or visit www.gotahoe.com/foodandwine.
- 10 – 14 **National Championship Air Races:** The world's longest running air race is the only place where you can see five days of real air racing among six classes of aircraft that reach speeds of more than 500 miles per hour. The event also features military static and historic airplane displays along with jaw dropping aerobatic exhibitions. While enjoying the races, spectators can visit the pits and watch race teams work on the airplanes, get autographs from their favorite race pilots and browse hundreds of vendor booths and take pleasure in a wide variety of food and beverages. For more information about the "World's Fastest Motorsport", contact 775-972-6663 or visit www.airrace.org.
- 13 **Tahoe Big Blue Adventure Race:** This 5th annual multi-sport event invites individuals and teams ranging from one to four members to compete in a 12-hour competition featuring eight miles of kayaking, a 24-mile mountain bike ride, and five to eight miles of trail running, orienteering, navigation and high-ropes skill disciplines along the beautiful shores of North Lake Tahoe. Call 530-546-1019 or visit online for details, www.bigblueadventure.com.
- 13 **Tahoe Big Blue Sprint Adventure Race:** This two- to four-hour race takes place during the Tahoe Big Blue Adventure Race and challenges individuals to complete two to three miles of kayaking, seven to 10 miles of mountain biking, and three to five miles of foot travel over fire trails, single lane tracks, pavement and sand. Call 530-546-1019 or visit www.bigblueadventure.com for details.
- 24-28 **Lake Tahoe Marathon:** The Lake Tahoe Marathon offers a multitude of events for athletes to choose from including: a non-competitive 20-mile power walk; the marathon itself which winds down the west shore from Tahoe City to South Lake Tahoe and ends in a post-run bash; the Tahoe triple (three marathons in three consecutive days); a 72-mile ultra run; triathlon; marathon relays; half-marathon; and 10K and 5K runs. There is also a free kids fun run and Extreme Golf. Call 530-544-7095 or visit www.laketahomarathon.com.

- 24-28** **Street Vibrations:** Get your motor running with five days of motorcycle tours, poker runs, parades, concerts, live entertainment, ride-in shows and numerous vendors. Street Vibrations transforms Reno into Hog Heaven, and is the 6th largest motorcycle festival in the country, with more than 250 vendors indoors and on the main street, stunt shows and VIP packages for participants paying \$60 (valued at over \$250). Call 800-200-4557 for details or visit www.road-shows.com/street_vibrations.htm.
- 26-27** **Oktoberfest:** The Silver Club hosts this annual event that pays tribute to Bavarian culture with an outdoor "Foodgarten" and "Biergarten," a "Craftgarten" street fair filled with artisan booths and a "Kindergarten" area for children of all ages to enjoy face painting, harvest-themed games and other activities. This event is free to the public. For more details, call 800-905-7774 or log on to www.silverclub.com.
- 27-28** **Genoa Candy Dance:** The 88th annual Genoa Candy Dance, a craft fair like none other, it is held in the small town of Genoa. This event is located within a short drive from Carson City the state's capital, and is a perfect place to start holiday gift shopping. It's the ultimate candy and craft sale with artisans from all over Northern Nevada flocking to sell their wares. Breathe in the small-town spirit of an old-fashioned craft sale and stock up on candy and sugar plums for the winter season. For more information, call 775-782-8696 or go to www.candydanceartsandcraftsfaire.org.

OCTOBER 2008

- 3 – 5** **18th Annual Reno Celtic Celebration:** Experience true tradition at this Celtic celebration featuring bagpipe bands, Irish and Highland dancing, Celtic crafters, athletic competition and much more. Contact 775-233-9954 for details or visit www.renoceltic.org.
- 4-5** **Nissan XTERRA USA Championship:** The Nissan XTERRA USA Championship off-road triathlon is the culmination of a series of nearly 50 qualifying events that take place across the United States. The best of the best are invited to compete in a 750-meter swim, full-distance 32K mountain bike ride and a 5K trail run at Lake Tahoe—all in a battle for the title of XTERRA National Champion and a share of the prize purse. In addition to the race, In addition to the championship, XTERRA offers races for trail runners, as well as the XTERRA Nevada race. Pick up tips from the pros at a XTERRA University clinic or enjoy the expo with food, climbing walls and product displays. Kids can get into the fun at the XTERRA Base Camp with Shimano Youth Series races, skills challenges and more. Call 877-751-8880 or log on to www.xterraplanet.com for more details.
- 4** **International Outhouse Races:** Take an adventure back in time during historic Virginia City's World Championship Outhouse Races. This hilarious Comstock tradition pits teams of costumed outhouse racers against each other as one person rides and the remaining team members manage to push, pull or drag the outhouse quickly down the track. The always outrageous outhouse parade on Saturday features Virginia City's famous "Plungerettes". For more information please visit www.visitvirginiacitynv.com .
- 4 – 5** **Great Italian Festival:** The 27th installment of this proud Italian heritage celebration is held in the streets surrounding the Eldorado Hotel Casino in downtown Reno. Enjoy a fun-filled day including grape-stomping, spaghetti-eating contests, Italian food, gelato and café booths, face painting, a farmers market and live entertainment. Contact 800-879-8879 for details or visit www.eldoradoreno.com/events.
- 18** **Kit Carson Trail Ghost Walk:** Visit the spirits of yesterday on a walking tour of the Kit Carson Trail in Nevada's state capital, historic Carson City. Select homes are open during the tour with character actors portraying scenes from the past. Call 800-NEVADA-1 (800-638-2321) for details or log on to www.visitcarsoncity.com.

- 20 **ACTRA National Finals:** The Team Roping Association National Finals will have contestants from 9 chapters representing 12 states and Canada. Participation includes contestants from 5 to 85 years old. The event is held at the Reno Livestock Events Center.
- 22-26 **Tahoe/Reno International Film Festival – A Force for Positive World Change:** Tahoe/Reno International Film Festival (T-RIFF) presents a five-day exploration of soul-stirring and spirited independent film contributions that open the hearts and minds of movie lovers. In addition to screening a rare and diverse spectrum of films, T-RIFF hosts workshops, tributes, parties, a gala and a short script competition. The winning screenplay is made into a film and screened during the festival. Contact 775-298-0018 or visit www.t-riff.org for more information.
- 31 – Nov 2 **Nevada Day Celebration:** Enjoy four days of events in Carson City during the celebration of Nevada's birthday into statehood including a best beard contest, food, music and the largest parade in the state, the Nevada Day Parade. Call 800-NEVADA-1 (800-638-2321) or check out www.visitcarsoncity.com for more details.

DECEMBER 2008

- 1 **Christmas on the Comstock:** A month-long celebration in historical Virginia City, Nevada. The celebration starts on Dec. 1 with The Parade of Lights and continues through the month to include the Crafts Faire and Gingerbread Social. Enjoy shopping specials, entertainment and more. For more information visit www.visitvirginiacitynv.com.
- 6 **Sparks Hometowne Christmas:** This annual celebration showcases a colorful holiday parade, family entertainment, photos with Santa, arts and crafts vendors and a spectacular tree lighting ceremony. It is a true Nevada tradition to warm the winter. Contact 775-353-2291 for details or visit www.ci.sparks.nv.us/living/com_events.

The Reno-Tahoe International Airport, the primary air service provider for the Northern Nevada and Northern California regions, is ideally situated just 10 minutes from downtown Reno and just 45 minutes from the shores of North Lake Tahoe. Effective March 31, the airport offers 85 convenient daily flights from 18 nonstop and 23 one-stop destinations.

For more information about Reno-Tahoe, America's Adventure Place and for the area's Best Rates, call 800-FOR-RENO (800-367-7366) or visit www.VisitRenoTahoe.com to download or request a visitor planner.

Reno-Tahoe, America's Adventure Place offers a 24-hour, play all day and night atmosphere unlike anyplace else. With bountiful recreation options available in winter, summer and in anytime in between, Reno-Tahoe provides the outdoor enthusiast with adventure starting right outside the hotel room door. Combine the unlimited possibilities for outdoor recreation with arts and culture, Western heritage, 24-hour, Nevada-style gaming, top-name entertainment, gourmet dining and exciting nightlife, and it's easy to see that Reno-Tahoe is America's Adventure Place.

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*** Dates subject to change. For current information, please contact the organization directly.*