

LAS VEGAS

SHOWCASE



Before I forget, HAPPY CHANUKA, MERRY XMAS, and a JOLLY 1990!...So what's bringing in the new decade on the Strip? New Year's Eve tabs for revelry remain about the same as last year. Tops for 1989 was FRANK SINATRA headlining Bally's at \$200, but he nixed this year's Eve fete because of the Musicians strike (and bully for him!). This puts FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS with FOUR TOPS in Bally's Grand Ballroom tops for the tabs at \$175. Replacing SINATRA in Bally's showroom are CHUCK BERRY & JERRY LEE LEWIS, discounted for \$65...More top bracket entertainment merriment moves to the Desert Inn with \$152.95 for the SMOTHERS BROTHERS, MARILYN MCCOO & comedian ED YEAGER. Caesars Palace charges \$150 for dinner and party favors presenting the POINTER SISTERS & BYRON ALLEN. At the Las Vegas Hilton, WAYNE NEWTON with a gourmet dinner has the same \$125 tab as last year; without food the charge is \$67.50...The Tropicana's "Folies Bergere" is up this year to \$125 over last year's \$85 tab, presumably to pay for taped music in the show instead of live musicians...The Flamingo Hilton has two revels each priced at \$120, the icy/dancer production "City Lites" and a gala ballroom dance

...Still in the \$100 range is the TONY BENNETT/JOEY VILLA whoopee in the Riviera's Superstar Center...Below \$100 try the Aladdin's magico show "Abracadabra" at \$85; the Riviera's "Splash" party at \$88.85...There's wide pricing at the Sahara with the Grand Ballroom Gala going for \$75, while KENNY KERR's amusing "Boylesque" charges \$24.95 per...More comedy is howling in the Sands Copa Room with "Bizarre" JOHN BYNER in "Comedy Kings" for \$45; at the Dunes Comedy Store, the New Year will be wrong in by five comedians TAMAYO OTSUKI, ROXANNE REESE, JIMMIE WALKER, BARRY DIAMOND and wrapping with the amazing impressions of FINIS HENDERSON, the works for \$66.50.



Wait, there's more...Also amazing is the fact that the Stardust's "Lido" show is dark New Year's Eve, but there'll be a dancing party with the DICK SAXE ORCH for \$19.50...More downpriced celebrations can be bought at Bally's "Jubilee" for \$60; Hacienda's dance party in the Matador Arena at \$45 and in the main showroom, "Fire & Ice," \$24.95; Riviera's "La Cage" \$32.90 and plenty of yocks with MAX ALEXANDER at Improv for \$20.35...Comedian PETE BARBUTTI will also be provoking laughs in the Aladdin's Imperial Ballroom for \$85 with music by the JACK EGLASH ORCH featuring PATTI JAMES and a possible appearance by CONNIE FRANCIS, who performs Dec. 27-30 in the resort's Theatre for the Performing Arts...I have no price specs for the downtown saturnalias because I was too lazy to phone for entertainers performing in those joynts and how much. So sue me.

Most pungent Xmas card received is from RANDY CREDICO, comedian with a 1000 voices, who is shown in a photo shaking hands with DANNY ORTEGA, chief of the SANDINISTAS Nicaragua government. Both are grinning, probably from one of RANDY's scathing impressions of BUSH OR REAGAN, both he does to perfection in the Sands "Comedy Kings"...PIA ZADORA's "card" is her latest cassette "Heartbeat of Love"...Here's something I should jump into with all of my tools. UNLV's ALUMNI ASSOCIATION is sponsoring a statewide sculpture competition to select something for the lobby of Alumni Center now under construction on campus. The only joker in the competitive deck is the theme requirement. JOHN LaBOUNTY, chair of the sculpture search committee responsible for organizing the search, explains: "We are interested in a sculpture that communicates a feeling about the university. The piece should reflect university life, education, and alumni." Whoever meets those demands and wins gets \$35,000 from a fund of \$50,000 donated from the LEO GIBRICH ESTATE through attorney ROGER WIRTH...I might give it a shot, but it will have to be in wood because I'm carving these days — mebbe a 40-foot by 12 piece carved in the shape of a banner filled with alumni boosters and students getting educated at TARKANIAN's tank over at Thomas & Mack Center. Yeah, that oughta do it...Can you imagine multi-multimillionaire BILL BENNETT, topper of Circus Circus and the upcoming Excalibur, having Russians inspecting his new dream resort out at Tropicana & the Strip? DAVID HALL, property manager for Circus Circus Enterprises, took Minister of the USSR, Chair of



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