

Free

# The LeRue Review

The Premiere Review Magazine for real people by real people

American Edition

BOOKS

Movies  
Movies

ESSAYS

Books:

Goodreads  
Top Books  
and Authors

Music:

Toby Keith

Movies:

Top American  
Movies

Featured this year

Art/Photography

Art: VSA Nevada

# From the Editor

The American Edition is a special issue created to honor Americans and the freedom we experience because of this great country.

Check out some of the authors, see what Toby Keith has been doing this year to honor America or review the partial list of top American films. Don't forget about our focus this year on Art and photography. For so many projects, where would we be without them?

Jere Whitney once again provides a great article about art with our VSA Nevada story. Joining us this month is a new writer, Marian Bostwick, who shares her take on "the art of gardening".

Our back cover represents a tribute to our veterans. Both my husband and brother are Marine veterans. My brother, Terry Szudajski, served two tours in Vietnam. He and his buddy, Mike Supple, have provided some insight and perspective from their point of view over 40 years since they served.

Please thank a veteran for their service.

Semper Fi,

Janice Hermsen



## Real People Reviewers

### Partial list of cities where we need reviewers:

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Portland	Denver	Omaha	Chicago	Richmond
Ashland	Colorado	Minneapolis	Springfield	Roanoke
Seattle	Springs	Des Moines	Memphis	Charleston
Olympia	Albuquerque			

The American Flag: Historically there are a number of depictions of the American Flag. In the early days of the Republic, when the Thirteen Original States were still British Colonies, the banners borne by the Revolutionary forces were widely varied, but the Grand Union flag became the official flag of the United Colonies. George Washington displayed this flag over his headquarters: it consisted of the Union Jack in the canton and 13 stripes representing the original colonies. Many local flags and colonial devices were displayed in battle on land and sea during the first months of the American Revolution and carried the various grievances that the individual states had against the Mother Country.

#### The American Flag Foundation

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<http://americanflagfoundation.org/frequently-asked-questions/>

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Please note "Real People Reviewer" in the subject line. Or go online to [www.leruepress.com](http://www.leruepress.com). Click on "Writer's Wanted".



By Jeré Whitney

## VSA Nevada

Having lived downtown for most of the eight years I've been in Reno, I've seen some dramatic changes. I watched from my ninth-floor condo on Island Avenue and the Truckee River where it passes under the Arlington Street bridge be transformed from a scary place to venture after dark into a great place for families to enjoy not only the river, but the numerous events held in close proximity. I also spent hours at my kitchen window viewing the moving of the Lake Mansion to its present location at 250 Court Street. I held my breath while the lumbering old structure wove its way down Virginia, Liberty and Flint Streets, often barely clearing overhead wires. I clapped loudly as the grand historic building settled once more on a solid foundation.

The mansion was built in 1877 and has been home to several prominent local families. Originally constructed on the corner of California Avenue and South Virginia Street, it was moved to the Reno-Sparks Convention Center by Washoe Landmark Preservation in 1971 and in 2004 by VSA Nevada to its current location.

The mansion itself is fascinating to tour. VSA arts offices occupy the top floor, so the tour only covers the main floor; however, there are many pieces of furniture, a double front door and a fireplace that are original. In addition, there are paintings and photos of some of the former residents hung throughout.

The library and master bedroom showcase the work of local artists, as do many other venues in town. The difference is that all the artists whose work is displayed at the Lake Mansion have a disability. The pieces range anywhere from men's ties to traditional paintings.

VSA and its impressive staff, teachers, board members and volunteers believe that art should be accessible to everyone of every age, every economic status and every level of ability. They hold Summer Arts Camps and Workshops for children as well as adults, at the Mansion, at Sparks Alf Sorensen Community Center and at several local elementary schools.

During "Art Town" this July the following events will be sponsored by VSA:

SATURDAY, JULY 9th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. the annual YART (yard + art) sale will take place at 1420 Mt. Rose Street, with over 20 artists displaying and selling their work to benefit VSA Nevada.

SATURDAY, JULY 16th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. is the first annual "Flint Street Festival", an arts and craft market held in the mansion, on the porches, in the parking lot and in the Garden Pavilion at the Lake Mansion on Court Street. Up to 50 artisans will display and sell their creations to benefit VSA arts. There will be food, a silent auction and more.

For the sake of learning more about the history of Reno, a visit to the Lake Mansion is a rewarding and educational experience alone or with friends and/or family. Lingering in the library and master bedroom, however, offers a very different experience. It is there that you begin to understand the importance of VSA Nevada and their mission to nurture and encourage the creative potential alive in all of us. I must warn you that, while reading about the artists with disabilities whose work is on display at the Lake Mansion is uplifting, it can also be humbling. My last visit reminded me once again....no excuses.

For more information on VSA Nevada, go to [www.vsanevada.org](http://www.vsanevada.org).





Going Home

Photo: J. Hermsen

# The LeRue Review

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### Who Made It Happen

#### Editor/Publisher

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Watch for them in our next issue

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LeRue Press

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#### Writers

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Marian Bostwick

#### Guest

#### Reviewers/Contributors

Tomi Fratto

#### Photos

LeRue Press

#### Circulation/Fulfillment

Too many to list-Thank you all

#### The LeRue Review

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*Opinions and reviews in The LeRue Review are those of the individual author. They do not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of LeRue Press*



# WHY BOOKS, MUSIC, MOVIES, ART?

In 2008, when we launched The LeRue Review, we knew we would review books because we wanted "Real People" to give their opinions. At the same time, we value the professional critic's opinion too. Thus, The LeRue Review was born incorporating both professionals and "Real People Reviewers".

We have been asked why books, music, movies and art? Our love of books, we realized, is really a love of words. Books, music, movies, in most cases, require the use of words crafted in a specific manner. Whether someone is a book author, musician, screenplay writer or artist, they generally must use artistry in their use of words to attract a specific audience and produce a quality product.

We value these masters of words and enjoy bringing their works to you via The LeRue Review.

The collage features several covers of 'The LeRue Review' magazine. The top cover is 'Volume III Issue I' with a blue header and icons for a book, music, and movie. Below it is 'Volume II Issue III' with a similar header. The central cover is 'Volume VI Issue I' with a white background and a desk illustration. It lists articles under three categories: Books, Music, and Movies. The 'Books' section includes 'No One Would Listen', 'America's Nazi Secret', and 'Love More - Feed Less'. The 'Music' section lists 'Jonathan Tiersten Tours' and 'Tom Tomoser - Croons'. The 'Movies' section includes 'Great Basin Film Society at Studio on Fourth' and 'Star Trek 2009 review'. A red prohibition sign is placed over a book cover titled 'OLYSSSES'. The bottom cover is 'New this year Art/Photography' with a white background and a desk illustration. The text 'Art: Artist's Coop & River Gallery' is at the bottom left, and a small box with the number '4' is at the bottom right.

Free The LeRue Review Magazine

Volume III Issue I

Free The LeRue Review Magazine

Volume II Issue III

Free The LeRue Review Magazine

Volume VI Issue I

Books:

- No One Would Listen
- America's Nazi Secret
- Love More - Feed Less

Music: Jonathan Tiersten Tours

Tom Tomoser - Croons

Movies:

- Great Basin Film Society at Studio on Fourth
- Star Trek 2009 review

New this year

**Art/Photography**

Art: Artist's Coop & River Gallery

4

# Books & Authors

## Goodreads' List of Top American Authors

1. [To Kill a Mockingbird](#)  
by [Harper Lee](#)
2. [The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn](#)  
by [Mark Twain](#), [John Seelye](#)
3. [The Great Gatsby](#)  
by [F. Scott Fitzgerald](#)
4. [Of Mice and Men](#)  
by [John Steinbeck](#)
5. [The Catcher in the Rye](#)  
by [J.D. Salinger](#)
6. [The Grapes of Wrath](#)  
by [John Steinbeck](#)
7. [The Tell-Tale Heart and Other Writings](#)  
by [Edgar Allan Poe](#)
8. [The Poetry of Robert Frost: The Collected Poems, Complete and Unabridged](#)  
by [Robert Frost](#)
9. [Columbine](#)  
by [Dave Cullen](#) (Goodreads Author)
10. [The Scarlet Letter](#)  
by [Nathaniel Hawthorne](#)
11. [Death of a Salesman](#)  
by [Arthur Miller](#)
12. [Ethan Frome](#)  
by [Edith Wharton](#)
13. [Fahrenheit 451](#)  
by [Ray Bradbury](#)
14. [The Complete Poems of Emily Dickinson](#)  
by [Emily Dickinson](#), [Thomas H. Johnson](#) (Editor)
15. [East of Eden](#)  
by [John Steinbeck](#)
16. [Little Women](#)  
by [Louisa May Alcott](#)
17. [The Wonderful Wizard of Oz \(Oz, #1\)](#)  
by [L. Frank Baum](#)
18. [Moby-Dick or, The Whale](#)  
by [Herman Melville](#), [Tom Quirk](#) (Commentary), [Andrew Delbanco](#) (Introduction)
19. [The Old Man and the Sea](#)  
by [Ernest Hemingway](#)
20. [Tennessee Williams: Plays 1937-1955](#)  
by [Tennessee Williams](#), [Mel Gussow](#) (Editor), [Kenneth Holditch](#) (Editor)



# Timeline of the American Flag

## The History of The American Flag: Timeline for Changes in the American Flag\*

Contributed by: LeRue Press, LLC  
Residents of Nevada  
[www.leruepress.com/History%20of.html](http://www.leruepress.com/History%20of.html)

On January 1, 1776, the American Flag consisted of 13 alternate red and white stripes and the British Union Jack in the upper left-hand corner. Since that time, Congress has changed the flag 6 times.

In 1776, Betsy Ross reported that she sewed the first American flag. Though there is some controversy surrounding the validity of her claim, many affidavits from family members have been presented to confirm that fact.

“In 1777, the Second Continental Congress resolved as follows:  
Resolved, that the flag of the United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the union be thirteen stars, white in a blue field representing a new constellation.”\*

As states were added, Congress passed resolutions to change the flag.

The following dates mark the changes in the flag:

- June 14, 1777
- January, 1794
- April, 1818
- June, 1912
- January, 1959
- July, 1960



The Stars and Stripes are a symbol of freedom to Americans and nations around the world.

\*[www.ushistory.org](http://www.ushistory.org)  
\*[www.usa-flag-site.org](http://www.usa-flag-site.org)

## *American Flag Etiquette*

Federal law stipulates many aspects of flag etiquette. The section of law dealing with American Flag etiquette is generally referred to as the Flag Code. Some general guidelines from the Flag Code answer many of the most common questions:

- The flag should be lighted at all times, either by sunlight or by an appropriate light source.
- The flag should be flown in fair weather, unless the flag is designed for inclement weather use.
- The flag should never be dipped to any person or thing. It is flown upside down only as a distress signal.
- The flag should not be used for any decoration in general. Bunting of blue, white and red stripes is available for these purposes. The blue stripe of the bunting should be on the top.
- The flag should never be used for any advertising purpose. It should not be embroidered, printed or otherwise impressed on such articles as cushions, handkerchiefs, napkins, boxes, or anything intended to be discarded after temporary use. Advertising signs should not be attached to the staff or halyard.
- The flag should not be used as part of a costume or athletic uniform, except that a flag patch may be used on the uniform of military personnel, fireman, policeman and members of patriotic organizations.
- The flag should never have any mark, insignia, letter, word, number, figure, or drawing of any kind placed on it, or attached to it.
- The flag should never be used for receiving, holding, carrying, or delivering anything.
- When the flag is lowered, no part of it should touch the ground or any other object; it should be received by waiting hands and arms. To store the flag it should be folded neatly and ceremoniously.
- The flag should be cleaned and mended when necessary.
- When a flag is so worn it is no longer fit to serve as a symbol of our country, it should be destroyed by burning in a dignified manner.

Courtesy: <http://www.usa-flag-site.org/etiquette.shtml>

# Gardening in America

By Marian Bostwick



books. There was a photograph in the first one that held me in suspense, dream like in it's beauty. I joined the Arbor Day Foundation and The American Horticulture Society. Ironically, I bought my first flats of petunia's and marigolds at the grocery store. I planted them beneath my new bay window and as they thrived, I became obsessed. The vibrancy of the hastily chosen colors lured me with the potential of spreading color and fragrance throughout my yard. America's Arbor Day is well represented with my biggest tree, now 25', sent to me when I joined. I am still amazed when I remember the size of that seedling, no bigger than the lead from a pencil; I kid you not.

Money plays a role in how we are able to shape our outside environment. When architects and engineers help develop the landscape, the bones of the garden are completed quickly. The level of involvement by the owner differs, of course, as does the necessity to bring in experts. Historical landmarks such as the famous garden of President Thomas Jefferson, Monticello in Charlston, Virginia, or Balboa Park's 19 gardens spread over 1,200 acres in San Diego, California, require help from several sources, each leaving behind a piece of their artistic vision. For most of us the work of

*(Continued on page 8)*

Garden artistry means something different to every person who has dug their heart and spade into the Earth, and often another to those of us observant enough to notice. Of the thousands of gardens I have viewed there has not been one that I did not consider art. And it is in the viewing that the public is blessed with a peek of the creators personality, whether it be an English castle with requisite formal garden & potager, or the window box overflowing with flowers and foliage.

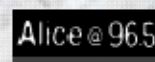
I have found it to be an obsessive hobby, myself starting with 1/3 acre of dirt and rocks, I now embrace these as soil and boulders. Really, though, we were blessed in that the property contained an assortment of beautiful boulders of all sizes, shapes and colors. They became the starting point of planting beds. I wanted to learn more about horticulture so I began purchasing "how-to"

## Interactive Marketing



The Reno Media Group represents these stations and provides customized solutions with capabilities to reach the market with 9 distinct touch points. Each radio station has its own Website and multiple options to deliver a targeted delivery of potential customers. These options could include anyone or more of the following products offered:

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# Changing the American Dream from Someday to Now

By Tomi Fratto

**Great News for Nevada First Time Homebuyers** – You may be able to buy a home right now and get help with your down payment! Also, if you missed out on the \$8,000 tax credit last year, read on to learn about a tax credit that continues for the life of your home loan.

*Who is a “First Time Homebuyer?”* Someone who has not lived in a residence they owned or co-owned in the past three years. Yes, this includes people who owned a home, sold it three years ago and have been renting since that time.

**Here’s a quick look at two exciting programs for buyers who will occupy the home being purchased:**

**#1 Nevada Housing Division First Time Homebuyer Program**

– \$4,500 for down payment and closing costs. This program is available in all areas of Nevada. It has income and sales price limits; however, they are very generous. Limits vary by county and family size.

Example: Washoe County family of three – income can be as high as \$98,560 and the sales price of the home can go up to \$352,791.



The \$4,500 is repaid via a 20-year 2<sup>nd</sup> loan with monthly payments of \$34.89. You’ll also appreciate the low rate on the 30- year fixed mortgage that comes with this program which currently is stated at 4.45%. The rates may change a few times each year; however, the rate that is locked for each buyer will remain constant for the 30 year term.

Whether you do an FHA loan (3.5% down), VA Veterans loan (0% down) or Rural Housing loan (0% down in eligible areas) your rate is the same.

**#2 Nevada Rural Housing Home At Last WISH Program**

– up to \$15,000 for down payment. Funding for this program is limited –

if you’re interested, don’t wait to get started!

How does it work? The program triples the cash you contribute for your down payment up to a maximum of \$15,000. Example: You have \$2,000 – the amount they contribute is \$6,000.

This program is available in cities with populations of less

*(Continued on page 9)*

*(Continued from page 7)*

putting the garden together is its own reward. The black pearl peppers that I have growing all over my yard are from seeds I saved from last years crop. I purchased only one packet years ago, and with very little work will likely harvest those loved peppers for the rest of my life. It is deeply satisfying to put seed to soil, see the tiniest of leaves emerge evolving into the deep maroon of this particular pepper, knowing that the 1/2 inch lavender flowers will soon be the fruit that vegetable gardeners all across America look for in their own favorite.

Gardening as a passionate hobby is unique in that nature does not conform. Mother Nature goes about her business unhindered. She surprises me and fills me with wonder. As I step onto the path, my newest bloom, deep yellow petals with a truly red center has a bee buzzing as he burrows for pollen, a common sight I no longer take for granted.

The true beauty in the garden is the movement and life that abounds. The symbiosis occurring in countless ways surrounds me. The wonder of my newest bloom is so much sweeter for the bee. Every sense is alight and I am rewarded with the sight of a baby bunny hopping into a flowerbed. Her senses warn her she has been spotted so becomes still, believing that very stillness is making her invisible. As I walk, I hear the male Quail’s warning call and the female hurdles her 13 chicks into the shade where they really are invisible. I’ve done a good job with my Certified Wildlife Habitat registered with the National Wildlife Federation. I have provided the required cover so well that I must act with stealth to see the coveted baby birds that I wait for during each long Reno Winter. My hope is that you too, the readers, make the time to enjoy your own view of the American landscape.

# fulfilling the American Dream

(Continued from page 8)

than 100,000 people. Examples of cities that qualify in Northern Nevada: Cold Springs, Fallon, Fernley, Minden and Gardnerville. Also some areas on the Pyramid Highway, in Stateline and Washoe Valley are eligible.

In Washoe County the income limit for a family of three is up to \$51,300 and the home price must be \$363,375 or less. Limits vary by county and family size.

Funds received are a grant and do not have to be repaid if you live in the home for 5 years.

The funds must be used in conjunction with another program known as Home At Last – MCC (Mortgage Credit Certificate).

*What is a "Mortgage Credit Certificate?"* If you thought there were no more tax credits for first time buyers, you haven't heard about this program. The annual tax credit is equal to 20% or 30% of the interest you pay on your mortgage for the life of your loan with average annual tax savings estimated to be \$2,000.

A tax credit reduces your Federal income taxes dollar for dollar which is more beneficial than a deduction which reduces the total income on which your taxes are calculated.

Loan Types - FHA loan (3.5% down), VA Veterans loan (0% down required) and Rural Housing (0% down required in eligible areas).

## Notes for both programs:

First time homebuyer counseling is required. The NV Housing program requires in-person classes; the WISH program may be done online.

Homes must be owner-occupied.

Recapture tax may be required if the residence is sold within 9 years but is not a common occurrence.

Borrowers and properties must meet underwriting guidelines for the loan type chosen.

If you're longing to buy your family a home but short on down payment cash, one of these programs may change your dreams of home ownership from

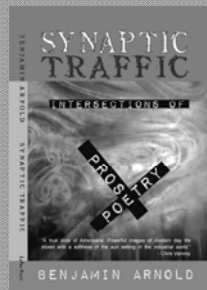
"Someday" to "Now."

Information for this article was provided by Tomi Fratto, NMLS #320485, Sr. Loan Officer at Mason McDuffie Mortgage #3418 located at 985 Damonte Ranch Pkwy #220, Reno, 89521. Office phone: 775-624-5099 Direct phone: 624-5109.

## Books by LeRue Press

[www.lrpnv.com](http://www.lrpnv.com)

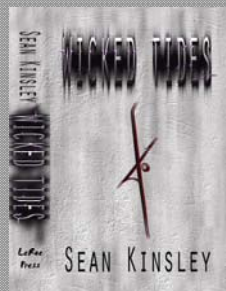
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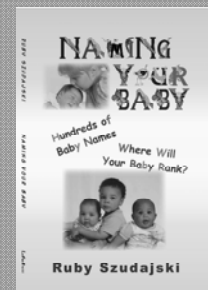
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\$12.95



\$16.99



\$9.95



\$12.95

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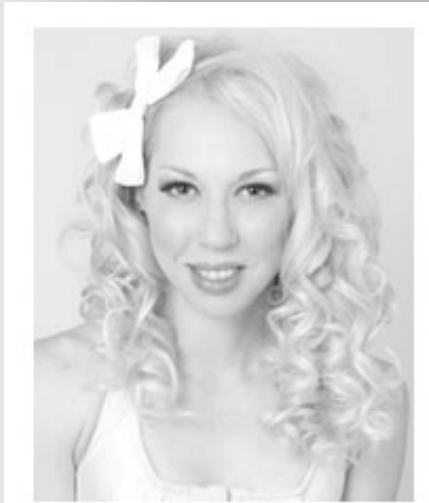
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# MUSIC



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## **Toby Keith: Made in America** By Matt Bjorke

With his status as one of America’s most patriotic artists, Toby Keith is always going to draw a ‘love it’ or ‘hate it’ stance with songs like “[Made In America.](#)” Sometimes, I think people dislike it because it’s Toby Keith singing a song with patriotic themes. Well, I’m not one of those people and immediately was drawn to this song the first time I heard it this morning.

“Made In America” is a song about a man (Toby’s old man) who is proud to be from his country and has a love for all things that are American Made. A proud purchaser of US-made automobiles and other goods, a veteran of the marines and a tough hardworking man of the sweat and dirt of farmland in the heartland, the man in the song is about true blue American Values of working hard.

Is this a sort of ‘list song’? Yes, it is but that’s OK because it works (they often do, despite some people’s resistance to them). The melody suits Toby Keith and with the strongly constructed lyrics (written by Toby, Bobby Pinson and Gregory Scott Reeves), it’s hard to see where “Made In America” can possibly fail as both a radio single, future [video](#) or as a fantastic lead-off of Toby’s upcoming album, likely to be titled - simply a guess here - “Made In America.”

Courtesy: <http://www.roughstock.com/blog/toby-keith-made-in-america->



# Movies

## Partial list of top 100 American movies by the American Film Institute



The [400 Nominated Films](#) were feature-length fictional movies produced between 1912 and 1996 with newly-eligible films from 1996 to 2006.

1. *Citizen Kane* (1941)
2. *The Godfather* (1972)
3. *Casablanca* (1942)
4. *Raging Bull* (1980)
5. *Singin' in the Rain* (1952)
6. *Gone with the Wind* (1939)
7. *Lawrence of Arabia* (1962)
8. *Schindler's List* (1993)
9. *Vertigo* (1958)
10. *The Wizard of Oz* (1939)
11. *City Lights* (1931)
12. *The Searchers* (1956)
13. *Star Wars* (1977)
14. *Psycho* (1960)
15. *2001: A Space Odyssey* (1968)
16. *Sunset Blvd.* (1950)
17. *The Graduate* (1967)
18. *The General* (1927)
19. *On the Waterfront* (1954)
20. *It's a Wonderful Life* (1946)

Courtesy of : [Top 100 Greatest Movies — Infoplease.com](#)  
<http://www.infoplease.com/ipea/A0760906.html#ixzz1R6FKfF4P>

### • Judgment Criteria for Selection of 100 Greatest American Movies:

- **Feature-length:** Narrative format typically over 60 minutes in length.
- **American film:** English language, with significant creative and/or financial production elements from the United States.
- **Critical Recognition:** Formal commendation in print, television, and digital media.
- **Major Award Winner:** Recognition from competitive events including awards from peer groups, critics, guilds and major film festivals.
- **Popularity Over Time:** This includes success at the box office, television and cable airings, and DVD/VHS sales and rentals.
- **Historical Significance:** A film's mark on the history of the moving image through visionary narrative devices, technical innovation or other groundbreaking achievements.
- **Cultural Impact:** A film's mark on American society in matters of style and substance.

Courtesy of:  
[http://www.filmsite.org/afi100films\\_2007.html](http://www.filmsite.org/afi100films_2007.html)  
Written and edited by Tim Dirks



www.lrpnv.com

**Collectibles**

**Book  
Exchange**

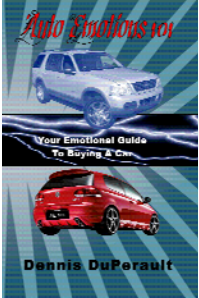
## Who is The American Film Institute?

The American Film Institute was founded in 1967 as a national arts organization to train filmmakers and preserve America's vanishing film heritage. The National Endowment for the Arts and Humanities recommended creating AFI as a nonprofit "to enrich and nurture the art of film in America" with initial funding from the NEA, the Motion Picture Association of America and the Ford Foundation.\*



**Check out a few of the books printed and sold at  
LeRue Press(LRP) [www.lrpnv.com](http://www.lrpnv.com)**

**Auto Emotions 101  
by Dennis DuPerault**



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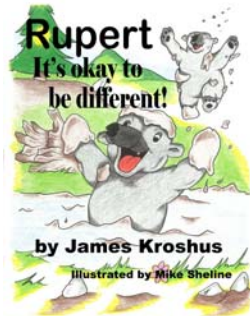
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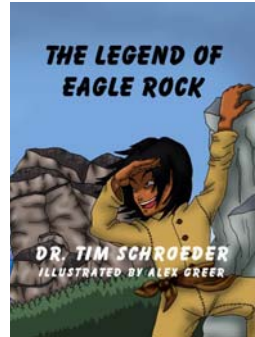
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**The Legend of Eagle Rock  
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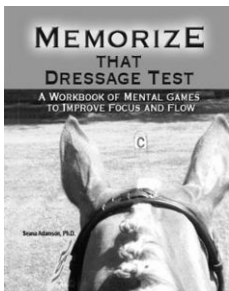
What do a boy and a mountain lion have in common?

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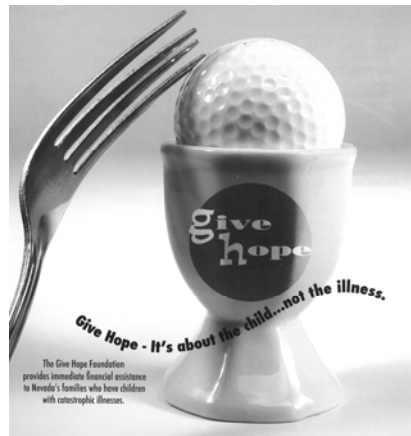
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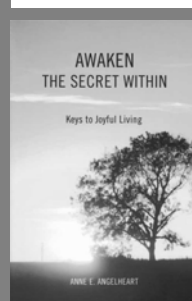
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*Please honor and support our troops*  
*Remember: Freedom isn't free*

**We Go Back.....**

**When it Rains.....**  
**(we remember the cold and wet patrols)**

**When we see a Sunrise.....**  
**(we remember we lived another night)**

**When we hear a Helicopter.....**  
**(we remember med-evacs and gunships)**

**When we see and hear Fireworks.....**  
**(we remember mortars, flares and smoke)**

**When we see a Full Moon.....**  
**(we remember "light" on patrols)**

**Everyday.....**

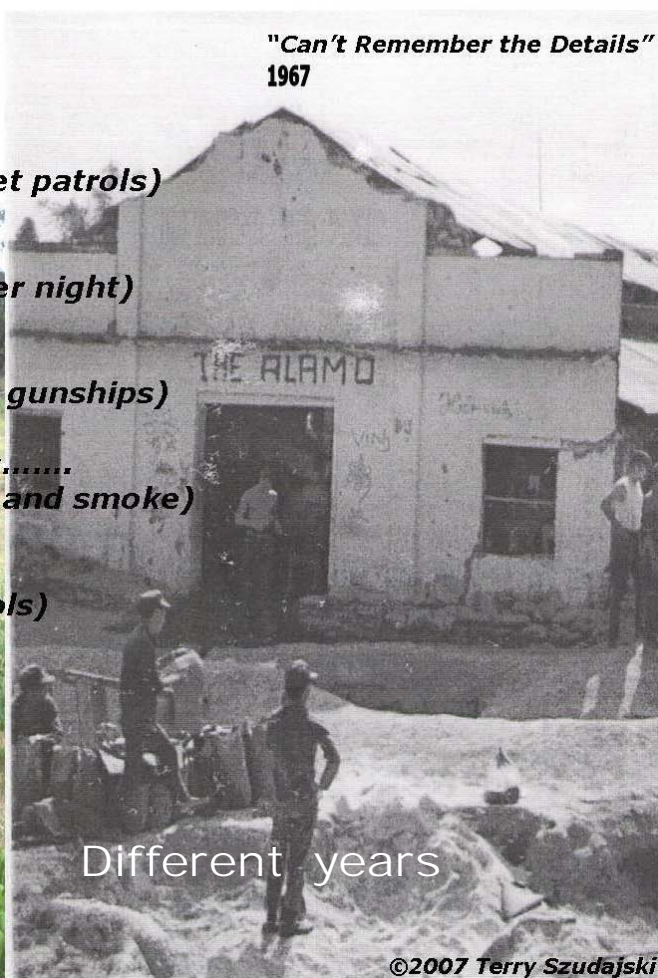
**I don't think we ever Left**

Same location

*"Can't Forget the Memories"*  
2007

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*"Can't Remember the Details"*  
1967



Different years

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**REMEMBER OUR VETERANS**

**THIS WAS VIETNAM BUT IT COULD  
BE ANY WAR AND ANY VETERAN**