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Las Vegas Interesting Facts

By Iulia Pascanu

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Las Vegas is the capital of world gambling. Everybody knows that. The question is not only "how" but also "who" made it become what it is now.

The three kings

Many have had their days of glory in the state of Nevada. But these three step out of the crowd, as they gave the name of the game.

Frank Rosenthal

He is the best sports handicapper in the history of Las Vegas. He used to be called "Las Vegas King", "Guru", or something that he surely is: a genius. He inaugurated the first sports and race book, at Stardust Hotel & Casino. Every casino in Las Vegas copied his invention afterwards. He used to run four casinos at the same time, during the 1970's and early 1980's: Stardust, Fremont, Hacienda, and Marina.

Frank "Lefty" Rosenthal inspired one of the leading characters in the "Casino" book and movie (performed by Robert de Niro), though the story doesn't speak the entire truth, he says. You can find Frank at his own web page

Steve Wynn

Partially, he has made his apprenticeship with Frank Rosenthal. Finally, he "dethroned" him. He is now chairman of Mirage Resorts, that includes the largest hotel in the world, MGM Grand. Some of his success is linked to the name of E. Parry Thomas, known as the only banker in town, at that time, who would loan money to build a casino. Rosenthal himself describes him as a "a very skilled mind".

George Wingfield

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The two "kings" were preceded by George Wingfield, a major figure in the history of Nevada, since 1912. He used to be characterised as "the owner and operator of Nevada". Two businesses got him the glory: mining and gambling. He moved to Nevada at the beginning of the 20th century. As an active politician he struggled to get gambling and divorce legalised. Gambling was re-legalised in the state of Nevada in 1931. The same year, the famous six-weeks divorce law was approved. Ironically, nowadays, 230 marriage licenses are issued every day in Las Vegas.

The gold mine of America

After South Africa, the state of Nevada is the largest gold producer in the world. Golden Nugget Hotel displays the world's biggest gold nugget ever found, that weights 61 pounds.

The most famous mine owner in the history of Nevada was George Wingfield. He also owned every bank in the state. Goldfield Consolidated Mines Company, that he ran together with senator (at that time) George S. Nixon, made them both multi-millionaires.

The other "gold mine" of the state of Nevada is gambling, since gaming activities were legalised in 1931. In 2003, the gross gaming revenue in Las Vegas was \$7,673,489,000.

This "gold mine" closed its doors only one time in history: on November 25th 1963, for the national mourning of the assassinated president George Kennedy. History didn't repeat itself in the first days after September 11. In fact, Americans asked in surveys on this subject saw Las Vegas as a place to escape the tension.

Iulia Pascanu writes for <http://www.bestlasvegashotels.info> where you can find more information about

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If you use this article, please include the resource box and send a brief message to let me know where it appeared: <mailto:iuliap@gmail.com>

String Quartet vs. Jazz for Your Las Vegas Wedding Music

By Renae Judkins

Las Vegas weddings have been known for their tackiness as long as Las Vegas drive thru weddings have existed, but Las Vegas weddings are quickly becoming more elegant with brides spending more on their Las Vegas nuptials. With this includes their choice of Las Vegas wedding music and Las Vegas wedding musicians.

We spoke with Chandler Judkins, president of Las Vegas Wedding Music, the number one live musician contracting company in Las Vegas and he had a lot to say about a new trend among Las Vegas couples.

Las Vegas Interesting Facts

"Las Vegas couples aren't choosing string quartets as much as they used to," Judkins said. "Jazz is more of the choice for their Las Vegas wedding music."

The reason for choosing jazz more than strings for Las Vegas weddings is simple according to Judkins. "They want something different. That's usually why they're getting married in Las Vegas in the first place."

Strings are still a popular Las Vegas wedding music choice and oftentimes Las Vegas couple will pair up the two, having strings for the ceremony and jazz for the cocktail hour and reception afterward.

A Las Vegas jazz quartet can be the perfect solution to create elegance, class, dancing and swinging, and all at a reasonable price. Las Vegas Wedding Music's jazz groups start as low as \$500 for a few hours, and no minimum time is required. Las Vegas Wedding Music's musicians often show up to play for a 15 minute wedding ceremony and then go home.

Las Vegas Wedding Music is so flexible with price, timing, groups, song requests list and more because according to Judkins, music is his passion and he wants to share that passion through his company Las Vegas Wedding Music.

"Couples getting married in Las Vegas often don't realize that live musicians can be contracted for as little as a Las Vegas dj can be hired," Judkins said. "Our goal here at Las Vegas Wedding Music is to promote live music. We want our brides to walk down the aisle to the real thing, not a distorted version of 'Canon in D.' "

Judkins is a professional musician himself and oftentimes plays with the Las Vegas jazz groups. Live sound demos of the Las Vegas string quartet and the Las Vegas jazz groups can be found at Las Vegas Wedding Music's site: [LVWeddingMusic \(dot\) com](http://LVWeddingMusic.com).

Las Vegas Wedding Music also offers other Las Vegas wedding music packages for couples getting married in Las Vegas who want something different for their Las Vegas wedding. Singers, harpists, top 40 bands, mariachi groups, impersonators and more are available.

Las Vegas Wedding Music can work with nearly any budget and their packages start as low as \$250.

Renaee earned her journalism degree from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

Find

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Las Vegas wedding invitations

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