

REME ROADS

Founder's Message

By Peter Ziedrich



Club founder Peter Ziedrich serves up a beverage to club member Cara D'Arpino



I purposely waited until today, Thanksgiving morning to write my December Founder's Message. I waited for a few reasons, but the most important one was that I wanted to be embraced with the Holiday Spirit. I wanted to have the warm fuzzy feeling of friends and family nearby, the smell of hot apple cider, turkey and all the fixings in the air; parades, football, overeating, and a long early evening nap. These feelings help me forget current rough economic times and the daily aggravations of surviving life's little setbacks.

We all know of friends and family members that have had a difficult time surviving these last few years but I am sure, you like I, will do anything in our power to bring joy and happiness to another less fortunate individual, if only for this day in the Christmas Holiday Season. Our extended Mini-MINI Community has participated in holiday toy drives and charitable events, but our own club has not been actively involved in organizing such events.

This year we changed our direction a little bit, starting with our August Car Show with proceeds benefiting the Safari West Wildlife Foundation. If continued in the future, we hope the car show will provide greater funding for local charities as the show increases in popularity and attendance.

Just last month, seeing a continued increase in the skyrocketing unemployment statistics in the upper central valley, Norm and Jessica Nelson organized a charitable event in their own community including local REME members help to raise funds to subsidize utility bills for those at risk of having their water and power turned off from lack of payment. Thousands of dollars were raised and hopefully will at least help in reducing financial stress felt by many local residents.

On December 5, we are doing another first for our club. We will be making a small monetary donation for a transportation fund for residents living at the Veterans Retirement facility in Yountville in Napa

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FOUNDER'S MESSAGE
(CON'T)

Valley. More importantly will be making the donation of our time and our recognition of the forgotten men that helped protect and have served our country so valiantly. We will arrive as a group at 10am and will display our cars at their facility until 1pm. Early estimates indicate that we will have hundreds of Vets view our cars, talk to our members, and likely reminisce about better or happier times. I hope that we will have a large turnout to this event, because it may be the most fun and unselfish event that we as a club have embarked in. After the car show and our Visit with the Vets, we will take a 2 hour run to the Union Hotel in Occidental. This is where we will celebrate the clubs 5th anniversary and annual Christmas Party in the fashion we all enjoy, eating a robust Italian Dinner with friends and enjoying the party across the street afterwards.

Sunday, December 6, T.J. & Deni Marrone will host our 2010 REME Planning Meeting breakfast. This is the second year the Marrones have loaned us their beautiful home and have cooked a fabulous breakfast for members attending the meeting. I expect at least 30 members will be present to help organize the upcoming years events. Thank you so much for unselfishly hosting the meeting again this year and thank you in advance to those participating.

In closing, I have enjoyed almost every moment I have spent in forming this club, developing and managing the web site and

BBS, and doing the day to day management of club affairs; but it does take many to make a club of our size function so well. With the continued assistance of our dedicated board members, chapter chairmen, editor, and committee chairmen as well as all those loyal members that continue to participate at almost all events; we should have a strong and active club for years to come. I would like to thank all of you in the extended REME family and those generous businesses that sponsor our club, newsletter, and events. Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and Happy Holidays to all.



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SONOMA-MENDOCINO-LAKE COUNTY RUN WOWS THE MEMBERSHIP



On Saturday October 10th REME held another fantastic run through some of Northern California's best back roads. I meet up with my friend Rich in San Rafael and we followed each other up to Santa Rosa. It was a chilly, foggy 50 degrees, so the top was up for the drive there. We meet in Santa Rosa at Bad Ass Coffee on Mark West Springs Rd. Here were about a dozen Minis ready for a day long adventure through wine country and Lake County. My other friend and fellow Sidewalk owner Jim was there with his top down and ready to drive, so down went mine as well and we were all off on the run.

We stopped for a potty break in Cloverdale and meet up with Peter Ziedrich the run leader. A few of us got some REME decals from Peter and proudly placed them on our Minis.

As the weather warmed up to about 75, we headed to Boonville, Ukiah and Hopland. A few of us took the wrong turn and got separated from the rest. We discovered our error and quickly, meaning very fast, turned around and rejoined the group near Lakeport.



We all stopped in Middletown and had a late lunch at Saint Helena Brewing Company, great food and beer after a long drive.

After lunch some of us followed Peter back Santa Rosa and the others went there separate ways.

This was one of my favorite REME runs so far. I saw amazing countryside and had fun with the REME club members. I can't wait for the next one.

BY BOB GINGG

SACRAMENTO DELTA RUN DELIGHTS

It was an early Sunday morning drive to Sacramento from San Rafael for me. I arrived at the starting point for the REME Sacramento Delta run about 9:00am and was greeted by a parking lot full of Minis. It was a beautiful sight after an hour long drive. By the start time of 9:30am a few more members showed up in their minis adding to a total of about 30 in all. Howard, with the yellow and red Mini, lead the way to the levee roadways.

It was a crystal clear morning with hardly any cars on the road. It was quite a scene seeing 30 plus Minis in a row driving along the waterways. Bicyclist waved and fisherman pointed and smiled as we passed.

We made a pit stop along the waterway where we had a great opportunity to chat with the other members and take lots of pictures.

We continued along the Levee roads to Ryer Island Ferry crossing. The captain of the ferry must have wondered why all these Minis wanted to cross the river at the same time.. The scene would make a great ad. It took four crossings to get us all across the river.



That ferry ride took us to Ryer Island. Apparently the delta is made up of all these waterways that have created small islands all around the delta. So once your on an island you have to cross back to the "Mainland" at some point. Hence the next ferry crossing on the Real McCoy Ferry. This ferry was little bigger than the other so it only took three crossings for everyone. The captain on the Real McCoy got his camera out to snap some shots of all the minis on board.

The next spot was Rio Vista. We were all to meet for lunch at the Pizza Factory but it was closed when the first to arrived showed up there. When I arrived with the other half of the group the owner said he would open up for us. So half had lunch there and the other half somewhere else. I meet a very nice

young women named Athena Avilas who has been a member of REME for a few years and has been on many of the runs. Since I was the last to have ordered and somehow lost my friend Jim in another restaurant she invited me to join her, her mom and niece at their table for lunch. We all had a great time talking about our Mini adventures and how we loved our cars.

BY BOB GINGG

REME British and European Car Show

The First annual Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiast Car show was held in Santa Rosa at Stokes Ranch on August 23rd, 2009. It was a huge success. There were lots of Minis and many other British cars. It was great seeing the Triumph Spitfire. I had a '76 Spitfire I bought new in Brea, CA when I was 19. That's when my love for British cars started. Norm Nelson from REME was the Master of Ceremonies, calling out raffle numbers and giving away prizes. There was a great band, The PYROTONES, playing throughout the day.

I meet some great new friends and had a great time wandering around taking photos of all the cool cars.

A special thanks to all the REME members who worked so hard to put on this great event.

By BOB GINGG





THE OLD HIPPIE'S CORNER BY JERRY DEL CASTELLO



Tw'as the week before Christmas
And all through the house
All the presents were scattered
So was my spouse!

The stockings were hung by the chimney with care
In hopes that some goodies soon would be there!

I gazed in amazement at our beautiful tree
And said to myself 'How could it be?'
"Wasn't it yesterday, we took down the tree?"

From out of the blue came a horrible thought!
Have I done any shopping?
Probably not!

I ran for my list and read it out twice
Right there in bold letters it said...
"Something warm, something nice"!

My head started spinning, I had to sit down.
There better be presents or I'll have to leave town!

Off in the distance I heard a sweet voice...
They're soft and they're cozy
They are a great choice!

What was it they were selling?
Please send some my way!
No matter the cost, I was willing to pay!

So here is the low down
It pains me to say
I learned a great lesson
That I remember each day!

The Cat's Pajama's, I heard someone say...
"They're soft and they're warm
You can wear them all day!"
"Inside or outside, to work or for play"
I better get going and went right away

The shop was all girly and frilly with lace
With buttons and bows and stockings...what a place!

How much could they be?
I've plenty of cash
I'll zip in and out and make a mad dash

What is this I'm seeing?
I must have gone mad
Women of all ages, scantily clad!

They asked me to sit and offered a drink
I took a small sip and started to think
After some glasses maybe two, four or five
A pretty young lady came gliding on by

What was it I wanted?
I'm here to assist
I spoke to her softly and showed her my list.
Flannel for my family, flannel they insist!

She winked at me sweetly
Then reached for my hand
Then guided me gently
To a rack with that brand

She asked about sizes and colors and such
I told her, "please help me, and thanks very much"!

Then she took down three jammies
And went for a box
While waiting in line, I noticed some socks

I said to her kindly..."Please add to the lot"
I thought to myself, more presents, why not!

Well after much pleasure
It was time for my dash
I took out my wallet and reached for some cash.

I looked at the total I wanted to shout!
The numbers were endless, I almost blacked out!
Six hundred eighty seven dollars and forty two cents!
What was I thinking?
This doesn't make sense.

I had to do something and it had to be quick!
My knees started shaking
I almost got sick!
I noticed a sign and things started to tick.
I'll put it on plastic
Now that is the trick!
I'll pay for it later when my wallet gets thick!

As I turned for the door
I could still hear the roar
Merry Christmas, Merry Christmas!
Please come back for more!

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Submissions to REME Roads may be emailed to the editor. We accept articles, reviews, photos, event announcements and cartoons.

Advertising opportunities are available. Contact Peter Ziedrich for details.

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Some material from Bob Gingg's blog at <http://bayareaminicooperowners.blogspot.com>

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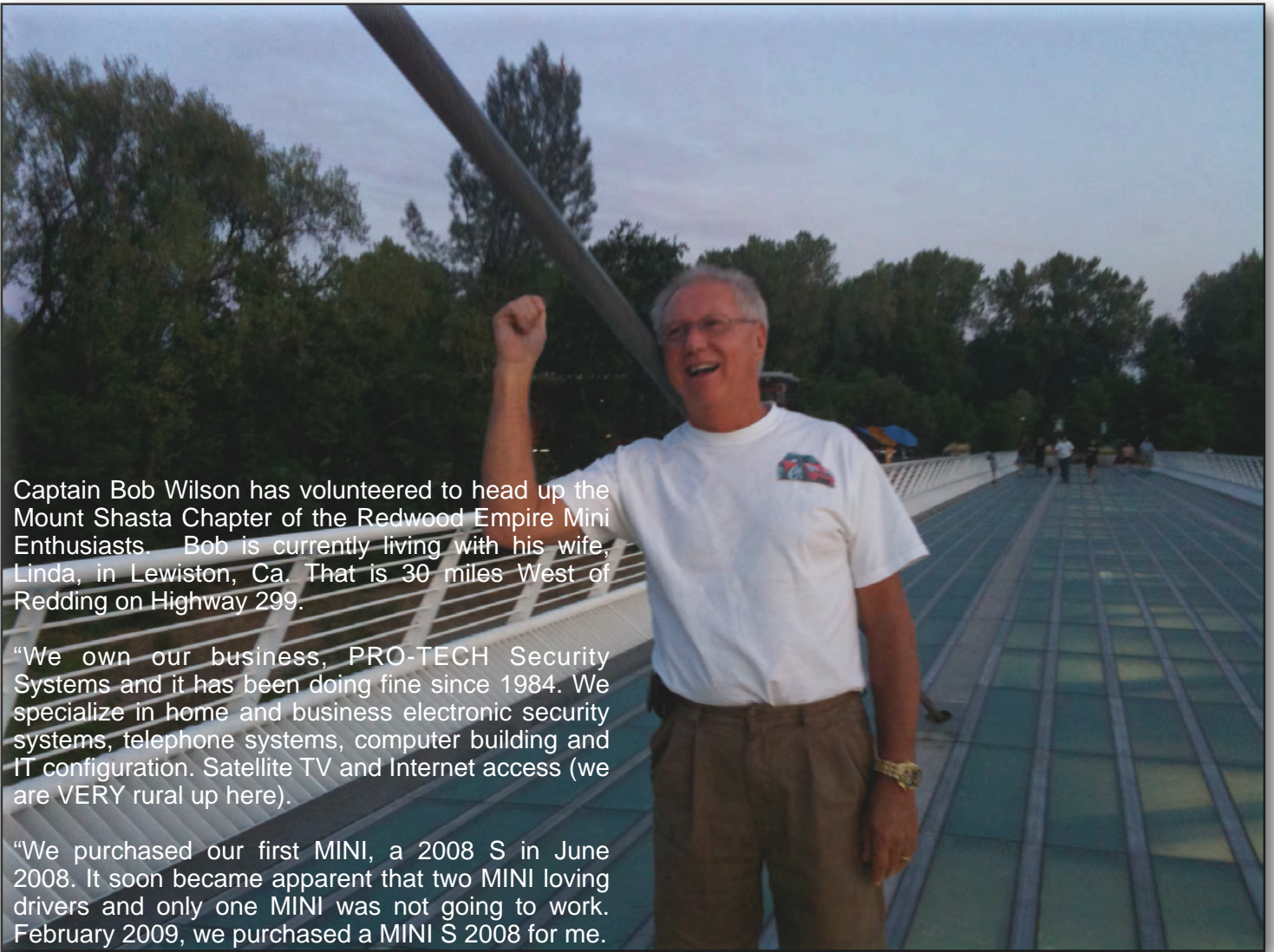
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Captain Bob Wilson has volunteered to head up the Mount Shasta Chapter of the Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts. Bob is currently living with his wife, Linda, in Lewiston, Ca. That is 30 miles West of Redding on Highway 299.

"We own our business, PRO-TECH Security Systems and it has been doing fine since 1984. We specialize in home and business electronic security systems, telephone systems, computer building and IT configuration. Satellite TV and Internet access (we are VERY rural up here).

"We purchased our first MINI, a 2008 S in June 2008. It soon became apparent that two MINI loving drivers and only one MINI was not going to work. February 2009, we purchased a MINI S 2008 for me.

"Linda started searching various forums about other MINI owners and found REME. After some online chat we were invited to our first event at Dunsmuir Railroad Park and Run. There we not only met members of MS-REME, but so many others too. It wasn't long after attending some MS-REME monthly planning meetings chaired by Mindy Chaussee, that I opened my mouth with some Run suggestions that were assembled and executed. From there everything to do with our new MINI family were miles of smiles.

"This past August, we found a 1971 Cooper S Classic, MINYME S. Now we have a project to keep us busy between runs. I hope to continue Mindy's established branch and have wonderful runs, with wonderful people on MINI roads."

REME Roads welcomes the Captain to the reigns of the Mt. Shasta Chapter, along with First Mate Linda, and thanks Mindy Chaussee for her hard work and dedication during her tenure.



WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS!

August, 2009

- Avenelle Archille Oakland, CA
- John Erickson Carmichael, CA
- Alfred Bearden Weed, CA
- Mike Hermanson Santa Rosa, CA
- Dave Dalton Sebastopol, CA
- Judith Volkart Bodega, CA
- Austin Caudle Fairfield, CA
- Bob Jacobson Lincoln, CA
- Vern Ahnin Roseville, CA
- Debra McGuire Santa Rosa, CA
- Skip Noyes Fair Oaks, CA

September, 2009

- Jennifer Frye Santa Rosa, CA
- Erin Brown Monterey, CA
- Eugene Hsu Davis, CA
- Paul Barrow Livermore, CA
- Jon Iverson Healdsburg, CA
- Hannah Anderson Sebastopol, CA
- Marc Matheson Inverness, CA
- Chase Goodall Beale AFB, CA
- Sue Watson Cloverdale, CA
- Tom Bradley Middletown, CA
- Vincent Parker Browns Valley, CA

October, 2009

- Kathleen Broemmelsiek El Dorado Hills, CA
- Josh Colton Sausalito, CA
- LeAnn Adam Windsor, CA
- Marilyn Brown San Leandro, CA
- Jamie Marcus Sacramento, CA
- John Boylan Richmond, CA
- Robert Westlake Napa, CA
- Bob Ngim San Ramon, CA
- Ralph Lestarjette Redding, CA
- Zubin Anary Castro Valley, CA

November, 2009

- Michael Cox Sacramento, CA
- Maya Fischer Waterford, CA
- Leo Egan Palm Springs, CA
- Sharon Smith Lincoln, CA
- Tom Carvidi Citrus Heights, CA
- Ron Crawford Folsom, CA
- Gail Erickson Sacramento, CA



REME BRITISH AND EUROPEAN CAR SHOW: THE FINAL REPORT

The Board of Directors of Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts starting planning the 2009 Wine Country British & European Car Show just a few short months after the conclusion of our successful 2008 Magical Mystery Mini Tour . The date and location were set during the first week of December, and many club member volunteers earnestly spent tireless hours organizing the first exclusively British & European Car Show held in the North San Francisco Bay Area in Northern California in over 35 years.

Since this was the first car show Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts developed, many ideas were borrowed from similar shows with a strong successful historical track record including the annual British Car Shows held in Woodland, Chico, Palo Alto (Brisbane), and San Juan Bautista (Morgan Hill). What we also had to do was give it a genuinely Redwood Empire and California Wine Country twist. We entered into the endeavor initially expecting about 100 participating cars and hoping for 150-200. What we

found during the long registration period was that the ongoing state wide recession beginning in January of 2007 was continuing to get worse, there was less participation in any like industry type events, and even existing established shows were getting significantly less participants. Just 5 weeks prior to the show we had a mere 30 pre-registrants.

This only increased our desire to make the show a success, but in the process we may have redefined what the definition of what success is. Our first success was choosing the right location. Our show was held on August 23 at the legendary Fred Stoke Ranch in an unincorporated area between Santa Rosa and Windsor, minutes off the US-101 corridor.

Fred Stoke builds custom hotrods in the shop buildings (disguised as old agricultural barns), has a General Store filled with his antique oil can collection, a small chapel he built for his daughter's wedding, and a relocated Signal Oil Gas Station (the last Signal Oil Gas Station in Santa Rosa). He hosts many hot rod and muscle car shows and events, but this was the first time for British and European cars to participate in an event on his property.

Our second success was finding an active local non-profit organization to not only use any show profits, but to help in marketing and staffing the event. We were very fortunate to team up with the Safari West Wildlife Foundation.

This group works hard to get underprivileged children the opportunity to visit Safari West Animal Preserve located between Santa Rosa and Calistoga. We also had a handful of vendors who participated knowing that the event may be a "bust", but participated because they wanted to get in on the ground floor of what they hoped would become a successful annual event.



On Saturday, August 22, about a dozen of our dedicated members spent the day in about 105 degree heat organizing the vendor booth area, display area, and the club and registration booths in about 3 acres of the Stoke Ranch. Each volunteer started working on projects independently and we completed setup by 3 PM. Having volunteers coming to set up from points as far away as Sacramento, Redding, and Modesto was a sign of success not only for the show but for our club itself. Without the help of these individuals the show could not have been anywhere near as organized and trouble free.

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CAR SHOW REPORT (CONT)

A week prior to the show we had about 80 pre-registrants. To be honest I did not know what to anticipate. By 10am on Sunday we had a total 106 paid registrations and by the end of the day about 120. We also had about 10-20 show quality cars parked in the adjacent parking area, enjoying the show but possibly just avoiding registration and its cost.

The weather cooperated never reaching above 90 degrees. We had a wonderful Jazz Band, The Pyrotones; entertain the group from 11 am until about 3 PM. We had food and drink vendors and local artists. But most importantly, everyone who attended seemed to have a good time. We were told by a few German car attendees that this was the most fun they ever had at any car show because it was void of the typical attitude found at many shows between Marques, especially those attitudes often directed to newer cars (often to MINIs and their owners) and other European cars.

I only received one negative comment from a Jaguar owner. He criticized the show because of the large number of participating MINIs. He told me that they were not collectible and implied that they should be banned from the show in the future. I responded without emotion, "This show was organized, developed, and succeeded because of tireless hours dedicated by a MINI-Mini club and its membership. When was the last time the local Jaguar club put on an event open to cars of other Marques? When they do, I would like to attend." I think that it was not until then that he saw the shirt I was wearing, with the larger Redwood Empire Mini Enthusiasts graphics.

The awards were distributed at around 3:30pm. Our first car show was an outstanding success. We are planning the 2010 show to again be held at the Stokes Ranch hopefully in June, 2010. The temperature should be a little cooler and the grass a little greener. Details will be announced before the end of this year. Thank you all that attended and participated in organizing the event! I can certainly guaranty that it will be even more successful next year.

BY PETER ZIEDRICH

THE WINNERS:

COOLEST DRIVE WITH THE TOP DOWN

Bill Putnam 1956 Austin Healey 100/4
Walnut Creek, Ca.

FAVORITE EUROPEAN CAR

Bill Duarte 1965 Porsche 356C
Hayward, Ca.

FAVORITE EUROPEAN CAR, RUNNER UP

Al Lovi 1950 VW Convertable
Windsor, Ca.

FAVORITE BRITISH CAR

Brad Cott 1967 Austin Healey 3000
Healdsburg, Ca.

FAVORITE BRITISH CAR, RUNNER UP

Dick Williams 1954 MGTF
Petaluma, Ca.

BEST DAILY DRIVER

Eric Alexanderson 1959 Morris Minor
San Francisco, Ca.

BEST ENGINE

Glen Contreas 1961 Triumph TR-3A
Brentwood, Ca.

BEST CLASSIC (79 or older, non Mini)

J and M Walton 1954 Nash Healey
Alamo, Ca.

BEST LUXURY CAR

Michael Hughes 1968 Rolls Royce
Santa Cruz, Ca.

BEST CLASSIC MINI

Garrett Davis 1069 Rover Mini
Fairfield, Ca.

BEST MINI

Norm Nelson 2004 Mini Cooper S
Shasta, Ca.

BEST CABRIOLET (new or classic Mini)

Everado Valadez 2006 Mini S
Fairfield, Ca.

BEST OF SHOW

J and M Walton 1954 Nash Healey
Alamo, Ca.

From The Editor



I have very much enjoyed my first year as the editor of *REME Roads*. Each issue has given me the opportunity to learn all about the newsletter game.

I am thankful that all of our readers have put up with my slow learning curve as I develop the skills necessary to put this

material out in a somewhat regular interval with a minimum of typographical errors. I am also thankful to all of the people who have contributed time and effort to submit articles and photos, as well as all of our great advertisers who support our efforts to get this newsletter printed and distributed.

Lastly I thank Apple iWorks for making this job so much easier to do!

Happy Holidays!

ROB SAUNDERS
REME Roads

Calendar

December 5th 2009

REME Holiday Run and Vet's Home Visit
Holiday Party at Occidental, Ca.

December 6th 2009

REME Annual Planning Meeting

February 14th and 15th 2010

Mini Thunder - Thunderhill Speedway

March 25th-28th

A Mini Vacation In Vegas

