

JOEL CASTILLO , EDITOR



JUNE, 2010

BIGHORN GAZETTE

In this issue... BigHorn 14 Rodeo Director is announced, Guess the Butt Contest, & so much more!

Email any submissions, photos, etc to: BigHornEditor@ngra.com



FROM THE PRESIDENT



First off, I would like to send out a huge thank you to everyone that helped out with Las Vegas PRIDE. It is nice seeing a community come together and support one another. I know that it was a long day for some, but your efforts and commitment to helping out are greatly appreciated. Also to those that came out to help clean and organize our storage unit. While it is not the greatest thing to do, it was something that needed to be done and for your help, I thank you.

Now we move into some new business. If you haven't already heard, the 2010-2011 Board of Directors have appointed Ms. Laura Scott as BigHorn 14 Rodeo Director. I know later on in the gazette there is going to be more about this. I would personally like to congratulate Laura and ask that we all support her in whatever way we can as she starts putting together her team. I heard the other day that she was looking for some flannel. [Editor's note: And a U-Haul]

Our state convention will also be coming up in July. The board approved the appointment of Colin Moulton as Convention Chair. I know that there is a write up that will appear within the gazette so please take a moment to read that. State convention is the one time a year we can make changes to our Bylaws. Please if you have anything about the Bylaws that you want to bring up, please bring them up with our Convention Chair.

To keep things short, as I have also been writing the fundraising article, I have chosen to combine them into my report as well. First, I would like to congratulate Veronica De Baygo Miss Closet Ball 2010. For that Closet Ball was truly an amazing evening as Taylor Trash stepped down and had 3 amazing candidates vying for the tiara. Also, the Closet Ball King category came back adding, adding a nice balance to the evening.

As we move forward into the month we have our normal fundraisers on the 2nd and 4th Saturday's of the month. Please look for the details as they appear in this addition. I have heard rumor that Saturday June 12th is our own Miss Kimberli Foxx's birthday, and who knows what is in store for her that night.

In a final note, I would like to congratulate Ric Franklin and Shaun Sewell, as well as, Ken Wells and David Blunk on their recent nuptials.

Until next month.

David Blackwood
NGRA President

Miss Closet Ball 2009, Taylor Trash (aka David Blackwood) with some of NGRA's finest cowboys
(Left) Michael Judkins & (Right) Doug Gordon during Miss Closet Ball 2010
Photos courtesy of Gonzo Jenny Photography





NGRA is well represented at the Pride Parade.

Thanks to all who lent a hand and their time!

Photos courtesy of Gonzo Jenny Photography



FROM THE EDITOR:

May was an insane month for NGRA & the Greater Las Vegas GLBT Community. We have a new Board of Directors, a new Miss Closet Ball AND Closet King! We appointed a new Rodeo Director for BigHorn 14 too.

5 issues of the newsletter, and I am still amazed at how many of you like the new format. Your suggestions are heard and I am doing what I can to implement them. All submissions are always welcomed. Thank you. You can always email me at: BigHornEditor@ngra.com. Thank you!

-JOEL CASTILLO
BIGHORN GAZETTE EDITOR

2010 NGRA Convention

It's that time of year again, the new Board of Directors are in settling in and it's time for our annual NGRA Convention. It will be held on Sunday, July 18th at 11:00 AM in the Board Room of CHSI Nevada located at 770 Pilot Road. This year's venue offers us a large meeting room with plenty of audio/video equipment, conveniently located just south of the airport. As we get closer to the date, an email blast will be sent with directions.

This is the only time of year when the Bylaws can be changed and is one of the opportunities to change the Standing Rules as well. Everyone's opinions and ideas are important, so if there is anything that you feel could use more clarification, should be removed or added to the Bylaws, come and present them to the membership.

The Convention Chair is Colin Moulton and he can be reached at memberatlarge3@ngra.com. Please send your ideas, along with the section of the Bylaws and he will prepare them for presentation and voting. All submissions received by June 23rd will be compiled and emailed to the membership on approximately June 26th so that you will have time to review and discuss them before the convention. Proposals received after that date will be compiled and presented at convention itself. In addition, proposals can be presented from the floor after all other previously submitted items have been voted on.

The current Bylaws and Standing Rules can be found on our website ngra.com <<http://ngra.com>> > Member Info > NGRA Bylaws. Please bring a copy to the meeting.

Lunch will be provided.

Miss Closet Ball 2010 Recap

On Saturday, May 8th, I had the pleasure of being asked to sit in as a judge for Miss Closet Ball 2010, along with Michael Judkins, Mitch Gill (aka DeShannon), Bootsy Carmichael, & David Hering. That night we saw some great competition for the crown from Fiona Davenport Jewel (aka Jimmy Gattis), Jaqueline La Femme, and our new Miss Closet Ball, Veronica De Baygo - daughter of that Hot Mess Winnie Baygo. Also, we crowned a Closet King, Thomas Foxx (aka Miss Blondie). Welcome to the Closet fold, Veronica! And, thanks to Taylor for a great 2009!!

- Sabel D'Zyre, Miss Closet Ball 2008



WANTED

BigHorn 14 Rodeo Poster

Should include the following:

- Memorial Day Weekend
May 27-29, 2011
 - BigHorn 14
 - NGRA
 - IGRA
 - Las Vegas
 - 2-Go Rodeo (2 Days)
 - Nighttime Rodeo



Rodeo Round-Up...

BigHorn 14 News from
Laura Scott, Rodeo Director

I want to say a big thank you to the Board Of Directors of NGRA for appointing me to be your Rodeo Director for 2011. I am very excited and hope to make all of you so proud.

Your Rodeo Planning Team is already working hard on making BigHorn Rodeo 14 successful. One of the areas we want to start working on early is branding the rodeo. With that being said, we are taking submissions now for the BigHorn Rodeo 14 Poster Contest.

- May 27-29th 2011
- BigHorn Rodeo 14
- NGRA
- IGRA
- Las Vegas
- Memorial Weekend
- 2 Go Rodeo
- Night Rodeo

Contest is open until June 23rd 2010 and the winning poster will be announced in the July NGRA newsletter. Please email your submissions to Cwgrlupntx@yahoo.com \$100 awarded to the winning poster. All entries become property of NGRA.

Look for monthly updates here in the BigHorn Gazette.

-Laura Scott, BigHorn 14 Rodeo Director



Miss Nobody Pageant June 19th



Calling all queens without a title! Miss IGRA 2010 1st Runner-Up, DeShannon Christi is producing the pageant of all pageants... Miss Nobody. The contest is open to both men & women. You will compete for the coveted title of Miss Nobody. The contest will take place Saturday, June 19, 2010 at 10:00 PM at Charlie's Las Vegas. Each contestant will raise money, for which proceeds benefit IGRA World Finals in October. Each dollar raised will equal one point towards your final tally. The contestant with the highest point total will win! Points are accumulated by fundraising, and the categories that evening: Sportswear, Swimwear, Evening Wear, Talent & On-Stage Question. So... yes, a queen can buy herself a title. The winner will win a sash, crown, flowers and the title of Miss Nobody! Runners-up will also get sashes as: Miss Understood, Miss Taken, Miss Begot, and Miss Behaved.

Interested contestants should email Joel Castillo at BigHornEditor@bighorn.com or DeShannon Christi at cowboyigra@yahoo.com

We are also very pleased to announce our very special guest emcee: Alex Michaels. Come out and see this diva return to the stage!

Miss Nobody

Show Starts at
10:00 PM
Saturday
June 19th

Raffle Prizes
Beer Bust
Lilo Shots
Special Entertainment

WINNER RECEIVES CROWN, SASH & FLOWERS
APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE AT CHARLIE'S
SPECIAL GUEST: ALEX MICHAELS

Charlie's

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

By Brian Rogers

First let me thank all the NGRA members and friends who came out to help run the gate for the Las Vegas Pride Festival. We had 20 members and friends who collectively put in 168 volunteers hours, ensuring that the main gate ran smoothly. Great job to all!

May is a big month for rodeo in Las Vegas! May 7 and 8 I had the pleasure of volunteering for the West Coast Regional Finals Rodeo. Head Coach Ric Griffith gave NGRA 20 tickets, which I gave out. This two-day event is the division finals for the college circuit. Bill Watkins and I sold rodeo programs and raffle tickets to benefit the UNLV Rodeo Team. County Commissioner Tom Collins was there cheering on the home team. Western Heritage founders Buttons Warburton and Linda McMillian were both there as timers and Toni Werk manages the UNLV sales table. We all had a great time.

Then came Helldorado Rodeo locals night on Thursday, May 13. NGRA members were asked to work the arena for this fun locals night event. Las Vegas Helldorado Days started way back in 1944. The event has always featured rodeo as its cornerstone and also includes a parade, various contests and activities for children. The event died out for a few years, but was resurrected two years ago as part of the Las Vegas Centennial celebration. This year Bill Watkins, Jimmy Gattis, John Grubbs, Jay Little and myself all did barrel setting, gate duty and various other duties to ensure the event ran smoothly. It's great fun to make new friends and to make allies with the other rodeo organizations in town. Thanks to everyone who came out to volunteer or attend the event as a fan.

Next I'm off to Oklahoma City where I will attend the quarterly marathon meeting day representing NGRA and Division I with IGRA. Meetings include the Executive Committee, Finals Rodeo Committee, Board of Directors, Trustees and Ethical Practices Review Board.

During that same weekend Western Heritage is staging a two-night event at Horseman's Park. Night one is a team roping in the main arena and a barrel race in the Flamingo Arena. NGRA members are announcing the barrel race and volunteering in the arena. Night two is a multi-cultural event with a Mexican rodeo, Charros, Dancing horses and other fun activities. I'm sorry I'm going to miss Friday, but I'll be home in time for Saturday's event.

I am particularly excited about the Finals committee meeting. There we will finalize several major areas of planning and I will have much to report when I return.

Save a Horse...

Your Trustee

Andrew Goodman shows us his new and improved Boyfriend, Bud Light... in a can.



NGRA Members man (and woman) the gate at PRIDE 2010. We have some awesome members in the NGRA!



David Hering, Jeffrey Neal, Bill Trunzo, & Lorry King... some of NGRA's amazing members and volunteers that worked the gate at PRIDE. Thanks to the Troops!

WORLD GAY RODEO FINALS REPORT

WORLD GAY RODEO FINALS UPDATE By Brian Rogers - 2010 Finals Rodeo Director

As most of you know by now, NGRA has been selected to host the World Gay Rodeo Finals in 2010 and 2011. This monthly article will serve to keep our membership and friends up-to-date on developments as we finalize planning for the event.

Our venues will be the AVI Resort and Casino outside of Laughlin and the Mojave Crossing Events Center just across the river in Arizona.

A lot of people ask **Why Laughlin?** First, IGRA requires Finals Rodeo to be held in a covered arena. Such facilities in Las Vegas are unavailable at a reasonable cost. Additionally, Laughlin is ideally located in the "Golden Triangle" for gay rodeo. Our 4-day event is strategically located with 5-hour drive of the five major gay markets that support heavily-attended local gay rodeos including Las Vegas, Phoenix, Palm Springs, Los Angeles and San Diego.

The World Gay Rodeo Finals is "**Your Ultimate Rodeo Vacation**". We are planning four days and nights of activities and other associated events plus the actual rodeo. Mark your calendar now and make plans to reserve a room at the AVI for the whole weekend of events.

IGRA produces the World Gay Rodeo Finals with the assistance of NGRA as co-host. This means that NGRA will not have to do a lot of heavy lifting. We will be primarily responsible for:

- Marketing
- Entertainment
- Party and Special Event Coordination
- Rodeo equipment and backups
- Developing and executing a viable transportation plan
- Providing a volunteer base
- Developing fundraising activities for our designated local charity

Planning is ongoing, but here is our current schedule of events:

Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010:

- Afternoon Pool Party at AVI Lagoon Pool
- Slot Tournament (benefits local charities)
- Kick Off Meet & Greet and Show hosted by IGRA Royalty at The Lariat Saloon in Bullhead City across the River

Friday, Oct. 22, 2010:

- Sightseeing trips during the day to London Bridge, Davis Dam, the Petroglyphs, and to Oatman historical mining Ghost Town nearby
- Charity Bingo in the main Bingo Hall (benefits local charities)
- Afternoon Pool Party at AVI Lagoon Pool
- Contestant registration at the AVI starts at 6PM - \$10 Pool Side BBQ
- Dolly's Jamboree ballroom opens at 7PM for dancing. Special Video Presentation of the IGRA Rodeo Year in Pictures at 9:30 PM followed by a Fashion Show.
- DC Cowboys performance followed by additional Entertainment and Dancing

Saturday, Oct. 23, 2010:

- Bud Light World Gay Rodeo Finals 1st- Go at the Mojave Crossing Event Center - Many Vendors - Entertainment in the VIP skybox hosted by IGRA Royalty team
- Charity Video Poker tournament (benefits local charities)
- Nationally known headliner [TBA] in concert at the AVI Resort.
- Post-Concert Social at the Lariat

Sunday, Oct. 24, 2010:

- Bud Light World Gay Rodeo Finals 2nd- Go at the Mojave Crossing Event Center - Many Vendors - Entertainment in the VIP skybox hosted by IGRA Royalty team
- Charity Bingo in the main Bingo Hall (benefits local charities)
- Finals Award Ceremony & \$20 Banquet in the AVI Ballroom
- Social at the Lariat

Monday, Oct. 25, 2010:

- Survivor's Brunch at the Lariat

Reserve your room early! You must call the hotel to get the discount, 1-800-284-2946

\$42 per night, Sunday - Thursday

\$68 per night Friday - Saturday, includes all taxes and fees

Group name IGRA RODEO / Group code GIGRA10

Suites available at discounts as well



If you are interested in learning more or getting involved, as a volunteer or coordinator, please attend the NGRA Finals Production Committee Meetings. They take place on the third Monday of each month immediately following the NGRA General Membership meeting. I can also be contacted via email at Trustee@ngra.com.

The Royalty Roundup

From...
Miss IGRA 2010
1st Runner-Up

Hello NGRA Members,

I want to take just a moment to thank each of you for coming out to support me as I produce events for the IGRA charities. I am not only representing IGRA, but also NGRA and the community of Las Vegas. I tip my hat to all the performers that have painted up and put things in places that would hurt a grown man; and for not just one fundraiser but for several events. I have several events planned in the Las Vegas Community for several of our charities and IGRA charities, as well as, raising money for Prize money for the IGRA Finals and for the Royalty Competition to be held in Reno this year as IGRA celebrates the Silver Jubilee... yes 25 years of Royalty. I also have several events planned in Reno and around the United States.

For the month of June, I have Mr. and Miss Gay Nobody 2010, This event will be held at Charlie's on June 19th. Come out and support this event as we make a spoof on the pageant systems around the country. Show starts at 10:00pm. Also in June, I am producing an event at Badlands on the 18th of June. I am sharing this event with our Miss NGRA as she raises money for a 501 C3 charity and well as for IGRA. These are her requirements to run for Miss IGRA this Fall in Reno. I would like to have input from members, rodeo contestants and community members what they would like to see happen at some of these events and I am always looking for new ideas. How about a weekend play day at Horseman's Park, as we teach members, and others, about our events as well as a dance under the stars? Just wanted to mention a few members and performers that have been to all of the events that I have produced, Colin, Jason, David Herring, Joel, Doug, Katrina Jewel, James C, Fiona Jewel, Veronica De Baygo - as well as members from the court system and last but not least Miss Pasty, Miss GSWRA 1st runner-up 2009. Be on the look out for a great event coming near you soon.

I am asking each of you to collect all of your loose change and bring it to a rodeo or to one of my events this year as I kick off my campaign "Every Penny Counts." All of the money that is collected will go toward IGRA Royalty Competition, IGRA Prize Money for the World Gay Rodeo Finals and IGRA Charities. That is enough for now as I hang up my hat for the night for now until I have to climb back in the saddle and ride to the next event.

Let's Rodeo,

Mitch Gill (aka) De Shannon Christi

Miss IGRA 2010 1st runner-up

Special thanks to Gonzo Jenny Photography for use of her photos.



Jason C. gets wild and funky with Sister Loosy



NGRA Secretary, Jeffrey Neal & fiend at Charlie's



Sabel D'Zyre strips down Darren Wernette

Dee Dee Castle performs while Member at Large Winsor Cooper looks on



The Royalty Roundup

From...
Mr. & Miss NGRA 2010

Happy Summer!

Well, it is still officially spring, but we all know it starts getting hot earlier in Vegas!

We were proud to see everyone out at the Proud to Be Country fundraiser on April 23, to help celebrate PRIDE. We were also very excited to see all the participation from NGRA members and other folks at the PRIDE Parade on Friday night, April 30, and at the PRIDE festival on May 1. NGRA made a great showing at the PRIDE parade, with a country-themed hay ride! Special thanks to Jason Crocetti for a \$100 donation to help pay for our parade participation, to Jimmy Gattis for donating the use of his convertible, and to Colin Moulton for donating the use of his Ford F-150 to pull the trailer for the hay ride!

NGRA members and friends manned the gate at the festival for the third year in a row, and we raised a lot of money through PRIDE's LOVE program, and NGRA was responsible for 40 minutes of the afternoon's entertainment at the PRIDE Cox stage - many thanks to our past royalty and others who came out to perform for NGRA, including the Mormon Boy himself, Steven Fales.

In May, we both helped David Blackwood out as he produced the Miss Closet Ball Competition, and we want to congratulate all of the competitors and the winners, Miss Victoria De Baygo, and Mr. Thomas Foxx (a.k.a. Miss Blondie), our first Closet King competitor in many years. We look forward to seeing everyone out in upcoming NGRA events. It takes a village to raise money for those in need in our community, so.. Welcome!

J.D. was happy to see everyone out to celebrate the unofficial start of summer at the Memorial Day Party at Badlands on May 22, and Kimberli entered the Court's salsa contest as Miss NGRA to help celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Her salsa won Best Mild Salsa!

We look forward to seeing everyone out and about for our next two fundraisers - A Tribute to the Tony's on June 12 at Charlie's and Life's a Beach at Badlands on June 26.

The fundraising committee can always use more help, so come out to the fundraising meeting on June 9 (details on the NGRA website); even better, show up to our fundraisers and tip, buy a Jell-O shot or even volunteer to help us out there!

Money raised between now and May 2011 goes to support BigHorn Rodeo 14 and NGRA!

Until then in rodeo spirit,

Kimberli Foxx & JD Jensen

Miss NGRA 2010 Mr. NGRA 2010

Franklin-Sewell

The parents of Dr. Shaun E. Franklin-Sewell and Mr. Ric H. Franklin-Sewell are proud to announce the marriage of their sons.

Dr. and Mr. Franklin-Sewell were married May 29, 2010 in a legal ceremony in Council Bluffs, IA. They have been legal domestic partners in the State of Nevada since October of 2009.

The happy husbands will continue to reside in Las Vegas, NV where Dr. Franklin-Sewell is the Director of Marketing and Patron Services for the UNLV Performing Arts Center and Mr. Franklin-Sewell is a student currently at CSN where he is studying for his Associate of Arts. Both are proud members of the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association and the Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire, Inc.

Dr. Franklin-Sewell is the immediate past president of NGRA and a former rodeo director. Mr. Franklin-Sewell is currently proud to hold the title of Miss NGRA 2010.

Dr. and Mr. Franklin-Sewell vacationed for their honeymoon in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico.

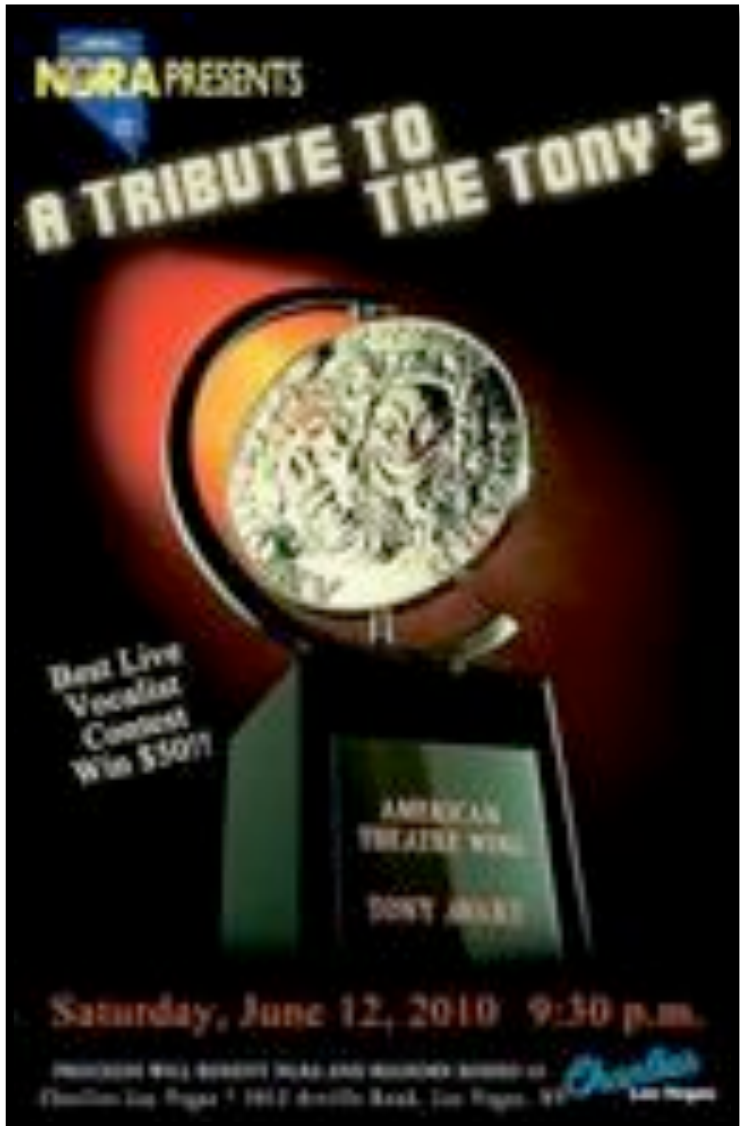
The newlyweds will be hosting a small reception for their friends and family in the Las Vegas area that were unable to attend the ceremony. The reception is scheduled for Sunday June 13th, 2010 from 3pm-7pm at Badlands Saloon in the



Photos courtesy of
Gonzo Jenny
Photography.
(Left) Dr. & Mr.
Franklin-Sewell.
(Right) Mr. & Miss
NGRA 2010.
(Far Right) Mr. NGRA
2010, Taylor Trash, &
Jason C.



HAPPENING IN OUR NGRA COMMUNITY CCC

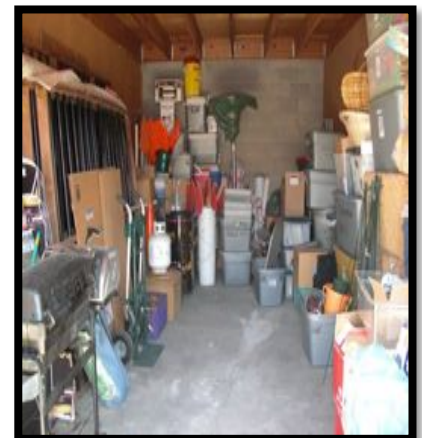


NGRA's 1st Ever "Guess the Butt" Contest..



Last month, NGRA had a Spring Cleaning day for our storage shed. Many thanks to all who came out and helped us out. For those who missed it, you missed a fun time. So this month we are having a "Guess the Butt Contest". Left is a Before picture of the storage unit, and to the right we have an After picture. Please email the editor at BigHornEditor@ngra.com with your guesses, and we will post voting results and announce the owner of the butt-crack in the July Issue.

1. NGRA Treasurer, David Hering
2. NGRA President, David Blackwood
3. Miss IGRA 1st Runner Up, DeShannon
4. BigHorn 14 Rodeo Director, Laura Scott
5. NGRA Member at Large, Doug Graff



HAPPENING IN OUR NGRA COMMUNITY



MISS CLOSET BALL 2010



Photos courtesy of Gonzo Jenny Photography



Pictured Clockwise: Taylor Trash. Jason C., Katrina, & Colin Moulton. Veronica De Baygo & Thomas Foxx. Bootsy Carmichael. Jaqueline La Femme. Katrina, Sabel D' Zyre, Taylor Trash, Thomas Foxx, Veronica De Baygo, Dee Dee Castle. Fiona Davenport Jewel. Doug Graff & Veronica De Baygo. 2010 Contestants: Fiona Davenport Jewel, Jaqueline La Femme, Veronica De Baygo, & Thomas Foxx.

NGRA Featured Member Spotlight

Lorry King, Member Since 2001



NGRA Member Spotlight: Every month we will begin featuring a long-standing member of NGRA and celebrate their contributions to NGRA. This month, may we present Ms. Lorry King, Member since 2001.

Lorry is one of NGRA's finest members and is also a straight ally to our LGBT Community. I had the pleasure of meeting Lorry King a few years back at an NGRA function at Charlie's through Guy Puglisi before I was even a member of NGRA. Without any prodding, she took a liking to me immediately. It was this genuine warmth and special quality that drew me closer to her and created a want to get to know her better. Over the next few years, Lorry, to me, exemplified what NGRA is all about: rodeo, camaraderie, fundraising, education, and having fun.

She had been a member of Golden State Gay Rodeo Association (GSGRA) before moving to Nevada. She tells us, "I joined because of the fact that women could compete in all events, the fact that the profits went to charity, and the dancing!" Competitive Dancing is one of Lorry's greatest passions. She has taught, judged, and competed in dance. When asked about her fondest memory, she replied, "Winning my first dance buckle in San Diego at the GSGRA Convention in 2000. This meant that I would go on to represent California at the IGRA competition. FYI -- Guy "Porkchop" Puglisi was there to see it!" *[Editor's Note: Porkchop was more than a little marinated that evening, but he does remember something about something about Lorry in San Diego. Betty Ford would be proud.]*

Lorry's service record and dedication to NGRA is nothing less than amazing with 7 out of 9 years of service. She has served as a Member-at-Large in 2003, Vice-President from 2003-2004, and Trustee from 2005-2007. She also served as Assistant Rodeo Director in 2006 and as Dance, Registration, Awards, Election, and Convention Chair many years. "I have been a Delegate to every IGRA Convention from NGRA from 2002-2009, and Alternate Trustee at 22 rodeos." Lorry has the distinction of performing in several Line Dance Teams, including one that toured through New Zealand - both teaching and performing. "Three were in California. Two were formed by a couple who are well-known choreographers. The first one was for a performance at a national line dance festival, in front of students, instructors and choreographers from around the world. The second team they formed was the one that went to New Zealand. We toured the North Island for two weeks and performed and taught at schools and community centers and once on the street, at a town festival. I was in another team in between those two that was formed by an Instructor for a performance at her dance studio. Then in Las Vegas I was on a team that was formed by one of my Instructors to perform two years in a row at the Meadows Mall."

As one can see, Lorry's contributions are incredible; and her resume is impressive. Ironically, with all this, Lorry has never considered running for IGRA Royalty. Perhaps we can start a Facebook Fan Page to convince her otherwise. After all, it got Betty White on SNL.

Out on the IGRA Rodeo Circuit, Lorry has also served as an Official. She has been Assistant Rodeo Secretary many times and her goals are always the same, "To treat all contestants fairly and to complete my paperwork accurately. I know how hard the contestants work and how important the results are to them. I also want to have fun and make it fun for them!" One has to wonder what it is about NGRA and Rodeo that has made such a long-standing and dedicated member in Lorry. "It's the people! I have made some wonderful friends and have met some people whose dedication to raising money for charity is inspiring!"

As spectators of Rodeo, we all have the events we love to watch. And Lorry is no different. "I love to watch Wild Drag and Flag Racing and my favorite competitor is Christy Cotton from California. Besides being a great competitor, she is one of the nicest people you'll ever meet. She never fails to thank all the Officials and volunteers for their hard work."

Lorry will continue representing NGRA on the circuit. She has been asked to work as Assistant Rodeo Secretary at four additional rodeos. She adds, "Including Finals! Yeah!" She hopes to again serve as a Delegate from NGRA in Reno, and is always happy to serve as an Alternate Trustee when needed. When asked to impart some words to our membership, Lorry said, "Please, please don't forget about our charities! We've chosen some great organizations in the past and in these tough times, our local non-profits need our help more than ever!"

Upcoming IGRA Rodeos & Events

BIG HORN 14 RETURNS IN 1 SHORT YEAR! GET INVOLVED TODAY!!!

MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION PRESENTS

THE GREATER MOTOWN INTERNATIONAL RODEO

JUNE 25-27, 2010
WAYNE COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
BELLEVILLE MI

Small text at the bottom: Please support our sponsors. For more information about BQHA and BQAA go to www.illigra.com or call 800-881-6888

GATEWAY GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

GATEWAY REGIONAL RODEO

JUNE 11 - 13, 2010
Mark Harrell Horse Facilities
12 Tucker Drive
Caseyville, IL 62232
Only 9 miles from the Gateway Arch
Rain or Shine

JURIED ART SHOW & SALE

Our 2010 Benefactors

Check out www.gaygr.com for more information
Rodeo ticket number 314-792-7196



JUNE 11 - 13, 2010

Illinois Gay Rodeo Association

"RODEO BOOT CAMP"

So you wanna be a Cowboy or Cowgirl?
"Beginners Welcome"

June 5th & 6th, 2010

Six Guns Ranch and Arena
Crete, IL 60417-4858
World Gay Rodeo Champions will teach you:

- Chute Dogging
- Calf Roping on Foot
- Steer Riding
- Coat Dressing

For more info go to www.ILGRA.com

HAPPENING IN OUR COMMUNITY



The Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence cordially invite all NGRA members to their monthly Oink Night at the Fun Hog Ranch! Also, this month please join them for: Join the Sin City Sister's for a madcap send-up of TV game shows... all done in Sister style!



We will play THE HO'S PRICE IS RIGHT, and the highly anticipated 'SISTERWOOD SQUARES' with nine local personalities filling our 'squares', among other wild and naughty games. Our host for the night will be the one and only Mandy Barbarell, who knows how to dish Boob Tube like no other! Raffles, J-shots, auction, sexy toys and Sisters. "Come On Down!" Help support our Sister's AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

"I'll take Sister Sioux to block!"



The Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire, Inc. would like to invite all of our NGRA Members to their June community fundraisers.

June 4, 2010 - Big Bold & Beautiful Pageant - Badland's - \$6.00 Beer Bust @ 8:00, Show @ 9:00

June 19, 2010 - High Fructose - Spotlight - Door @ 8:00; Show @ 9:00

June 25, 2010 - Bling Bling Ball - Charlie's - Door @ 8:00; Show @ 9:00



One of NGRA's favorite gals, Katrina, aka Miss NGRA 2008, is going to be contributing a regular article in the "Happening in our Community" section of the BigHorn Gazette... please welcome Katrina's Korner!

Katrina presents a weekend...
"All Among Friends"
Friday, September 17, 2010
at Charlie's Las Vegas
A benefit for Gay Cowboy Legacy Project at the Gene Autry Museum
in Los Angeles, CA

&

The 3rd Annual:
Katrina's Brunch
At the Tropicana Hotel
To benefit NGRA BigHorn Rodeo 14 and Sin City Sisters SADAP program

NGRA's Member of the Month - March



Congratulations to the April, 2010 Member of the Month, Bill Watkins aka Faye Deway. Bill was nominated for stepping in and filling Barry Cluff's pumps (Barry was recovering from surgery) as Event Coordinator for Miss Cow Patty 2010! Bill is one of NGRA's finest and most tireless members. Congratulations, Bill! Now go "Chunky Dunk"... girl, you've earned it!



Welcome readers! This is a new, and will be an ongoing, column for the NGRA BigHorn Gazette called, "Straight from the Horse's..." (mouth). This will be an interview with Cowboys & Cowgirls from across the IGRA Competitive Circuit. We will highlight certain events in rodeo monthly and talk to the riders and their animal counterparts for an in-depth exposé into the world of competing in an IGRA Sanctioned Rodeo. Please join me in welcoming 2010 IGRA World Finals All-Around Cowboy, David Renier!!



Joel: Hello David. Thank you so much for taking time out of your busy schedule to do this interview! How long have you been involved in Rodeo?

David: I have been participating in the IGRA for 20 years, I started when I was 10 years old LOL.

J: What events do or did you compete in?

D: I have competed in all of the events except Bull and Steer Riding. I did Chute dogging a couple of times and I was no good at it. I even tried Bronc Riding at a rodeo... let's say that the word "tried" is the key word. It was very entertaining for my friends.

J: Every competitive Cowboy & Cowgirl wants to qualify to receive their invitation to IGRA World Finals. Have you ever qualified for finals?

D: I have qualified for the IGRA finals every year since I joined.

J: What was your best year on the circuit?

D: This last year, 2009, was probably my best year. I finally won the IGRA All- Around Cowboy at the finals!

J: Congratulations! Have you ever buckled in any events?

D: I have won many buckles in all of the events that I have competed in. Several hundred. Yes, that is with two zeros. (He says with a coy wink)

J: Now let's talk about your partners in rodeo crime, that is, your horse. Please tell us a little about them.

D: I had the most wonderful horse that I competed on for years named "Bisquit," but he has been retired and is living out his life at my family's ranch. I now have a wonderful horse named "Easy" and he is a 5 year old Brown Quarter Horse Gelding.

J: Hello, Easy. And thank you for joining us this afternoon.

Easy: Thank you for having me. The pleasure is mine I am sure.

J: Easy, when did you and David first pair up?

E: I saw him wandering aimlessly about in Arkansas one day and ...

D: He's such a ham! I bought him in Arkansas last year.

E: He likes to boast that I am already a winner, but truth be told, I am the real winner. We all hope to find a rider who understands us. David makes it easy on Easy!

J: Easy there, Easy. David, it looks as if you have yourself quite a catch. Tell us more about him.

D: He is the most loving horse and willing to do anything. He's like a big dog... he loves to be loved on and nothing rattles him. He doesn't act like your typical young horse.

E: I do love being loved on, how else do you think I earned the name Easy? (Whinnies with laughter and a big smile)

J: Let's focus on Roping events for the remainder of the interview. You have competed in Calf Roping on Foot and Mounted Break-Away. Tell us about each event.

D: In Calf Roping on Foot, I have roped in less than one second. In Break-Away Roping, I believe it was in 2.4 seconds on my friend Candy Pratt's horse "Rope." He is an amazing rope horse and Easy wants to grow up to be just like him.

E: I do?

J: How did you get started in roping? I know the easier it looks to the spectator, the more skilled the roper.

D: When I was young my uncle was a roper and he taught me how to rope and it was a favorite of mine.

J: Do you think roping is more difficult for men or women?

D: I don't think it matters. Some days the men will out rope the women, but then next day they give us guys a spankin'! There are great men and great women ropers on the circuit.

J: Well said! How do you practice/training regimen for roping?

D: Here in San Diego, my Team Roping partner, Kirk Carter, and I practice almost every week. He is the one that I have won my two Finals Buckles in Team Roping with. Kirk and Candy Pratt are my main Team Roping partners and I wouldn't trade either one of them.

J: What is the most difficult element? Is it the catch, the positioning of the rope over the head, or coordinating with Easy, your hands, and the calf?

D: Well it all has to come together for it to work. First, you want a calf that runs straight and at a good rate of speed. Then comes your horse's position. Then it's up to you. If you don't swing your rope properly and deliver it, you're not going to be able to rope your calf. And then, you want your horse to stop straight and fast because as soon as the rope breaks away from your saddle the time stops.

J: Have you ever hit the proverbial wall?

D: Oh yes it happens to everyone. Some days you can't miss and the next you can't catch a thing. Calf Roping does have some element of luck as well, so you always hope for a little of that when you rope.

J: Are there any remaining battle wounds or are the all psychological?

D: Psychological for sure! (Both David & Easy laugh) I will never be the same, but hey, it's a good excuse for not being too bright. I have hit my head way too many times. As far as battle wounds - I have dislocated my shoulder, broken my collar bone, had several surgeries on my knees, cracked my shin bone, and been knocked unconscious. Oh and broke my finger... but heck, who's counting?

NGRA Members Celebrating Birthdays in June:



Tony Clark	June 2
Kip Kipilla	June 3
Randy Meadows	June 4
Jay Little	June 9
Ric Franklin	June 12
Ron Cox	June 13
Ken Wong	June 14
Chris Treviño	June 16
Jaon Dyer	June 17
David Hering	June 17
Blaine Woodie	June 22
Richard Armstrong	June 22
Brandon Hess	June 22
Johnny Bob Dalton	June 24
Christopher Due	June 27
Darwin Trotter	June 28
Vito Rizzo	June 29



NEW MEMBERS

Robert Honeycutt

&

James P. Crawford

FROM THE HORSE'S MOUTH CONTINUED: J: Oh my goodness! Now I see where you have gotten those "rugged good looks from." My partner is famous for getting in trouble for dropping the F-Bomb. Have you ever been fined for dropping the F-Bomb, a lost hat, anything?
 D: No I have never used the F word, but as far as fines, I lost the All-Around Horse Award, which was a trophy saddle, in San Diego one year for not having my sleeves rolled down. Uhhggg! And yes, some hat fines.

E: And I am a gentleman. I would never do such things. Or is that I would never get caught doing such things? I forget.

J: So why roping? What's the draw for you?

D: I love roping because it is one of those events that everything has to work together - you and your horse as one. You're only as good as your horse and your horse is only as good as you.

J: That sounds like an amazing symbiotic relationship to have. Is there any event you have not yet competed in that you would like to try?

D: No. Like I said, I have done most of them and if you ever see me on a Bull you know that I have hit my head one too many times. If you ever see me on one, could you please just come get me off of it? It won't end well I'm sure. No need to add things to my injury list.

E: And I prefer the events where I get to play too. Those bulls don't play well with others.

J: What is your goal for the 2010 IGRA Circuit Year?

D: Well I'm hoping to repeat 2009 and win the All-Around Cowboy Award. There are so many great cowboys competing that it's never an easy thing to do. (Easy slightly coughs)Also, get some Championship buckles won on my great new horse Easy, but I know that will happen.

J: Who is your favorite Rodeo Competitor, both IGRA and Non-IGRA?

D: I would have to say there are two competitors that I look up to. I have known and competed with Candy Pratt for most of my rodeo career. She has always been there for me and we have won a lot together. The other would be my rodeo partner Kirk Carter. Through the years he has been my main partner and we have really done well together. They are both great competitors and have many Championships under their belts and I couldn't have achieved a lot of what I have without them. Oh, and a special shout out to my husband, Nick, and his new horse Okie. Thank you for being there and your support. I love you.

J: Any last parting words of wisdom for our readers?

D: If you're going to ride: check your cinch, sit up straight, and go fast! If you're just coming to watch and support us... thank you, drink lots of beer and have a blast!!

E: And, if you see David out tonight buy him a beer. He rodeos better with a hangover!

J: Thank you both and we look forward to seeing you again at IGRA World Finals in October at The Avi Resort in Laughlin, NV!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 *NGRA Appreciation Night @ Charlie's	5 *Men of Charlie's Monthly Contest, 9:30 PM * PRIDE
6	7	8	9 *Fundraising Meeting @ 6:30 PM at Badlands. All are welcome	10	11 *NGRA Appreciation Night @ Charlie's *Sierra Stampede Rodeo 6/11-13	12 *NGRA Tribute to the Tony's @ Charlie's 9:30PM
13	14 *NGRA Board of Director's @ The Center 6:30 PM	15	16	17	18 *NGRA Appreciation Night @ Charlie's	19 *Miss Nobody Contest@ Charlie's 10:00PM
20	21 *NGRA General Membership Meeting 6:30 PM *NGRA Finals Planning Committee Meeting	22	23 *Deadline for July Newsletter	24	25 *NGRA Appreciation Night @ Charlie's	26 *NGRA Life's A Beach Themed Show @ Badlands 9:30 PM
27	28	29	30			