



ARGRAculture

April 2009 Edition

**Countdown to the rodeo...
Are you ready?**

Inside This Edition

Rodeo 2009 Q & A
- page 2.

Competitor Information
- page 3.

Dance Lesson Pictures
2009 Silent Auction
- page 4

Rodeo Team Challenge
Rodeo Volunteers
Make it Happen...
- page 5

Next Dance:
Saturday April 18th

WE'RE ON THE MOVE!

BUD LIGHT

CANADIAN ROCKIES INTERNATIONAL RODEO
IS MOVING TO STRATHMORE, 1ST CLASS PROFESSIONAL RODEO VENUE,
ACRES OF CAMPING, AND WILD WEST FUN!
JUNE 26-28, 2009
CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA

WWW. **ARGRA.ORG**

**Rodeo
Tickets and
Weekend
packages
now on sale !
Get your
tickets right
away before
the
stampede for
tickets
begins!
Order Online:
www.arga.org**




BUD LIGHT



**CANADIAN
ROCKIES
INTERNATIONAL
RODEO**
JUNE 26~28, 2009

CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA

Location: Strathmore Ag. Society Rodeo Grounds See: www.arga.org for Map

BOOK ONLINE AT: **WWW.ARGRA.ORG**

Rodeo 2009 Q & A

Welcome to the April edition of ARGRAculture. This month we are going to take a bit of a look at the change of venue to Strathmore and what is happening for the planning end of the rodeo.

Many of you have already been talking about the rodeo, asking questions, and starting to make plans for the June 26-28th weekend. With this edition we hope to provide you with answers to many of the commonly asked questions, and give you some more information about the 2009 Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q. Is camping still available at the rodeo?

A. Yes – there are acres of camping available but all sites are un-serviced.

Q. Are there enough washroom and shower facilities?

A. Strathmore has a number of permanent washroom and shower facilities, but we will be renting additional ones to help ease the stress on the existing facilities

Q. How do I book a campsite?

A. Campsites can be booked online at www.argra.org

Q. Can I camp next to my friends or are the sites pre-assigned?

A. The sites will be pre-assigned based on the type of unit you are camping in (tent/motorhome/etc) We will accommodate all “group” camping requests as long as we know (about them) ahead of time and there is still space available.

Q. Are there shuttle busses available to get me to and from Strathmore?

A. Yes, we have contracted Bust Loose Travel to help with bussing.

Q. Where will we be able to catch the shuttle bus?

A. As soon as we have confirmed pick-up times and locations we will post them on our website.

Q. Are breakfasts still part of the rodeo weekend?

A. Yes, there is a breakfast on both Saturday and Sunday mornings



This map has been provided for informational purposes only, actual layout may differ from what has been presented.

Q. Is there water and a dump station for my RV?

A. Yes, both water and dump station facilities are available on-site.

Q. How far is Strathmore from downtown Calgary?

A. From City Hall is it 40 km to the rodeo grounds and takes about 45 minutes.

Q. Can I camp near the barns?

A. No, all camping must be in the designated area

Q. How do I become a sponsor or retailer?

A. Please contact our sponsorship director at sponsorship@argra.org and refer to the posted information on the ARGRA website.

Q. I heard there was a Carnival, can anyone participate and raise money?

A. ARGRA will be hosting the Gay Calgary Olde Tyme Country Carnival and will allow any non-profit group or organization to set up a booth and raise money for their group.

Q. Is there any cost to set up a booth at the Carnival?

A. There is no cost to set up a booth, but everyone must pay the \$15 gate admission fee

Q. Is there still a Friday night concert?

A. Yes, this year’s Friday night entertainer is Gord Bamford, we have also added entertainment Sunday night immediately following the awards ceremony. Sunday’s entertainer is Steve Arsenault.

Q. Where can I buy tickets and when do they go on sale?

A. Tickets are now on sale and can be purchased on-line at www.argra.org

Q. Why did you move to Strathmore?

A. ARGRA felt they had outgrown the facility at Symons Valley Ranch

Q. Can children come to the events?

A. The Rodeo, Breakfasts and Carnival are open to all ages, however due to our liquor license there is an over 18 policy in effect for all evening events.

Q. Are pets welcome at the rodeo?

A. Pets will be allowed in the campground but not on the actual rodeo grounds as it is prohibited based on our contract with Strathmore. Dogs MUST be kept on a leash at all times.

Q. I would like to learn more about the events and how to become a competitor?

A. Contract our Contestant Liaison at vicepresident@argra.org for more information.

Questions & Answers Continued

- Q.** If I want to compete what is the deadline to enter?
A. If you are a “first time” IGRA competitor you can enter right up until 9 pm Friday night (June 26th). If you have competed in an IGRA rodeo previously, you must pre-register by midnight June 5th 2009 or be subject to a late-fee.
- Q.** Is there a Host Hotel?
A. As in the past our official Calgary Hotel is “5 Calgary Downtown Suites”



Rodeo Competitors

If you are planning on competing in the 2009 Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo

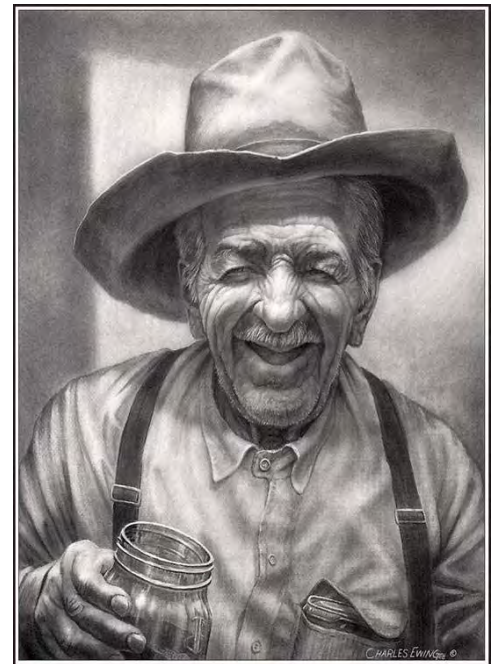
For those competitors who have competed previously in an IGRA rodeo, you must pre-register or be subject to a late fee. **Online registrations open May 15th and remain open until midnight June 5th (mountain time).** Online registrations are available via the IGRA website (www.igra.com)

First time competitors can either register on Friday evening of the rodeo (June 26th), or advance register by contacting the ARGRA secretary at secretary@argra.org

Please note that you must also be a member in good standing of a recognized IGRA association to compete. Remember to bring identification to registrations

An Old Cowboy's Advice

- Your fences need to be horse-high, pig-tight and bull-strong.
- Keep skunks and bankers and lawyers at a distance.
- Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
- A bumble bee is considerably faster than a John Deere tractor.
- Words that soak into your ears are whispered...not yelled.
- Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.
- Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.
- Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.
- It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- You cannot unsay a cruel word.
- Every path has a few puddles.
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
- Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.
- Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.



- Timing has a lot to do with the outcome of a rain dance.
- If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
- Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.
- The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with, watches you from the mirror every mornin'.
- Always drink upstream from the herd.
- Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.
- Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.
- If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.
- Live simply. Love generously.. Care deeply. Speak kindly. Leave the rest to God.

ARGRA Two-Step Lessons



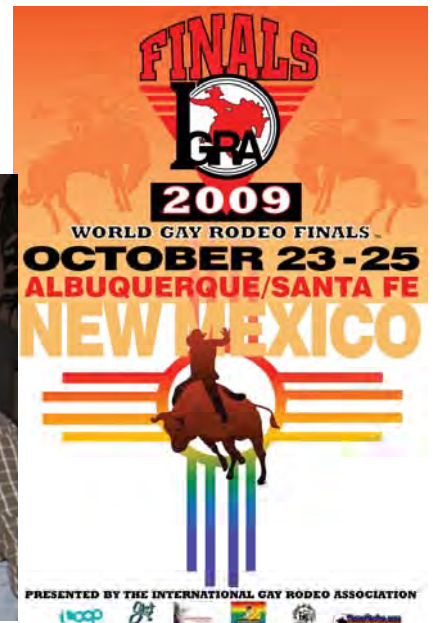
Thanks to the Calgary Eagle for hosting the dance lessons.

2009 Silent Auction

Here are some of the items for this year's silent auction.

1. 3 month yoga pass - Heavens fitness
2. Sondra Mosa - painting
3. Patio lights - Horse store
4. Charlotte Hegler - painting
5. Vicky Meyers - painting
6. Signed Ballet slippers - Alberta Ballet
7. Lisa Heinricks - painting
8. Picnic basket and cheese gift certificate - Say Cheese
9. Gift Basket - COOP store deli's
10. Sunglasses - Downtown Vision Care
11. Jayeson Lyonns - painting
12. Ron Clark - painting
13. Print - Fairplay Store
14. Shelagh Blatz mens silver bracelet
15. Day Passes - waterpark West Edmonton Mall
16. Day passes - Heritage Park, Calgary
17. Christmas wreath - Frame & Art shop Medicine Hat
18. Lynn Maleson - Cowboy art lamp
19. Wet lubricants - \$250.00 gift basket
20. Wine - Fieldstone wines, Strathmore

Please visit the retail tent during the rodeo to place your bids on these and many more items. Donations are still being accepted, please contact our sponsorship team for more information regarding the silent auction at sponsorship@argra.org



2009 CRIR RODEO TEAM CHALLENGE

Ever thought about competing in the Rodeo? Well, why not do it as a team. Get a group together and take part in this year's 2009 CRIR Rodeo Team Challenge. This is open to individuals, groups, businesses and anyone who wants to get a team together (minimum of 4 contestants) to compete in this year's rodeo. All teams that enter will not only enjoy the fun of competing as a team, but also have the opportunity to win prizes for their team participation and sportsmanship. So get your friends together, develop a team and stay tuned for more details regarding the Team Challenge.

For more information contact
Rob Somers @ vicepresident@argra.org.



Renew your membership at the April dance and get into the May dance FREE!

SATURDAY APRIL 18, 2009

COME OUT & BE PART OF OUR AMAZING MEMBERSHIP, IT DOES HAVE ITS PRIVILEGES!

ARGRA MEMBERSHIP WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT THE DANCE, CHECK OUT WWW.ARGRA.ORG FOR ALL THE MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS.

Wet your Whistle with great Lower drink prices! Late Night Buffet!

Where: Hillhurst Sunnyside Community Hall, 1320 5th Ave. N.W., Calgary, Alberta



Rodeo Volunteers Make It Happen...

The Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo functions due to the amazing volunteers that help to run the entire weekend as well as the dances held throughout the year. There are over 200 shifts that are filled over the rodeo weekend. The positions range from Ticket Sellers, Dance Security, Campground Security, Door Assistants, Retail Sellers, Arena Gate Crew, Rodeo Grounds Crew, and Rodeo Chute Crew. Join the ARGRA family and volunteer for an hour or two. It's a great way to meet people, have fun, and help out. Contact volunteers@argra.org





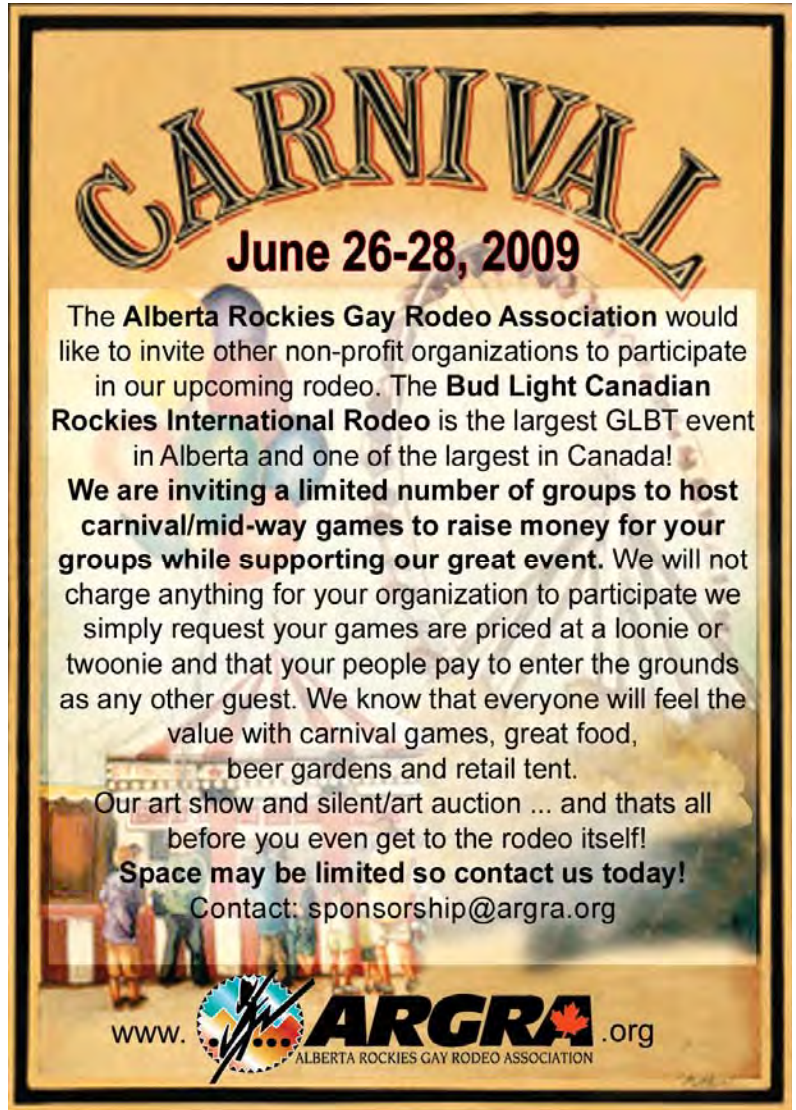
BUD LIGHT CANADIAN ROCKIES INTERNATIONAL RODEO 2009

- Rodeo Tickets and Weekend packages now on sale ! Get your tickets right away before the stampede for tickets begins!
- Amazing ticket prices with amazing events planned at our brand new venue!
- Strathmore Ag. Society Rodeo Grounds is bigger, better and tons more fun!
- Don't miss out...now is the time. Don't miss a thing, book the entire weekend package!

Remember ARGRA membership(s) must be renewed and valid from June 1, 2009 – May 31, 2010 in order to get *discounted* rodeo package and ticket prices.

Book online at www.arga.org

Don't forget to book your campsite as well! (campsite bookings via www.arga.org)



Contact ARGRA

Website: www.arga.org

Fax: 403-26-ARGRA (403-262-7472)

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ARGRAculture is produced 6 times a year(Aug, Oct, Dec, Feb, April & May) as a communications to the membership. If you have any questions, concerns or feedback, we would love to hear from you. You can reach any of the executive via their contact information.



GAY CALGARY OLDE TYME COUNTRY CARNIVAL

The Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association, (ARGRA), would like to invite non-profit organizations to participate in the first ever **GAY CALGARY OLDE TYME COUNTRY CARNIVAL!!**

The Carnival will take place during the upcoming **Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo** held on June 26-28, 2009 at the Strathmore Agricultural Grounds.

ARGRA has been working hard in 2009 on ways to bring the community together, and have noticed that our last two dances have seen a number of new faces. We're hoping this is due to the fact that we have invited members of other non-profit organizations to attend our dances and have been offering them the ARGRA members' admission price of only \$6.

We are continuing to work on ways of bringing the community closer together and having said that, would like to hear from any and all non-profit organizations that are interested in an opportunity to do a little fund-raising for their group and have a whole lot of fun while doing it!!

We are offering non-profit groups and organizations the opportunity to set up a carnival/midway type game to raise some money. There is no cost to your organization to set up a booth/table/tent in our Carnival area and all profits from your booth will remain with your organization. The \$15 per day gate entry fee will be in effect for everyone and we would like to ask that you keep the price of your game or activity to a loonie or a twoonie! We also want to remind everyone that this is a family event and every consideration should be made to ensure your activity is in "good taste" and family oriented. All Carnival booths will be subject to ARGRA's approval.

ARGRA is here to help with your organizational needs and have sourced out a company in Calgary that rents carnival games and equipment; we can also offer suggestions as to what options are available for your group's Carnival activity. Some ideas that have been brought forward include; a "dunk-tank", ring-toss, bobbing-for-apples, throwing darts at balloons, breaking plates with a baseball, water-guns, whac-a-mole, etc. There are a ton of great ideas just waiting for the right group!!! ARGRA will also provide tables and chairs for your organizations booth and assist you by getting a great rate if you want a tent or covered area.

There is an application form attached should you decide to 'come and play with us' at the first ever **GAY CALGARY OLDE TYME COUNTRY CARNIVAL**. Space may be limited so please get your application in early. If you have any questions please contact either sponsorship@argra.org or rodeodirector@argra.org and we will do our best to help you out.

Remember to check out our website at www.argra.org for updated information regarding the **2009 Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo**.



GAY CALGARY OLDE TYME COUNTRY CARNIVAL

APPLICATION FORM

Name of Non Profit Group/Organization: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Province/State:** _____

Postal/Zip Code: _____ **Telephone No: ()** _____

Email Address: _____

Description of Carnival Game/Activity:

Number of Tables and Chairs Requested: _____

Will you require assistance is renting a 10'x10' tent? _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Applications forms can be mailed to: ARGRA
223 – 12 Avenue S.W.
Calgary, Alberta
T2R 0G9

Or emailed to: sponsorship@argra.org or
rodeodirector@argra.org

For more information please visit www.ARGRA.org