



ARGRAculture

Spring/Summer 2010 Edition

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CANADIAN ROCKIES INTERNATIONAL



R · O · D · E · O



JULY 1ST - 4TH, 2010



A CELEBRATION OF INTERNATIONAL PRIDE!

CANADA DAY CELEBRATIONS ON THE 1ST, RODEO 3RD - 4TH, CELEBRATIONS ON THE 4TH OF JULY!



CALGARY, ALBERTA, CANADA

TICKETS & EVENT DETAILS ONLINE AT WWW.ARGRA.ORG

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



ARGRA

Howdy!

I want to invite everyone officially to the 17th Annual Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo! We have been hard at work all year to put on a weekend you won't forget.



This year we are extending the fun. We are on the grounds Thursday, July 1st for Canada Day till Sunday July 4th for our 4th of July Bash. The weekend will have live performers featured all four nights followed by DJ and Dance. Entertainment is the focus this year and we will have you fully engaged all weekend long.

During the day you can enjoy the rodeo and check out the midway. Our Midway features retailers, food vendors, our Silent Auction and Art Show, Beer Gardens as well as our new 'Bud Light Stage'. On the Stage this year we will feature some local talent as well as karaoke for all. Sit in the new beer tents on the midway and have a listen.

Tickets are on sale www.arga.org. Remember early bird pricing in effect only till May 31st. You can save as much as \$51 on your rodeo package if you purchase your package before May 31.



We could not put on this amazing event without our volunteers. We will have signup sheets at the May 29th Dance. Please come sign up, it's a great way to meet new people and have fun! You can also contact our Membership Director and Volunteer Coordinator, Jason Baker, at membership@arga.org or volunteers@arga.org.

I look forward to seeing everyone out in Strathmore. Proudly your Rodeo Director, Darrel Reid



ARGRA Representatives at the ISCCA Ball

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

All events take place at the Strathmore Ag Society grounds unless otherwise noted.

WEDNESDAY JUNE 30, 2010

9 pm Calgary Eagle's Wet Jockey Contest (424A8th Ave S.E.)

THURSDAY JULY 1ST, 2010

5 pm - 7 pm Bud Light Stage Performances - Beer Gardens, Retailers, Silent Auction and Art Show.

8 pm Joanna-Celebrity Impersonator (Dance Hall)

9 pm - 2 am Canada Day Dance & Dynamic DJ Rob

FRIDAY JULY 2ND, 2010

5 pm - 7 pm Bud Light Stage Performances - Beer Gardens, Retailers, Silent Auction and Art Show.

6pm- 9pm Contestant & Grand Entry Registration. Officials meeting to follow

8 pm Warm up Act -TBA (Dance Hall)

9 pm - 2 am Cabaret Featuring Headliner- Steve Arsenault & Dynamic DJ Rob

SATURDAY JULY 3RD, 2010

8am-10am Pancake Breakfast (GRRB Stack)

8:30 am New Contestant Meeting (Grandstand) Mandatory for First Time Contestants

9:00 am Rodeo - Roping Events & Steer Deco

12:00 NOON GRAND ENTRY & RODEO EVENTS

Community Carnival, Vendors, Retailers, Silent Auction and Art Show (Midway)

5 pm - 7 pm Bud Light Stage Performances

6:30 pm Dinner- doors open at 5:30 ticket must be purchased in advance (Dance Hall)

8 pm IGRA Royalty - USO Show

8:30 pm -2 am Bud Light Barn Burner Dance & Dynamic DJ Rob

SUNDAY JULY 4TH, 2010

8am-10am Pancake Breakfast (GRRB Stack)

9:00 am Rodeo - Roping Events & Steer Deco

12:00 NOON GRAND ENTRY & RODEO EVENTS

Community Carnival, Vendors, Retailers, Silent Auction and Art Show (Midway)

7 pm Joanna - Celebrity Impersonator (Dance Hall)

8 pm Awards Ceremony

9 pm- 2 am Happy Trails Dance featuring Rooster In a Hen House & Dynamic DJ Rob

MONDAY JULY 5TH, 2010

5 pm ARGRA's Official Survivor Party at THE BACKLOT (209, 10th Avenue SW)

10 pm Calgary Eagle's Last Stand Party (424A8th Ave S.E.)



Rodeo Ticket Prices - 2010

Prior to May 31		After May 31		Prior to May 31		After May 31	
3-day (member)	3-day (non-member)	3-day (member)	3-day (non-member)	2-day (member)	2-day (non-member)	2-day (member)	2-day (non-member)
\$104	\$124	\$119	\$139	\$89	\$109	\$99	\$119
a \$155 value You save \$51	a \$155 value You save \$31	a \$155 value You save \$36	a \$155 value You save \$16	a \$110 value You save \$21	a \$110 value You save \$1	a \$110 value You save \$11	a \$110 value



Greg's 40th Birthday

A Note from our President

Greetings fellow ARGRA members! Our association continues another busy, and exciting year. Our fundraising events, be them our dances, our sleigh ride, or our upcoming garage sale event (more details later on), continue their rise in popularity. We are getting our legs under us again. And it's almost rodeo time. We are less than two months away now and we have put ourselves into high gear getting everything ready. Our Rodeo Director's note will give much more detail as to what we have planned this year (we're getting bigger and better!). I would like to extend a Presidential invitation to all ARGRA members to come and attend this year's rodeo, and bring your friends! Take advantage of our members' early bird pricing and make sure you get the best deal you can. We're going to put on the best rodeo yet, and we can do it with your help.

Fundraising Garage Sale

Sunday, May 23, 9 am to 3 pm

Location: Okotoks AB, North Ridge Drive at Crescent Road W (on the main road into town, close to main street, arrive by 8 am to prep and set up).

ARGRA is looking for help and donations for an upcoming fundraising garage sale, taking place in Okotoks on the Victoria Day long weekend. This is the weekend that all of Okotoks puts on a garage sale, making it garage sale nirvana. If you have any articles, objects, treasures, or knick knacks you would like to see "go to a better place", then ARGRA would like to help. (Please, no clothes or large furniture.)

There are 2 options to donate your items: Option 1) come to the Calgary Eagle on Saturday May 15 at 5 pm and ARGRA will be there with our trucks and trailer to collect from you and store until the garage sale; Option 2) bring your sales items at 8 am on Sunday May 23, to the location listed above (actual address is 144 Crescent Road West for those who want to Google Map it), and ARGRA will be happy to sell your items for, or with you – we'd love to see you. Those items that are not sold will be donated to the Okotoks Salvation Army. Come out and spend a fun Sunday in the sunshine with ARGRA.

Invitation by ARGRA President, Greg Holsworth

Got Sponsors?

Do you know someone who would like to partner with ARGRA for the 2010 CRIR Rodeo???

Send all their contact information to:
Sponsorship@argra.org
 or
 direct them to our website at:
www.argra.org

July 1st to July 4th, 2010



Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo

Let Us Entertain You !

The Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo July 1-4 promises to be full of fun, entertainment and Wild West action. New this year is the Bud Light Stage on the Midway of the rodeo grounds. Beginning Thursday July 1st every evening between 5pm and 7pm the Bud Light Stage will showcase singers, performers, and karaoke.

Thursday night will kick off the weekend with the hysterically funny and talented celebrity impersonator Joanna. Joanna is called the Gal with a Gazillion Voices and sings in his own voice over 30 celebrity impressions from Patsy Cline, Celine Dion, Liza Minnelli and even Johnny Cash. All the song parodies are hilarious and original. A dance will follow Joanna and later Thursday night will be the July 1st Canada Day fireworks which will be visible from the Rodeo Grounds.

Friday night will be headline act Steve Arsenault and his band. Steve was so popular last year at the Sunday night dance that we had numerous requests to bring him back. He is very excited to play for the CRIR again this year and guarantees lots of great entertainment and energy.

Saturday night includes the fantastic Bud Light Barn Burner Dance and dinner with a surprise act. The Saturday dance is historically the busiest and highest energy dance of the weekend and always draws a record number of people and will be featuring Dynamic DJ Rob.

Sunday night will include Joanna – celebrity impersonator, Awards Ceremony, and Happy Trails Dance featuring Rooster in a Hen House Band and Dynamic DJ Rob.

There will be lots to see and do each day to participate in the western atmosphere on the Midway. The Art Show and Silent Auction will be bigger and better than ever, and the retailers are moving out onto the Midway next to the food vendors. The GayCalgary Olde Tyme Country Carnival will be back with non-profit groups entertaining you with fun games of chance and skill. This is an excellent opportunity for Alberta GLBT groups to raise money to support their organizations and also to interact and promote themselves to the weekend crowd.

The weekend (beginning Thursday July 1) will be packed with things to see and do and of course the main attraction is the Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo on July 3 and July 4.

It promises to be a great 4 days of entertainment, parties, dances, and rodeo.

Purchase your 3 day package before May 31 to get the discounted rate and remember that you are getting 4 days for the price of a 3 day package.

Judy Munson
ARGRA Communications Director

Dear Jason

1) I want to come to the rodeo this year but not sure about where to stay?

Now that is a great question! Now that we are in Strathmore we have had the Travelodge join our family of sponsors and they have offered anyone staying with them over the rodeo weekend 15% off if you mention ARGRA. One of the reasons our rodeo is so unique is that we are able to offer everyone the opportunity to camp right at the rodeo grounds. You can park everything from a 2 person tent right up to the biggest RV you can think of! If you go to our website (www.argra.org) you can book your campsite and every thing will be taken care of!

2) Why is the rodeo 4 days this year when it never has been before?

This year we are lucky to have Canada Day land on Thursday...and we all know that the Canadian Rockies International Rodeo is such a good party..who wouldn't want to add one more day in there? We are really lucky in the sense that Strathmore puts on quite a fireworks display for Canada Day and we can see it from the grounds...so....why not throw in some live entertainment and then a dance afterwards to celebrate! If you purchase a 3 day pass Thursday's festivities are included at no extra cost!

3) I have never rodeo'd before but I have sat in the stands for years and always wanted to try....how can I try it?

This is the first year that ARGRA has ever had a rodeo school before the actual rodeo. So not only can you try out some events before the rodeo...but then you can actual enter the rodeo and compete on Saturday and Sunday! By the end of the weekend you will be wanting more! Rodeo School is being headed up by our Vice-President Rob S. and will have more about it in his report. Come and play in the dirt with us!

4) How do I become a part of ARGRA? There are so many ways to be a part of ARGRA, but I should warn you it can be addicting! I started just as the guy that answered the Hotline, and don't think that the title of "hotline coordinator" didn't get a few laughs! Some of us started just by helping out at the dances, or the rodeo itself, and as you hang out with these people that love the rodeo as much as you do, you really build up some great friendships. You can email me directly and membership@argra.org or volunteer@argra.org. I have been contacted by some great people that will be volunteering for the first time this year with us, we are going to have a great time, why not join us in the fun?



It's a GO!

ARGRA is holding its first...

Rodeo School!

Friday July 2, 2010 at the Strathmore Ag Society Rodeo Grounds



Great for the very beginner...

...and a refresher for those who have done it before!

If you have ever wanted to learn how all those cowboys and cowgirls do those events, come try them out! Our very first rodeo school is geared for the very beginner that has never competed before. Come learn all about:

- **Calf Roping on Foot (Roping 101)**
- **Steer Decorating**
- **Chute Dogging**
- **Steer Riding**

This is a great way to learn – it's a stress free environment, you will be instructed by experienced cowboys and cowgirls, and you can practice your event more than once (time permitting). It's also a great refresher for those that have entered before to get warmed up, practice with the stock, and maybe learn a new technique or two! *Go online to the ARGRA website at www.ARGRA.org and follow the link to the Rodeo School Enrolment Form.*

The deadline for Rodeo School enrolment is June 20, 2010. Space is limited, so enroll early! Late entries received after Monday June 20, 2010 might be accepted, based on space availability and if approved by the facilitator.

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Rodeo School Schedule:

Friday July 2, 2010

Registration and Orientation meeting place: Strathmore Ag Society Rodeo Grounds behind the chutes.

Registration 9:00AM – 9:30AM

ALL STUDENTS must come *between* 9:00AM and 9:30AM to registration. You will check in, and sign a liability waiver.

Orientation 9:30AM – 10:00AM

ALL STUDENTS - Meet at the chutes at 9:30AM SHARP! We will be watching the IGRA Health and safety video, answering questions and getting you oriented. Once Orientation is complete, you are free to come learn your event at the following times:

Calf Roping on Foot	10:00AM – 11:00AM
Steer Decorating	11:00AM - 12:00PM
Chute Dogging	12:00PM - 1:00PM
Steer Riding	1:00PM - 2:00PM

A light lunch (sandwiches and soft drinks) for students will be served around 12:00PM... ..for FREE!

Each event is \$25.00 CDN per person. The online form uses PayPal and all major credit cards are accepted. It's a great deal – like we have said before, there is expert instruction, it's relaxed and unhurried, and you can try your event as many times as time permits!

ARGRA will have some equipment for you to use (size permitting)! Check the ARGRA website for more information as to what to bring as a minimum. You need very little to get going!

With your newly learned rodeo skills, you as a rookie cowboy/cowgirl can still register and enter the Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo (CRIR) Friday night! This is your chance – become a real rodeo competitor! (Keep in mind that enrolling in the Rodeo School is separate from registering to compete in the Bud Light CRIR.)

Come on and give Rodeo School a go – the only thing you will regret is if you don't try! Go to www.ARGRA.org and sign up today!

Questions? Contact Rob at VicePresident@ARGRA.org

CARNIVAL

July 1- 4, 2010

The Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association would like to invite not for profit organizations to participate in our upcoming rodeo!

We are inviting all not for profit organizations to host carnival/mid-way games to raise money for your groups while supporting our great event. We will not charge anything for your organization to participate, we simply request your games be priced at a loonie or twoonie and that your people pay to enter the grounds as any other guest.

Everyone will feel the value with carnival games, great food, beer gardens and retail tent!

Contact Rob at: vicepresident@argra.org

ARGRA.org
ALBERTA ROCKIES GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

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

Bud Light CRIR 2010 Rodeo Team Challenge!!

OPEN TO: • GROUPS • BUSINESSES • BARS • INDIVIDUALS

• ANYONE WHO WANTS TO PUT A TEAM TOGETHER

• TEAMS MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 4 PARTICIPANTS, AND A TEAM SHIRT

• PRIZES FOR TEAM PARTICIPATION AND SPORTSMANSHIP



Great advertising for a Team Sponsor!!

Check out the ARGRA website at www.argra.org to get the DETAILS and SIGN UP!

Good Luck and Have Fun!

- Forms available on ARGRA website at www.argra.org just print it off, fill it out, and bring it to Contestant Registration.
- Submit form at table located at Contestant Registration - Friday July 2, 2010; they will be accepted until 9:00PM - close of registration.
- Must have a minimum of 4 people
- Every team member MUST participate in at least ONE event and enter BOTH Saturday July 3rd and Sunday July 4th, 2010
- Every team MUST have a team shirt – see “About Team Shirts” below
- All IGRA 2010 Rodeo Rules apply

Teams will be announced and paraded in on Saturday July 3rd during Grand Entry. Member's names and team name will be announced randomly though out competition during Saturday and Sunday (*great advertising if a business sponsors your team!*)

About Team Shirts:

Team shirts are an important way to identify you with your “team”. Here are a few tips:

- Team shirts are to be long sleeved (the only hard and fast western rule!)
- Shirts can have any markings you like: Team name, a sponsor name, nick name, city, and graphics – use your imagination! Just keep in mind it's a family show.
- Can be the same both days or can have two different ones for Saturday and Sunday
- It can be as simple as, for example, purchasing a long sleeved shirt from a department store and using iron-ons all the way to purchasing a western shirt and having it embroidered!!
- If you want to go all out, be sure to check out our western store; **Prairie Saddlery in Strathmore.**

Dress Code during Grand Entry

Grand Entry is your time to shine! You will be announced and paraded though the arena for all to see! As part of the rodeo tradition, you will wear your team shirt and are expected to also have long pants, a western hat, and boots. Check out the 2010 IGRA Rule Book for exact rules.

How Teams will be evaluated:

Number of people on the team (1 point per person)
 Number of events entered (1 point per event)
 Team Shirt (1 to 20 points – subjective to judges call)
 BONUS POINTS - Team Spirit / Sportsmanship (0 to 20 points – subjective to judge's call).

Team with the most points at the end of the weekend, evaluated by our judges, *wins!*

Questions?

Check out the ARGRA website at www.argra.org or send an email to vicepresident@ARGRA.org

GET YER RED HOT TICKETS!!!

Now's the time to get your package for the 2010 Bud Light Canadian Rockies International Rodeo (CRIR) July 1-4. Don't miss out on the discounted price, purchase before May 31, 2010.

Remember if you want the cheapest tickets...sign up for your 2010-2011 ARGRA membership...then order your ticket package.

You will actually get 4 days of fantastic entertainment, dances, parties and rodeo for the price of a 3 day package. It all begins July 1st (Thursday).

Your own special campsite can also be booked. All campsites will be booked through Strathmore Ag Society but camping form can only be accessed on the ARGRA website.

Go to www.argra.org and get your membership, weekend package and campsite. Now that's one stop shopping !! See ya at the rodeo.

Judy Munson
 ARGRA Communications Director

MINI-RODEO-DANCE

SATURDAY MAY 29, 2010



*2 BOOZE BASKETS
WILL BE RAFFLED OFF!

*FIND THE MAGIC
BUDLIGHT BEER...
WIN A FREE 3 DAY RODEO
PACKAGE TO THE CRIR

Compete in
Mini-Rodeo
Events!

Buy Your Rodeo Packages at Early Bird Prices
& Sign Up to Volunteer!

Hillhurst-Sunnyside Community hall, 1320 5th Ave. N.W.,
Calgary, Alberta Doors open at 8PM.
New Admission Prices Members \$6 - Non Members \$10

ARGRAculture is produced 4 times a year(Spring / Summer / Fall / Winter) 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.

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Calling all Retailers!

2010 CRIR
July 1st to July 4th, 2010
Strathmore AG grounds

Join the 2nd largest Rodeo Association in North America for a full weekend to sell your stuff!! Send contact information to retail@arga.org



There's no Bull about it!