

The CGRA Round-Up

President's Letter

Nine Months Later...

Hello Country Folk,

I know you're thinking What the Hell..... It's been 9 months since we did this. Back in January CGRA decided to just do a quarterly newsletter and like all good things, once you go changing something that's working it all falls apart. Well it damn sure did. I hope you'll forgive me for dropping the ball on

damn lie. It's not really the running of the day to day operations of CGRA but more like continuing to strive and reach new goals and successes that honestly kick my ass. (See some things haven't changed. I'll leave that word and see if they catch it. LOL) I look at our financials on a month to month basis and they tell it all.

The camaraderie has returned. Colorado Rides with Pride. It's all there.

this one but I'm here to say WE are back on track. I will get with y'all once a month in this fashion and I believe that John Hill, your new public relations director, is planning to send you out a news letter once a month too. At least I hope he is. As I sit here tonight I'm not really sure just where to begin other than to tell you that just when you think that after three years, of being your President, you would think that things are sure to get easier. Well..... Lend me your ear. Cuz that's a

You guys and (is it girls or gals) are so amazing. We are in a much better stance today than we have been in quite some time. Along with that is the feeling of having FUN again. The camaraderie has returned. Colorado Rides with Pride. It's all there. You have to be honest with yourself and realize we are going in the right direction. Oh it ain't like it's been all bread and butter. We've had our ups and yes our downs but

VP Update



Thank you to everyone that came out to RMRR 31 and helped us put on a fantastic Rodeo. To all of the volunteers, officials, contestants, sponsors, and visitors, thank you! We couldn't have done it without all of your help!!

The current CGRA Royalty Team has been hard at work representing CGRA and raising money for their charity partners. If you see them out and about, please wish them well as they get ready to compete for the 2014 IGRA Royalty Team. They will be competing in Ft. Worth during the World Gay Rodeo Finals. They have done a great job here in CO and I know they will do well at Finals!

Congratulations also go out to the two contestants who have qualified to run for the 2014 CGRA Royalty Team. Competing for the title of Mr. CGRA 2014 is Andrew Johnson, and for the title of Miss CGRA 2014 is Stephanie Paul. Make sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, December 7, 2013, for the CGRA Royalty Competition and Night of Sharing. Also, make sure to mark your calendars for Friday, December 6, 2013, for the CGRA Past Royalty Show. More details will be coming out soon, please watch out for upcoming emails!

Rich Valdez, CGRA Vice President

damn this is good. I've been (pause..... If I say Getting around lately will they take it the right way) out and about here lately and the respect that CGRA has from other associations is absolutely astonishing. I hope that you all can appreciate that and it makes me very proud to be a part of this Family.

As we continue our strive to reach new successes I would love to have each and every one of you involved in the decision making process, moving forward. At our next meeting, October 11, we will be starting the process of selecting our 2014 Charity Partners. There's already talk about should they be called Charity Partners or just Our Charities? How many is enough? How many is too many? Get involved and

IGRA World Gay Rodeo Finals

CGRA Represents!

Invitation letters were sent out in September after the Best Buck in the Bay Rodeo to all IGRA contestants that earned enough points to qualify for finals, and CGRA had 18 members on the list, with 14 automatically receiving invitations and another 3 that were listed as alternates. We sure are proud of all of you and your

help us do the right thing. I will open nominations at this meeting and then at the November 08th meeting nominated Charities/Charity Partners will be able to address the General Membership with information about themselves and their needs. I do hope that you will take a minute and think about areas of our community that really could use our assistance. We are a very strong and proud organization with respect in the community and we want that to continue. I know you have probably seen the signs and the Facebook postings but have you really let the numbers sink in. We, the Colorado Gay Rodeo Association, have contributed over A Quarter of A Million Dollars to our community in the past 11 years. It is what we do!

competitive spirit. Here's the full list:

John Beck; Travis Bradford; Betina Buckingham; Jeffrey Curtis; Stef Curtis; Justin Dennis; Char Duran; Des Grownwald; Christina Lee; Ashlee Lytle; Chris Moore; Melody Parker; Luke Robinson; Lori Ruckle; CD Slusser; Jason Taylor; Robert

WE have 19 of our members who qualified for World Gay Rodeo Finals in Ft. Worth. That's 19 contestants who are in the top 20 competitors, of their event, in the Nation and Canada. Good Luck to each of you who make the trip. I know you will represent CGRA well. Best of Luck also to our three Royalty Members as they go on to compete for the titles of M/M/M IGRA 2014. You all have been amazing and I know you too will make us proud. I look forward to seeing each of you soon and I promise to keep you posted on what's going on with my monthly Presidents Letter. I know you've missed me. I just know it. Til next month...

Let's Ride,
Robert Thurtell
CGRA President

Thurtell; Alisha Wallace;
George Williamson

Special mention goes to CGRA President Robert Thurtell, who was invited to three events and was an alternate for a fourth. Good luck to all of our members who will be competing!

YOUR Newsletter

Let Us Know What You Want To See!

As Robert mentioned on page one, this is our first newsletter in a few months. We want to know what you'd like to see in this newsletter, so please feel free to let me know when you see me at CGRA events, or send an email to CGRAJohn@gmail.com with any feedback you might have. Stay tuned for a more rodeo-appropriate layout and more content from your Board of Directors!

John Hill

CGRA PR Chair

In Memory Of

On September 18th, CGRA lost one of its own as Stephen Grimes passed away.

Although he had struggled with health issues for the past few years, he was extremely dedicated to CGRA, qualifying as a Royalty Candidate for Mr. CGRA in both 2013 and 2014. His spirit and desire to give back to our community will not be forgotten, and we are all better people for knowing him.

A Celebration of Life will be

held for Stephen at Charlie's Denver on November 3rd from 4PM to 8PM. Please come out and help his family and friends celebrate a life well lived.

In addition, we would also like to recognize the passing of Empress XXX of the ICRME Greta B Quick (Brett Bush) who was a former CGRA Rodeo Director and Board Member. Empress 28 Veronica St Andrews will be hosting a Celebration of Life show on Friday, November 22nd in

Greta's honor at Charlie's Denver. Doors will be at 7:00 PM and the show will begin at 8:00PM

Finally, prayers and good wishes stay with Miss CGRA 2013 Pauline Chavez, who lost her mom on September 26th. Pauline held a get-together with friends at Charlie's on September 29th to honor her mother's memory.

The CGRA Round-Up is a newsletter designed to keep the members of the Colorado Gay Rodeo Association informed about news and events important to those participants and supporters of gay rodeo in Colorado and around North America.

John Hill

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