



# DIAMOND STATE LARIAT



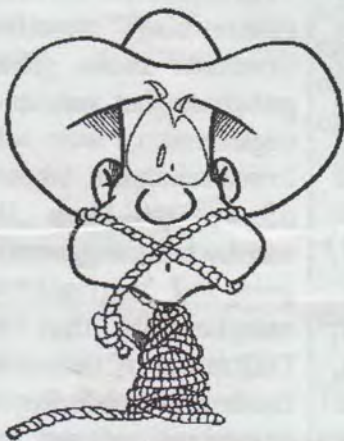
P.O. Box 56503 Little Rock, AR 72215

Diamond State Rodeo Association

May, 2003

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May - 23 - 25 OKC Rodeo  
 May - 31 Volunteer Night 4pm Eat at 5pm  
 Jun - 6 Spades Night & Potluck 6:30  
 Jun - 7 AIDS Walk  
 Jun - 14 Dollar Reunion  
 Jun - 20 Lariat Deadline  
 Jun - 20 Board Meeting  
 Jun - 20 General Membership meeting  
 Jun - 28 Bear Leather Pride



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Howdy Cowboys and Cowgirls,

We have another very successful Rodeo behind us, and if you were t at this years Rodeo in the Rock, you missed a good one.

Even though this years Rodeo is over, we will continue to do what we do best, and that is to promote the Country and Western lifestyle, while raising monies for local charities and having fun also. Sherry P this years Rodeo Director and her committee did a heck of a job when you see them give them a pat on the back because they truly deserve it.

There are some fun things coming up at the clubhouse in the next couple of months not to mention all that is going on around town. June 7th will be the AIDS WALK, which will be at Murry Park by the River. The walk will start at 8am and is a two-mile walk. After the walk there will be Food, Fun, Games, and Entertainment. Come out and Dunk a Queen or Dunk a Dyke. All the proceeds will go to the Aides Walk.

June 23rd starts the beginning of Gay Pride Week. I encourage all DSRA Members to take pride and get involved in pride week. On Friday, June 20th at the Factory a Mr. and Miss Gay Pride will be chosen and will reign over all of the weeks activities. Also the Mr. and Miss in the next year will be helping the Non-profit organizations to raise money.

Anyone can run for these titles, Male or Female it doesn't matter. If a female would like to do king drag than run for Mr. Gay Pride. I encourage the Female members to get involved along with all our other members. Sherry and I along with John from DSRA met with a coalition of other groups this past Sunday at the Factory. The outcome of this meeting is to get the community involved, to let everyone know that we are proud of who we are. We are working with the bars and other non-profit organizations to help promote GAY Pride in Arkansas.

On June 6th at the Clubhouse there will be a Potluck at 6pm followed by spades night. On the 7th Lou and Jody will be sponsoring a Silver Dollar Reunion Night, on June 28th there will be a Bear/Leather Pride Boots and Boxer night at the clubhouse. In July Julie and Sherry will be hosting a Summer Luau and we will also have a Toga Party so keep those calendars handy. The web site is subject to change so keep up to date with the activities by going to "<http://www.dsra.org>"

I would like to take this time to say Thank You to all of the



say Thank You to all of the Members of DSRA, Friends, and Individuals, and Businesses who supported DSRA for Rodeo in the Rock, Thank You so much for making our Rodeo a big success.

For those of you who were not at the Aides Walk Benefit it was a huge success and for the second year in a row DSRA is a Major Sponsor of the Aides Walk and we owe it all to You, Our Supporters, THANK YOU.

Sherry and I just came back from Tulsa, we helped them with a fundraiser for Finals, over \$600 Dollars was raised. Don't forget your DSRA Membership Renewal is July 1st we have not been having a good turn out for the membership meeting and I would like to see that change. We only meet the third Friday of every month at the clubhouse at 9pm. In June, we will be accepting nominations for Office on the Board, and we will be changing some of the standing rules for DSRA and the Royalty so I encourage

you to be at the next meeting. I have said this many times and I will continue to say it you are a member of DSRA and your say does count.

THANK YOU,  
JULIE B.  
PRESIDENT DSRA



### Vice Presidents Report:

Dear members and friends of DSRA, I would like to discuss an issue that I think many of us think about from time to time, but rarely discuss as a group. The issue is about what DSRA is. As we all know, there is a stated purpose that we try to keep central in our mission. That is to "Promote the country/western lifestyle and to give to our community". But I also believe that DSRA is many things to many people. To some, we are a chance to be

involved in putting on a great rodeo. Others feel that our atmosphere is a welcome change from the "club" scene. Still others are attracted to the fact that we raise money and give back to our community. I feel all these aspects, and many more too numerous to list, are good and valid reasons. But I think the key reason why DSRA is still around after all these years is that we are all-inclusive. I would invite anyone to go through the list of events that we have had at the clubhouse over the last few years, and I defy you to come away not thinking that we have tried to reach out to just about every aspect of our community. There have been so many aspects of our community to grace our doors. We have had events in just the last year that featured: Lesbians, Gay men, Drag queens, Leathermen, Bears, Cowboys and cowgirls, Aids fundraisers, Animal lovers fundraisers, Birthday parties, Holiday dinner parties and the list goes on and on. All at the same time, keeping true to being a part of our community. Some

try to lump DSRA into the "Bar Scene". That is one thing that we are not. We are a community organization. Our board is made up of our community. DSRA has no ownership other than its members. DSRA is absolutely what its members make it. As the longtime members can tell you, there was once a dark time in DSRA history when it appeared that DSRA might end. Without going into details, it involved dissention between the male and female members of our organization. That dissention ended up causing hurt feelings and the departure of some very hard working community members from our ranks. Thank goodness that we, as an organization, were able to realize that it takes all of us to keep this worthwhile organization going. I applaud the membership that led DSRA out of those dark times and made us the organization we are today (with a membership list that spans most aspects of our community). Every month the DSRA has an Executive board / membership meeting. It is at these meeting that we plan the coming events for our

*Just Fun.* Do you sleep on your stomach? No...? Can I ???





organization. I am asking every member, regardless of how you identify yourself in our community, to come to those meeting and possibly sponsor an event at the clubhouse. As with ALL volunteer organizations, it is so easy to become apathetic and let others take the lead. When we do that, we run the risk of two things happening: 1) We run the risk of the leadership becoming burned out, and 2) We forfeit our chance to have events at the clubhouse that we would like to go to and be apart of. I challenge each and every member who has had things like: "There's too many men's parties there" or "There's not anything there that I would want to go to"; to come out to the meetings, organize an event, and help shape your organization into something that you are proud of. Maybe you can't make the meetings, please feel free to call a board member (numbers are listed in every Lariat) or email the website, and say, "I'd like to host an event!" Only through diversification, can we stay strong as an organization.

One a final note, election for new officers is three months away. The

organization is now accepting nominations for all Board officers. If you, or a member you know is interested in running, please contact Roy at (501) 888-6237, or email the website at DSRAAR@aol.com.

Thank You,  
Michael Ashley (Vice President)



**Stress Management:**

Picture yourself near a stream. Birds are singing in the crisp, cool mountain air. Nothing can bother you here. No one knows this secret place.

You are in total seclusion from that place called the world.

The soothing sound of a gentle waterfall fills the air with a cascade of serenity. The water is so clear, you can easily make out the face of the person whose head you are holding under the water.

There now..... Are you feeling better?



Howdy ya'll  
Whew, rodeo in the rock is over, but very successful thanks to all the contestants, volunteers, visiting and local royalty, IGRA, everyone that came out to support, and of course our director, sherry Phillips. Good job!

If you missed last Saturday's "walk for aides" benefit show, you probably missed one of the best of this year. Thanks to all of our performers; Roy Diaz, Rita Rodgers, Sherry Phillips, Julie Brown, lady champagne, Diva Dennery, Nancy Dupree, Heaven lee, Billie lee, Brianna Briens and Shasha Breeze. Thanks guy and girls for a great show! We raised over four hundred dollars!

Yeah!  
DSRA was proud to present a check for fifteen hundred dollars to positive living during the show. I just love DSRA!

I want to personally say thank you to Roy Diaz and Michael Ashley for helping create a beautiful stage!  
If anyone is thinking of running for a 2004 royalty position, please contact Julie, Cody or myself, Elizabeth, so we can start prepping you. I hope to see allot of contestants this year.

Well I had better close, gotta cook supper!?!?!?!?!?!?  
Love, peace and rodeo, Miss DSRA 2003, Elizabeth T.



DSRA now has an easier to remember URL for its webpage:

<http://www.dsra.org>



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# THE FACTORY

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
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The next Lariat deadline is June 20th. If you are interested in submitting an article for publication, please contact Mike at 666-3706  [MIKE4DSRA@aol.com](mailto:MIKE4DSRA@aol.com) FAX 661-1427 (Call first)



DIAMOND STATE RODEO ASSOCIATION 2002-2003 BOARD OF DIRECTORS		
President	Julie Brown	261-1130
Vice President	Michael Ashley	888-6237
Secretary	Lou Rushing	888-3663
Treasurer	James S.	312-9035
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Events Chair	Harold M	
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Clubhouse Manager	John Crouse	942-6033
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Is your household receiving two Lariats?  
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names on your mailing list:

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