



Lariat

Oct. 2011

www.dsra.org

From our President - Steve Thomas



I was taught through example at an early age of the importance of volunteering. I remember watching my mom taking disabled/disadvantaged children to the doctor. She would pick them up, drive them, and even pay for their doctor's visits, prescriptions. She would volunteer at church functions and always volunteered at the polls at local and state elections. My dad volunteered his time serving on the school board and the hospital board, and other civic organizations.

My first volunteer experience was with Easter Seals when I was 18. I remember always getting excited on those days I went into their office. Since then, I have volunteered with many organizations and have felt a wonderful sense of achievement. The benefits I have received have been countless.

Volunteers do make a difference. It is a great way to connect with your community. Giving consideration to others, often cannot help themselves. I have always encouraged friends to "Volunteer in an area that touches your heart". When you volunteer, it speaks volumes about your commitment, dedication and your good heart.

DSRA offers its members the opportunity to volunteer. You can volunteer your time. You can volunteer your talents. You can volunteer your knowledge. Becoming a member of the DSRA opens the door for your volunteering to begin. Becoming an active, participating, contributing member benefits the organization and you. Raising money for our charities benefits our community.

Steve Thomas
President



DSRA MISSION STATEMENT



The Diamond State Rodeo Association (DSRA) is a not-for-profit organization whose purpose is to promote the country and western lifestyle within the gay community.

DSRA has a proud history of fund-raising for charitable organizations within our community. All members are volunteers who share our time and abilities to further this cause.

All Money raised by the DSRA goes to local charities.

DSRA is an all-inclusive organization that recognizes all lifestyles and genders. We welcome anyone to become a member and to participate in our community efforts!

The DSRA is one of twenty-eight members of the IGRA (International Gay Rodeo Association). The IGRA serves to foster the sport of rodeo amongst other country and western activities. IGRA along with its fellow member organizations such as DSRA donate thousands of dollars each year to charities.

OCTOBER 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
30	31					1
Ian B 2	3	4	Lou R 5	6	World Gay Rodeo Fort Worth 7	World Gay Rodeo Fort Worth 8
World Gay Rodeo Fort Worth 9	10	11	12	13	Beer Slinging 14	Beer Slinging 15
Beer Slinging 16	Beer Slinging 17	Beer Slinging 18	Beer Slinging 19	KT Beer Slinging 20	Beer Slinging 21	Beer Slinging 22
Beer Slinging 23	24	25	26	27	28	Hearts & Hooves Hoe Down 29

November 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 DSRA at Triniti. 11pm
6	7	8	9	10	11 IGRA Convention San Diego	12 IGRA Convention San Diego
13 IGRA Convention San Diego	14	15 Larry Rhodes	16 Bill Rucker	17	18	19
20 Membership Meeting	21	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28	29	30			



Calendar of Events

October:

- 2- Ian B (Birthday)
- 5- Lou R (Birthday)
- 7-9 - World Gay Rodeo, Fort Worth, TX
- 20 - KT Honorary MsTer 1st Runner up
- 14 - 23 - State Fair Beer Slinging
- 29 - Hearts and Hooves Hoe Down

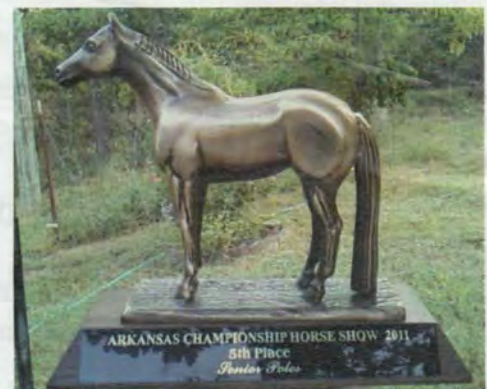
November:

- 5- DSRA at Triniti. 11pm
- 11 - 13 - IGRA Convention, San Diego
- 15 - Larry Rhodes
- 16 - Bill Rucker
- 20 - Membership Meeting
- 24 - Thanksgiving

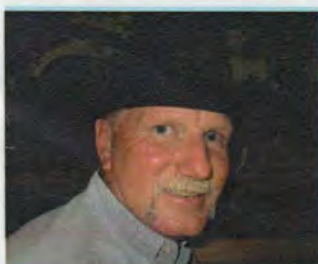
DSRA Board

- President - Steve Thomas
- Vice President - Sandy Bidwell
- Secretary - Jarrod Montgomery
- Treasurer - Gary Williams
- Membership Chair - Allan Cox
- Rodeo Director - Lisa Smith
- Public Relations - Sandy Sarlo
- Social Director - Sandy Bidwell
- Trustee - Jacky Green

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Hats Off to Jody C of the East End Lorraine riding club. Jody with her horse Deli competed in the Arkansas State Championship Horse Show at the State Fairgrounds and placed Fifth (out of 58 contestants) in the Pole Bending event on Labor Day weekend. Jody competes from April – August of each year and the Top 5 in 12 Divisions are invited to the State show. After only one rodeo on the IGRA circuit, Jody is an alternate in Finals this year but will not attend. Next stop is the World Quarter Horse Show in November. Again, congratulations Jody and Deli!



October Member of the Month - Wesley Givens

Wes Givens was born in Canton, Ohio, he is a graduate of East Canton High School and Ohio State University. Wes was a member of DSRA in the 80's and early 90's. He won his first buckle in Wild Drag' in 1999. Wes moved back to Ohio in 2002 to care for his Mother. While in Ohio he owned and operated Open Gate Farm Rescue and has helped over 3000 dogs, cats, horses, and donkeys find homes. Wes became a member of DSRA in the fall of 2010 and now helps with a grooming and boarding kennel. He and his partner Beau spend their extra time rebuilding a house and mini farm in Plumerville. On February 13, 2006, Wes purchased a Mega lottery for his Mother and a scratch off ticket for Beau. Both were winning tickets, Beau's was \$2.00 and His Mother's was 250,000, Beau

says with his last breath to Wes he is going to say.... Lottery.....

Sandy B's Bits and Pieces

I try to remember that the picture of this animal is a big part of what we are all about, but sometimes the main point of any organization is muted by all that goes on around us. Let us remember, DSRA is for charity and personalities should merge, not clash.



There, now that that is over, let us get on with what has happened and more importantly, what is going to be happening in the future for all of us to enjoy, become involved in and to help with....

Competition is over and we now have new DSRA Royalty..and DSRA is pleased to introduce:

Mr DSRA 2012-2013, Nathan James,
Miss DSRA 2012-2013, Christie Lynn and
MsTer DSRA 2012-2013, Justin Case (Sandy Sarlo).

I, for one, am looking forward to a wonderful next two years and with our Royalty Team working together, the best Rodeo ever in 2013. Their very first endeavor will be at Pulse on November 5th at 11pm. Sure hope to see everyone there to root our new group on to Greatness.

In the same breath, DSRA says goodbye to our past Royalty as they stepped down the night of Competition, sprinkled with our gratitude to the work they did to make Rodeo in the Rock 2011 one of the best in years for our Charity: Hearts and Hooves.

Miss DSRA 2010-2011: Cassandra Manchester and Mr DSRA 2010-2011, Mr Jerry Lum, say their goodbyes to their realm of Royalty for DSRA and wish the new Royalty a prosperous reign in the future.



Part of the crowd that went to the after party - after the Competition. The new Royalty, went home exhausted.

On to the future of DSRA now....What is on the schedule for us.....

There are many of us going to Ft Worth and the World Gay Finals at Watts Arena. Our candidate for President, Beau Boone, our new Miss DSRA and MsTer DSRA, the Vice Pres (me), candidate for Rodeo Director (Lisa), and DSRA Sect, (Jarrod), new member, Nikki W, President, (Steve) and Membership Chair (Allen), Evan, Nick, and Melissa are all planning on going...and sure hoping to watch Reuben and Wolf compete.

Beer Slinging: 14 - 23 October at the State Fair... We are REALLY needing help with some more volunteers for this. We have done such a good job before that the powers to be have asked us to man, a tent at each concert (4 times, 5 people each) as well as the Wild West Show and the PBR...2 beer booths, 2 mixed drink booths.. twice, And the real beer booth every day. Whhhhoouooooe. So please, contact Lisa to volunteer today, now...lisahbstan@AOL.com or call her...501-231-8379.

November 5th...Our very first outing for the Royalty is at Pulse at 11pm. They have other performers but it's your chance to go and introduce yourselves to our new future fun time people. They have Rodeo on their mind so watch out for lots of fun in the future.

Convention is coming, new Officers in IGRA, New Royalty, new rules, changed rodeo events... If you really want to know rodeo, you need to come and watch the behind the scenes rule making. November 10-13 in San Diego, CA.

December 10th: The new Miss and MsTer are working on a Christmas Party for ya'll... You will be hearing a lot more about soon.

There are a lot of things being held in storage since the closing of the clubhouse...The Board of Directors has decided to sell off what we won't be using any longer and save the storage costs. We believe it should be offered to our members first before opening it to public sale. I will be publishing a list of inventory as soon as we get it solidified, so if you know of anything we don't need for rodeo and you would like it....be prepared for sale.

The **SHOW-ME-STATE Rodeo** in Kansas City, Missouri over the Labor Day Weekend was a success and entirely FUN. Our intentions were to learn something new, volunteer for a little while, reunite with old friends, meet new friends, visit the bars, and Root for R&R (Rueben and Reno). Rueben did his best and brought home a ribbon or two. Reno got "crunched" very near his "you know whats" by a mean ole bull on Saturday so retired on Sunday. However, both cowboys will qualify for World Gay Rodeo Finals!

Visiting the bars is the hardest thing to do on the rodeo circuit – it seems. Whether you are young or "older," it is tough getting back to the room, changing, and heading out at bedtime (ha). Not much has changed in Kansas City but better than The Rock. SandyB had a tough job working security in the contestant area. She met at least 16 gay men who like to take their shirts off, spill beer in her crotch, and continue other things at the bar. Nothing like meeting new folks to add to your fb list of rodeo friends.



Speaking of friends, Cowboy Frank and his partner Tom graced the rodeo. As usual Frank shot many photos of many boys and girls. Tom welcomed everyone each day with a smile. Beau reunited with some OLD friends from way back when and SandyS caught up on Kimberly Kay's Nightly activities. Most friends mean well even when they give a massage. SandyB's new found friend, Arnando from KC, gave her a work out and she couldn't move for three days. Thanks KC buddies! Jarrod and Nikki (our newest member) got broken in on Friday night working registration. Jarrod was busy juggling Liberty Galore's hair, make-up and lips at her station. Nikki and SandyB got to welcome each competitor with their very own number and badge, while SandyS worked closely with

K. Kay, and Beau just grinned as each cowboy passed by his station. As Alternate Trustee, Lisa attended one meeting and missed one meeting. When Saturday and Sunday rolled around, we volunteered ALL day long (what would MGRA have done without us?). Beau and Lisa worked Arena Crew, SandyB, Jarrod and Nikki on Security and SandyS was in her glory as the Assistant Rodeo Announcer. Sarlo did very well too.

What did we learn? SandyS now realizes how much is involved in a rodeo, rodeo events, arena and chute crew, officials, what Kimberly Kay means to IGRA. On Day 2, SandyB knows how to make the Rodeo Director smile and laugh while Jarrod and Nikki blend in the stands avoiding the Volunteer Coordinator. Beau and Lisa learned how to read event diagrams, bend poles, and how NOT to block the view of banners. Seriously, there is something new to learn at each rodeo. Lisa



One last thing - Nominations are in for the new President, Treasurer and Rodeo Director so get ready to vote at the November General Membership Meeting for them..If you need an absentee ballot, contact Jarrod Montgomery at Hard_howitz@yahoo.com



Leather-N-Fur

DSRA Clubhouse

October 20 8pm

Best Furry Chest and Buns
Contest

Flogging Demonstration

Men Only

Watch for further information