



G.S.G.R.A.



GREATER LOS ANGELES



BAY AREA



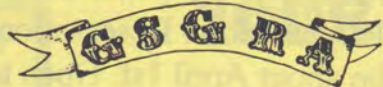
GREATER SAN DIEGO



CAPITAL CROSSROADS



THE
OFFICIAL
MEMBERSHIP
NEWSLETTER
OF



January 1998

Join us on



July 4th 1998



For a

bang-the drum

wave-the-flag

red-white-and-blue

concert at:



THE HOLLYWOOD BOWL

Last years pre-concert pot luck picnic is still being talked about so we are going to do the same again this year only bigger and better. Cost will be about \$10.00 per person and as soon as we know who the feature artist is going to be we will let you know. Reservations are required and the cut of will be about April 1st. Open to members and guests.

Mark your calendars and watch for more information here in *The Chute*

The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association

4226 East 15th Street
Long Beach, Ca 90804
(619)293-0666
gsgra@aol.com

<http://users.aol.com/gsgra/rodeo.html>
or <http://member.aol.com/gsgra/rodeo.html>



LOCAL CHAPTERS

Greater L. A.

8033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 41
Los Angeles, Ca 90046
(562)498-1675
larodeo@earthlink.net

<http://home.earthlink.net/~larodeo/rodeo.html>

Bay Area

P.O.Box 14398
San Francisco, Ca 94114
(415)561-9228

<http://users.aol.com/gsgra/bac.html>

Greater San Diego

3768 30th Street
San Diego, Ca 92104
(619)298-4708
gsgra san@aol.com

Capital Crossroads

P.O.Box 189305
Sacramento, Ca 95818
(916)451-9439

<http://www.geocities.com/westhollywood/4909/>

The International Gay Rodeo Association

900 East Colfax
Denver, Co 80218
(303)832-IGRA
igra@igra.com

<http://www.igra.com.html>

The Chute
The Official Newsletter of
The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association

January
1998

Published Monthly by
The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association
.....
Newsletter CoChairs
Ruth Hilderbrandt rodeomama@aol.com
and Joseph Olney rodeobrit@aol.com



8033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 41 LA 90046 (562) 498-1675
larodeo@earthlink.net
<http://home.earthlink.net/~larodeo/rodeo.html>



LANews

GREATER LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

Volunteer coordinator sought for pride season

It's hard to believe, but the summerlong pride season is right around the corner. The chapter always tries to put on an impressive display during the Long Beach and Los Angeles pride festivals, and we're seeking a volunteer who's interested in coordinating those efforts. The coordinator will likely concentrate on the L.A. parade, since our Long Beach entry (flags on foot) is fairly easy to pull off. Additionally, the coordinator may work with CSW's planning committee as they put together the L.A. pride event during the coming months. Interested? Call David Medzerian at (562) 436-1810.

Thanks to everyone for a successful party

The Events and Membership chairs wish to thank everyone involved in the Holiday Party. A few special thank-yous: To Thom Brennan, who opened his home up to us and donated the Christmas tree; to Brad Duerre, for having the invitations made; to Lise Joyce, who arranged the food (at quite a savings to us) from her Vons store; and finally to all of the chapter members and guests who came and made it such a memorable event.

Submissions to the GLAC newsletter are always welcome; submissions are subject to editing for space or content, and must be submitted by the 15th of each month. ■ The GSGRA-L.A. logo, "L.A. Rodeo" logo, rodeo poster, newsletter and web site are Copyright 1997, 1998 GSGRA-L.A. Any use without prior permission is a violation of federal copyright law.

Chapter meeting schedule for 1998 to be approved

The schedule of 1998 chapter meetings will get final approval at the Jan. 10 meeting. Now that the holidays are behind us, try to make these important monthly meetings — there's plenty of work to be done (and fun to be had, too).

The tentative meeting schedule:

Jan. 10: Los Angeles	July 4: Burbank
Feb. 14: Long Beach	Aug. 8: Long Beach
March 14: Los Angeles	Sept. 12: Los Angeles
April 4: Long Beach	Oct. 10: Long Beach
May 2: Los Angeles	Nov. 7: Los Angeles
June 13: Long Beach*	Dec. 5: Long Beach
(* with elections)	All meetings 10 a.m.

Short takes: Election Jan. 10, Phoenix rodeo just days away

The special election for chapter secretary will be at the Jan. 10 meeting. Nominees must accept nomination in person or in writing beforehand ... The Road Runner Regional Rodeo is Jan. 16-18, but AGRA members are taking time to come to L.A. and talk up the event. On Jan. 3-4, stop by the Rawhide in North Hollywood to say hello to AGRA's John King and friends, and find out all the details about the great Phoenix rodeo!

CALENDAR

JANUARY

- Saturday, Jan. 10, **CHAPTER MEETING** at the Center, 1625 N. Schrader Blvd., L.A.
10 a.m.
- Sunday, Jan. 11, **RODEO COMMITTEE** meeting at Scott Hilderbrandt and Jeff Graham's, on East Broadway across from the Brit ("the Pink Palace"), Long Beach
2 p.m.
- Jan. 16-18 Road Runner Regional Rodeo, Phoenix
- Monday, Jan. 19 David Medzerian's Undies Monday's Party and GSGRA/AGRA Fund-raiser at Charlie's, Phoenix
- Sunday, Jan. 25, **RODEO COMMITTEE** meeting at Paul Thompson's, 4903 Laurel Grove Ave., Valley Village. Call (818) 760-6633 for directions.
2 p.m.

FEBRUARY

- Saturday, Feb. 7 GSGRA State Board meeting, San Diego
- Sunday, Feb. 8, **RODEO COMMITTEE** meeting, site TBA
2 p.m.
- Saturday, Feb. 14, **CHAPTER MEETING** at the Center, 2017 E. Fourth St., Long Beach
10 a.m.

MARCH

- Sunday, March 1, **RODEO COMMITTEE** meeting, site TBA
2 p.m.
- March 6-8 Big Horn Rodeo, Las Vegas
- Saturday, March 14, **CHAPTER MEETING** at the Center, 1625 N. Schrader Blvd., L.A.
10 a.m.
- Sunday, March 15, **RODEO COMMITTEE** meeting at the Hansen Dam Equestrian Center
2 p.m.
- March 20-22 Saguaro Regional Rodeo, Tucson
- Sunday, March 29, **RODEO COMMITTEE** meeting, site TBA
2 p.m.



DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT
David Medzerian
(562) 436-1810
davidm@link.freedom.com

VICE PRESIDENTS
Administration
Joe Olney (562) 498-3488
RodeoBrit@aol.com

Rodeo operations
Michael DeYonker
(818) 366-3643
mikedd@pacificnet.net

SECRETARY
vacant

Assistant
Lenore Mankoff

TREASURER
Nils Peterson (562) 435-2511

STATE BOARD
Representatives
Michael DeYonker
Amy Griffin (213) 661-2569
Guy Johnson (818) 989-1403

Alternates
Kevin Weeks
Thom Brennan

COMMITTEES
By-laws
Michael DeYonker
Marie Stadler

Education
Rod Vilencia, David Smith

Events
Sue Downing
Connie Risch

Membership
Ruth Hilderbrandt
Kevin Weeks

Newsletter
David Medzerian

AD HOC COMMITTEES
Properties Steve Creber
Records D.J. Simmons
Tax Thom Brennan

CAPITAL CROSSROADS CHAPTER - SACRAMENTO VOLUME XIII

JANUARY 1998
916-451-9439

HOTLINE:

C. C. NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S CORNER *Mark Marshall*

I hope that the Holidays found you in good spirits, with good friends and seeing your wishes come true! The *Capital Crossroads Chapter* wishes all of you a wonderful and prosperous NEW YEAR!

With the New Year, we are ushering any many *changes for the chapter*. Changes that are part of our growth as a chapter as we approach the completion of our second year in May. The biggest change will be in the monthly meetings. These will be Rodeo Committee Meetings, dedicated to rodeo, its planning, and activities for the members. Chris Bent, Vice-President of Rodeo Operations, will chair this. **NEXT RODEO MEETING IS THURSDAY, JANUARY 22 AT 7:30 PM.**

As approved at the December meeting, the **Chapter Meeting**, which deals with administrative issues (that necessary evil), **will be held on a quarterly basis**. Details will be attended by the executive board, which will meet each month - all are welcome. What we have heard is that members don't really want to hear about the "B. S.". Hopefully this change in meetings and their time will encourage you all to attend!! In addition, the quarterly meetings will include some time for guest speakers. Our first guests will be addressing fund raising and promotion. Those invited are Jeffrey, Mr. Gay Sacramento, and the editors of Outward and Mom Guess What. See the calendar below for those future dates. **The next CHAPTER MEETING IS SUNDAY, JANUARY 11 AT 5:00 AT JOSEPH'S (upstairs).**

A few other changes have occurred. **Brian Koeber** tendered his resignation as Chapter Secretary, effective on the appointment of a new secretary by the Executive Board. I personally want to thank Brian for all of his contributions as one of the original seven members, to this chapter. The good news is that Brian has made known his intentions to stay involved and supportive of the chapter, evening though his commitments to his partner and work need his attention at this point. I am also changing the membership chair to CJ (Cary Jasgur) to be assisted by one of our newest members, **Mitch Baeskow**. For those who weren't at the December meeting, **Mitch, Lin Daugherty**, and several others had some very constructive criticism and ideas for the chapter. I intend to call on them and many of you to meet the challenge. Also a **BIG thank you to Matt** who did a wonderful job on the "tents" to advertise the chapter that you may have seen at Joseph's. It is ideas like this that will assure us success. Thanks Matt!

By this time we will have had our **Country Christmas Cabaret** at Joseph's as our December fundraiser. I will report more on this, but want to give a note of appreciation to our performers: **David, Bud, Lady Maverick, Paula, Kelly, Steve, and Sammy.**

Thank you for giving of your time and talent. We still need your ideas on fundraisers so we can meet our goals for the chapter and our upcoming rodeo. Please call me or Nena Bradeen (now Kinney). If you forgot, members **Nena and Annie Kinney** were hitched on December 31 to begin the New Year out right! Congratulations!!

CALENDAR

JANUARY 11 —Chapter meeting at 5:030----chapter meeting at the NEW Joseph's, 1454 Del Paso Blvd. (at Arden and Del Paso) Sacramento, CA (916)-922-8899 for directions.

JANUARY 16-18 - Roadrunner Regional Rodeo PHOENIX CALL 602-265-0618 FOR INFORMATION

JANUARY 22 - General Rodeo Meeting on the events and different volunteer areas and information gathering on the rodeo for 1998. NEW Joseph's, 1454 Del Paso Blvd.

FEBRUARY 14 - CAPITAL CROSSROADS VALENTINE PARTY - CALL NENA KINNEY FOR DETAILS AND INFORMATION ON HOW TO HELP. 916-622-2756

FEBRUARY 19 - General Rodeo Meeting

MARCH - 6-8 - Bighorn Rodeo LAS VEGAS - CALL 702-593-3193 FOR INFORMATION.

MARCH 19 - General Rodeo Meeting.

APRIL - Chapter meeting to be set at January Chapter meeting (tentative April 7)

* * * * *
* *Celebrating Togetherness* *
* * * * *
* The last couple of months marked first year anniversaries for *
* two L.A. couples. Chute Boss *Sue Downing* and her honey, *
* *Connie Risch* in November and *Jeff Graham* and *Scott* *
* *Hilderbrandt* in December. Better known as Mutt & Jeff to *
* their friends, Jeff is LA's Ticket Sales Manager and Scott is Co- *
* Entertainment Chair. Our congratulations to both couples. *
* ***** *
* Would you like us to acknowledge your anniversary or that of a *
* friend? Get the information to your Chapter Newsletter Chair or *
* contact State Co-Chairs, Ruth Hilderbrandt or Joe Olney at *The* *
* *Chute.* *
* * * * *

THE GOLDEN STATE GAY

RODEO ASSOCIATION

A Member Association of the International Gay Rodeo Association

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership records are strictly confidential. G.S.G.R.A. is an organization of men and women. Ownership of a horse is not required to be a member. Membership fees are for one year from the date of receipt. Family memberships are available to any two persons residing at the same address. Members must be at least 18 years of age. Some G.S.G.R.A. events are held in locations with age restrictions that would exclude members under the age of 21.

Individual.....\$40.00 Family.....\$75.00

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

PRIMARY MEMBER		CHAPTER AFFILIATION
NAME		Please check the chapter with which you would like to be affiliated. Members that do not indicate a preference will be considered to have selected Member at Large.
ADDRESS		
CITY		
STATE/ZIP		
BIRTHDAY	/ / <small>Year Optional</small>	
PHONE #		
All new members receive an engraved G.S.G.R.A. name badge. Please print here the way you would like us to engrave yours.		<input type="checkbox"/> GREATER L.A.
DATE		<input type="checkbox"/> BAY AREA
SIGNATURE		<input type="checkbox"/> GREATER SAN DIEGO
FAMILY MEMBER		<input type="checkbox"/> CENTRAL SIERRA
NAME		<input type="checkbox"/> CAPITOL CROSSROADS
All new members receive an engraved G.S.G.R.A. name badge. Please print here the way you would like us to engrave yours.		<input type="checkbox"/> MEMBER AT LARGE
BIRTHDAY	/ / <small>Year Optional</small>	
DATE		
SIGNATURE		

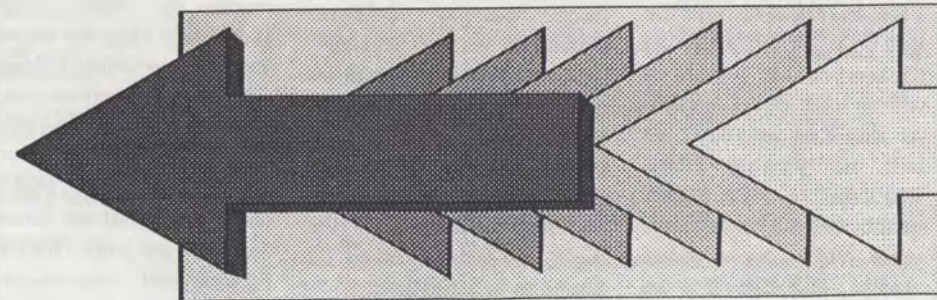
MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO::

G.S.G.R.A. Membership Committee
 4226 East 15th Street
 Long Beach, Ca 90804

*Mama
 Membership
 says.....
 Make a New
 Years
 Resolution*



**Invite
 a friend
 to join
 the
 GSGRA Team**





Greater San Diego Chapter

LIFELINE

3768 30th Street
San Diego, CA 92104

Rodeo Hotline: (619) 298-4708

Fax: (619) 298-4709

gsgra san@aol.com

www.gaywired.com/gayrodeo.htm

10TH ANNIVERSARY RODEO

Dates and event locations have been determined for the 1998 10th anniversary San Diego Rodeo.

Thur Oct 1 - Sun Oct 4 1998

Note: This is a departure from our normal weekend. After listening to suggestions that our attendees have given us, we have decided to hold our event this year at the **Del Mar Fairgrounds** and the **Mission Valley Marriott San Diego**. Need more info? Call our Rodeo Hotline at (619) 298-4708. Extension 1.

RODEO PLAYDAY

YES! It is the return of the RODEO PLAYDAY at Kickers! This month, it will be held on Fri Jan 9th. At this first playday, we will be having FREE BEER/SODA for GSGRA members (you must have your valid membership card!) The festivities are

SPECIAL ELECTION NOTICE

Bill Chapman has announced his resignation as VP Rodeo Operations effective 7 January 1998 due to his relocation to Los Angeles County. Accordingly, a special election will be held at General Membership Meeting, 4 February 1998 to fill the position of Vice-President of Rodeo Operations. Nominations for the office will be taken from the floor at January's meeting and again at February's meeting prior to the election. If you are interested in being nominated for this position, please contact Nancy Novak at (619)298-4708.

from 7pm to 10:30pm. Donations will be accepted. Non rodeo members will be offered discounted beer and soda, proceeds of which will go to the chapter. Charles Bowling is hard at work planning the events for the night - be sure to join us, its bound to be a fun time!

THANK YOU!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all that helped with the move to the new office: Paul & Don, Jeff, Bill, James & Bud, Robert, Dan & Charles, Rick, and Terry. If I forgot anyone, I apologize. The new office looks great! Be sure to come by for a meeting and take a gander!

SUPERBOWL PARTY

Hi! Charles Bowling here, the chair for Events & Activities. On Sun Jan 25, two hours before Kickoff, there will be a Superbowl Party at Jim and David's place [(619) 280-3595]. BYOB, and bring one party snack to share with everyone! Also, for future planning, we will be having a Valentines party on Fri, Feb 13th 8pm - ?, more info to be announced later. If you would like to host a party, please let me know and I will put you on the list for this year!

GREATER SAN DIEGO CHAPTER - JAN 1998

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
				1 Happy New Year!	2	3
4	5	6	7 Board Mtg 6pm General Mem. 7pm	8	9 Rodeo Playday @ Kickers 7-10:30pm	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21 Rodeo Roundtable 7pm	22	23	24
25 Superbowl Party@Jims 2hr before Kickoff	26	27	28	29	30	31

Dates for February 1998

Wed, Feb 4 - Board / General Membership Mtg / Elections
 Fri, Feb 6 - Rodeo Playday @ Kickers Sat Feb 7 - State Board Mtg
 Fri, Feb 13 - Valentines Day Party Wed, Feb 18 - Rodeo Roundtable Mtg

CHAPTER DIRECTORY

GSDC RODEO HOTLINE/VOICE MAIL: (619) 298-4708 FAX: (619) 298-4709

Email: gsgra San@aol.com Web Page: www.gaywired.com/gayrodeo.htm

Bill Chapman	x2242						
Bud Young	x2968	Asst Rodeo Director		Nancy Novak	x6668	Asst Volunteers	Chapter President /
Charles Bowling	x2263	Events + Activities /				1st Alt State Rep	Community Outreach
		Asst Fundraising				Volunteers	Asst Donations
Clay Wright	x2974	Donations/Tickets/		Neil Holmes	x6465	Set Design	
		Asst Pride 98		Paul Fox	x7369	Secretary/State Rep /	Membership/Vendors
David Spence	x3773	Publicity				Volunteers	
Del Castillo	x3227	Finance		Rick Hensley	x7436	Hospitality	
Don Sparks	x3772			Rick Washburn	x7927	State Rep	
Don Teeter	x3833	State Rep / Vendors /		Ric Wenzel	x7936	Merchandise	
		Office Manager		Robert Kojima	x7565	Exec VP Admin /	
Jay Wilpolt	x5945	Asst. Volunteers				Pride 98 / Newsletter/	
James Miera	x5643	Asst. Publicity				Entertainment /	
Jeff Jones	x5566	Systems Support				Hoedown + Sound	
Jim Warrick	x5927	Chapter Treasurer		Robert McNeese	x7626	Archives / Asst	
Jonathan Herndon	x5437	Asst Security				Membership	
Johnathan Hewett	x5439	Program		Terry Bernston	x8237	Asst. Hotel	
Ken Valdez	x5825	Hotel					
Keith Cooper	x5266	2nd Alt State Rep					
Lance Sharp	x5742	Asst. Hospitality					
Mark Chruch	x6248	Security/Asst. Bylaws					
		Fundraising / Asst.					
		Entertainment					
Marshall Klein	x6554	Pride 98 /					
		Membership					
Michael Talyor	x6829	State Rep / Tickets /					
		Bylaws / Education /					

All positions in *Italics* indicates Rodeo Roundtable Position
 All positions in normal indicates Chapter, or Dual Position.

Many Positions Still Available! Interested? Contact:
 Nancy Novak (619) 462-5078

BAY AREA CHAPTER



Words from the BAC President...

How do I love you, let me count the ways. Well, I guess those words are taken already, but they fit the mood that I'm in after our first major fund raiser for the season. The Snowflakes and Spurs Holiday Ball was a grand success! It will serve as a great spring board for our chapter as we head into the new year and tackle the many challenges ahead. The love part came in as I looked at this event and realized just how many great people we have on board this year! I feel honored to be working with the best folks in our community. Your pride and desire to share country with the community was very evident last night during the prep, pomp and post party activities. We're onto something great here. Thanks for letting me be a part of it.
Doug.



AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS! AUDITIONS!

The entertainment team for the 1998 BAC rodeo is requesting audition tapes (audio or video) from all prospective entertainers. Due to limited slots, you must submit your tapes by February 1st, 1998. Submit your audition tape to Marie Kirby, our Entertainment Coordinator. If you have further questions, please contact Marie by phone at (650) 328-4143 or email Marie at mariek@amhsys.alliance4.org. Tapes should be mailed to:

Marie Kirby
c/o GSGRA-BAC
P.O. Box 14398
San Francisco, CA. 94114

Chapter Meetings & Rodeo Rountables

Meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m.
January 15th - Chapter/Rountable - San Jose
February 19th - Chapter/Rountable - South City

San Jose Location:
San Jose Airport Hyatt
1740 N. First St., San Jose

South City Location:
P&D Appliance
100 South Linden Ave., South San Francisco

7th Bay Area Regional Rodeo, June 5-7, 1998!

Up & Coming Events



Sweetheart's Ball - February 14th

Mark your calendars! The annual Sweetheart's Ball is going to be a special event this year. Our new entertainment coordinator, Marie Kirby, is planning a great event. Details will be revealed in the next Chute.

BINGO!

We're on our way! We've got our BINGO permit from San Jose P.D.'s Vice unit and we've got our business license. We'll be doing business as "Community BINGO". Our first BINGO game will be Wednesday, January 7th. We'll be holding the games every Wednesday from 7-9 p.m. Come join us for a great way to pick up your midweek and be sure to spread the word!

BINGO			
14	25	24	52 68
1	24	38	51 69
4	26	48	74
3	23	41	46 63
6	20	39	56 70



Horseback Riding

We have a lot of members who like to go out riding and we periodically arrange group outings around the Bay Area. If y'all are interested, call the hotline and let us know! We'll get back to you with the latest scheduled rides.

7th Bay Area Regional Rodeo June 5-7

We have successfully negotiated an unbelievable hotel rate for you rodeo fans. The Airport Hyatt, in San Jose, is once again our host hotel and the nightly room rate is an incredibly low **\$70.00 / Night!**

Volunteers! Volunteers! Volunteers!

- ⇒ We've already started our regular rodeo roundtable meetings to plan an extraordinary event this year. If you are interested in helping out in any capacity, call the rodeo hotline and let us know. There's plenty of fun stuff left to do and we can use all the help we can get!
- ⇒ The BINGO committee needs callers and floor people. If you like to be heard or can help out on the floor selling Cherry Bells, working the door or providing security, call the rodeo hotline or send email to the BINGO committee chairs, Mike Amoroso (mikeamor@ix.netcom.com) or Bill Gorman (billieg69@aol.com).

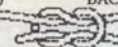
Back Shed



Well, it became very evident to this editor that the holiday season has gotten to darn hectic. When we can't keep track of our days and we show up for a party one full day too early, it's time to slow down and take stock. Thanks for being so gracious TJ & Terrylee. Peace and love to all this holiday season. Be careful, play safe and have a great new year!

BAC Contacts

President/Hotel Coord.: Doug Graff (immigra@aol.com)	Membership Coord.: Gregg Harvey (gharvey646@aol.com)
VP Administration: Gregg Harvey (gharvey646@aol.com)	Rodeo Event Director: Craig Rouse (ropinride@aol.com)
VP Rodeo Operations: Phil Colwell (phil995@aol.com)	Newsletter: Mike Amoroso (mikeamor@ix.netcom.com)
Secretary: David Polete (cowbytop@aol.com)	BAC Website: http://users.aol.com/gsgra/bac98.html
Treasurer: Bill Gorman (billieg69@aol.com)	BAC Hotline: (415) 561-9228



True Story... (We know it's true, we found it on *The Net!!!!*)

A man bought a brand new Grand Cherokee for 30-some thousand dollars with \$400+ lollar monthly payments. He immediately got hold of his friend and they went to do some nale bonding. They went duck hunting...and of course, all the lakes are frozen.

The two went to the lake with the guns, the dog, the beer and of course the new vehicle. They drove out onto the lake ice and got ready. Now, they wanted to make some kind of a natural landing area for the ducks, something for the decoys to float on. Remember, it's all ice and in order to make a hole large enough to look like something a wandering duck would want to fly down and land on, it is going to take a little more effort than an ice hole drill.

So, out of the new Grand Cherokee came the new owner, the friend, the dog, and a stick of dynamite with a short, 40-second fuse. Now these 2 Rocket Scientists did take into consideration that if they placed the stick of dynamite on the ice at a location far from where they are standing (by the new Grand Cherokee), they were taking the risk of slipping on the ice when they ran from the burning fuse and could possibly go up in smoke with the resulting blast. So, they decided to light this 40-second fuse and throw the dynamite, which is what they did.

Remember a couple of paragraphs back when I mentioned the vehicle, the beer, the guns AND THE DOG???? Yes, the dog...a highly trained Black Lab used for retrieving, especially things thrown by the owner.

You guessed it, Rover (who has really enjoyed this fun game before) took off at a high rate of doggy speed on the ice and got the stick of dynamite with the burning 40 second fuse just about the time it hit the ice, all to the woes of the 2 idiots yelling, stomping, waving arms and wondering what to do now.

The dog, who thought all the commotion was positive encouragement, was really thrilled, and headed back from where it came from moments before, with the stick of dynamite, only to the mounting woes of the 2 men who were now really waving their arms, yelling even louder and jumping higher than ever before.

Now one of the men decided to think (something that he had never done before this moment), and grabbed a shotgun and shot the dog. The shotgun was loaded with #8 duck shot, hardly big enough to stop a Black Lab on its appointed rounds. Dog stopped for a moment, slightly confused and then continued on. Another shot...this time the dog, still standing, became really confused (and scared, thinking these 2 Nobel Prize winners have gone insane) and took off to find cover, with the now REALLY short fuse burning on this stick of dynamite.

The only cover nearby? Underneath the brand new Grand Cherokee, 30-some thousand dollar, \$400+ monthly payment vehicle sitting on the lake ice.

BOOM!

The dog and the brand new, shiny, 30-some thousand dollar, \$400+ monthly payment, Grand Cherokee sank to the bottom of the lake, leaving the 2 men standing there with this "I can't believe this happened" look on their faces.

Later, the owner of the vehicle called his insurance company which told him that sinking a vehicle in a lake by illegal use of explosives is not covered.....

.....He had yet to make the first of those \$400+ a month payments.

A message from the 1997 royalty...

This item was inadvertently omitted from last month's newsletter (blame the trustee).

Well, the year is finally over for Nancy, Tina, Guy and Sammy, and what a wonderful year it was. With all of your help, we were able to raise over \$1,000 for the David Watkins Fund and, as a team, represented GSGRA by attending rodeos throughout the IGRA circuit, covering all the major pride events in California (not to mention the contests we judged and community events we attended). It was a busy and rewarding year for all of us.

For those of you who could not attend the 1998 Royalty competition on Nov. 1, you missed out on an evening of incredible dancing, entertainment and surprises.

The highlight of the night was the sashing of your royalty team for 1998: Mr. GSGRA Doug Graff of the Bay Area Chapter, Ms. GSGRA Neena Bradeen of the Capital Crossroads Chapter, and Miss GSGRA Alex Michaels of the Bay Area Chapter. They have already challenged the 1997 team and have said they are planning to top the amount we

raised for the David Watkins Fund. They are indeed a high-spirited team and we could not be more excited and proud of them all. As always: Congratulations; now get to work.

We also would like to congratulate Guy, who brought home another IGRA title to California. Guy is the new Second Runner-up to Mr. IGRA 1998. The competition was tough, and we are very proud of his strong representation for GSGRA. Guy looks forward to representing GSGRA on the 1998 Royalty team, and is excited about the coming year.

So, the torch has been passed, and we are in good hands.

In closing, we want to thank everyone who in their own special ways made our 1997 reign one that we will never forget. As Roy Rogers sang, "Happy trails to you — until we meet again."

Your 1997 GSGRA Royalty team

*Ms. GSGRA Nancy Novak
Miss GSGRA Tina Rhinestone
Mr. GSGRA Guy Johnson
and first runner-up Sammy Van Galder*



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MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Happy New Year