



THE
OFFICIAL
MEMBERSHIP
NEWSLETTER
OF



OCTOBER 1999



G.S.G.R.A.



GREATER LOS ANGELES



BAY AREA



GREATER SAN DIEGO



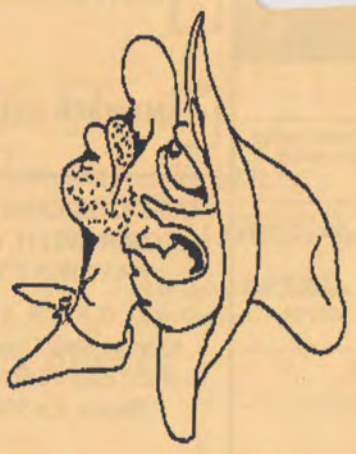
CAPITAL CROSSROADS

G.S.G.R.A. Membership Committee

4226 East 15th Street
Long Beach, Ca 90804

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

999912 XX 9012
MIGRA
3319 Greenfield Rd #264
Dearborn, MI 48120



I.G.R.A. Finals Rodeo
Little Rock, Arkansas
October 28 - 31 1999

48120-1212 35



The L.A. Rodeo and GSGRA present

An Outdoor Rodeo Playday

10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16,
at HANSEN DAM EQUESTRIAN CENTER
site of The L.A. Rodeo

Spend a day outdoors with your rodeo friends

Here's your chance to learn how to compete
in your favorite rodeo events, or gain some practice time!

Scheduled events include:

- **Barrel Race and Flag Race Horse** (bring your horse!)
- **"Calf" Roping on Foot** (we'll provide the ropes!)
- **"Goat" Dressing and "Steer" Decorating** (with livestock like you've never seen anywhere else!)

And the camp classic:

- **Martha Washington Race** (so put together your three-person team – no experience necessary!)

plus food, beverages and fun!

Admission is free for spectators!

Small fee to compete – discounts to GSGRA members

DIRECTIONS:

Take the 5 to the 118 East to the 210 East; exit Osborne and go left at the end of the exit ramp. Then stay to the right (no more left turns!). Turn right at Orcas. The Playday is in the Charro Arena at the end of the large dirt parking lot.

The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association

4226 East 15th Street
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The Chute
The Official Newsletter of
The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association

**October
1999**

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



GREATER LOS ANGELES CHAPTER

Important Chapter Meeting - Be There!

The decision with regards to whether Rodeo 16 will be held in April is about to be made.

The upcoming chapter meeting will assess the success of the recent fundraising efforts and determine whether we can proceed with next year's rodeo.

In order for us to produce our rodeo next year, we have to put together the \$7,000 positive bank balance required before the state will approve our budget and sanction our rodeo. Our chapter leadership will go over the results of our efforts and the

decision will be made at the meeting whether we will bid for approval of our rodeo plans for next April. The deadline for the decision is the state board meeting in Sacramento in November.

"This is a very important meeting," said Chapter President David Medzerian, "because I believe this is when we'll decide whether we can go ahead with the April 2000 rodeo." The meeting will be at 10 AM on Sunday, Oct. 10 at the Westin Long Beach Hotel, 333 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach.

Two More Big Beer Busts Scheduled This month

If you've been attending the beer bust fund raisers and are looking forward to more, you'll have twice the fun this month! Here are your last two chances to help save the rodeo and have a great time doing it. And of course, if you bring your friends, you'll have even more fun!

There are two beer busts currently remaining on the fund raiser schedule, and both are happening this month. The first will be on **Sunday afternoon, Oct. 3**, at

Pistons, 2020 Artesia Blvd, just east of Cherry Avenue, in Long Beach.

The other fund raiser beer bust is in the Valley and will be at the **Rawhide**, on **Friday, Oct. 8** during the regular beer bust hours. These beer busts are always great fun, and it's a great way to help the rodeo. So if you bring a friend or two, you can help spread the rodeo message, help save Rodeo 16, and have great fun all at the same time!

Outdoor Rodeo Playday Location Announced

Our long-anticipated Outdoor Playday plans have been finalized, and we've found a location.

We're going to have the fun at the Charro Arena at Hansen Dam Equestrian Center, 10 am to 3 pm on Saturday, Oct. 16.

Events will include: barrel race and flag race (bring your horse - first-timers welcome!); "calf" roping on foot (ropes will be provided); "goat" dressing and "steer" deco, with livestock like you've never seen before; and the Martha (cont. next page)

Submissions to the newsletter are welcome (subject to editing for space or content) by the 15th of each month. Email to newsletter@bidstrup.com or mail to Box 265, Perris, CA, 92572. All published materials, including the chapter logo, "LA Rodeo" logo and posters, newsletter, "LARODEO.COM" and website contents are Copyright © 1998 GSGRA-L.A., a California non-profit corporation. Any use without prior permission is a violation of copyright law.

Playday, cont.

Washington Race, so put together your three-person team for this camp classic. Food and beverages will be provided. Free for spectators and a small fee to compete (discount for GSGRA members). Everyone welcome!

The Outdoor Playday will provide a focal point on which we can focus our efforts on gaining new rodeo sponsors. Let's all get in touch with the potential corporate sponsors we know and invite them to join us at the playday as our guests.

Rent a Car, Help Your Chapter!

If you travel for business, or you're headed to a rodeo, you can help your chapter by your choice of rental car!

IGRA has a corporate sponsorship deal with Avis Rental Cars, and your chapter has arranged it so that if you do it right, you get a special discount on the car you're renting, and the chapter gets a part of the rental money!

To request your discount, give the Avis Worldwide Discount number T238312 to the Avis reservation sales agent and then make sure you get the discount when you pick up the car. This is good for any rental you make from Avis at any city anywhere, and besides getting you a good discount, it gets your chapter some money!

From the Editor's Desk... A Goodbye and Thanks!

It's with great sadness that I am announcing my recent decision to pack my hats, boots and rodeo pins and head for Phoenix. I've accepted a great employment offer there (so good that the decision to take the job was really a no-brainer), and so it is with great sadness that I'm forced to resign as your newsletter editor. This issue will be my last. If you're interested in picking up the duties of chapter newsletter editor, please give David Medzerian a call at 562 436-1810.

I've enjoyed my participation in the chapter organization immensely. And the memories of helping with the rodeo, working on the newsletter, participating in the activities, especially the trail rides and the beach bonfires, are memories I'll always cherish. The members of the L.A. chapter are really a terrific bunch of people, and I'm honored to count you among my friends. Thanks for the friendly welcome you've extended me. I'll always remember you.

My permanent email address is scott@bidstrup.com and I'll always look forward to hearing from my G.L.A.C. and G.S.G.R.A. friends. So next time you're going to be in Phoenix, drop me a line. I'd love to get together!

And Lessons Learned...

I think that what I have enjoyed the most about the chapter and what I've gotten out of it has been a result of my participation. You've heard me preach about it before, but I really believe that by being active, I've gotten *so much more* out of the GSGRA than I've put into it. It's resulted in my feeling much more a part of gay rodeo than I could ever have achieved by simply being a spectator. So take the time. Participate in the activities. There's so much more for you than just the rodeos.

--Scott Bidstrup

This editorial reflects only the opinion of the writer, and not that of IGRA, GSGRA or the GLAC. Signed letters to the editor in response to this editorial are welcome and will be printed if the writer wishes and space permits. Send them to P.O. Box 2407, Long Beach, CA 90801-2407 or by email to larodeo@larodeo.com.

CALENDAR

OCTOBER

- Oct 1-3 ATLANTIC STAMPEDE RODEO
Washington, DC
- Oct. 3 **BEERBUST**
Pistons
2020 Artesia Blvd., Long Beach
- Oct. 8 **BEERBUST**
Rawhide
10937 Burbank Blvd., N. Hollywood
- Oct. 10
10 AM
(Sunday) **CHAPTER MEETING**
Long Beach Westin Hotel
333 Ocean Blvd., Long Beach
- Oct. 16
10 AM **OUTDOOR RODEO PLAYDAY**
Charro Arena, Hansen Dam
Equestrian Center
- Oct 28-31 IGRA FINALS RODEO
Little Rock, AR

NOVEMBER

- Nov. 6
10 AM **CHAPTER BOARD MEETING**
Burbank Airport Hilton
2500 Hollywood Way
Burbank
- Nov. 12-14 TGRA RODEO
Austin, Texas
- Nov. 20 STATE BOARD MEETING
Sacramento, CA

DECEMBER

- Dec. 4
10 AM **CHAPTER MEETING**
Los Angeles (location TBA)
- Dec. 11 **CHAPTER HOLIDAYS PARTY**



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Mike DeYonker

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Sue Downing, Connie Risch

Membership

Ruth Hilderbrandt

Taxes

Thom Brennan

Records

D.J. Simmons

Webgirl

Mark Jensen

Newsletter

Position OPEN

Contact David Medzerian
if you are interested.

Dear GSGRA,
Since this will be the last *Chute* before Finals Rodeo 1999, I'd like to take a few minutes and thank you all for the tons of support my California Rodeo family has given me during my two terms as Rodeo Royalty.

The past two years have been a dream come true for me. Although I will step down as Mr. IGRA, I will always be Mr. IGRA 99 and Mr. GSGRA 98. I will hold dear the memories you helped me create and am looking forward to stashing away many more in the years to come. You have helped me find a place where I belong. A place where I am always welcomed with open arms...even in that crazy pink gown!

Thank you for giving me a place where I can be me.

Doug Graff

Mr. IGRA 1999

Mr. GSGRA 1998

but more importantly
GSGRA family member

From the desk of the AVP

When Gay Rodeo began many years ago by the Emperor of Reno, Phil Ragsdale, it was held as a fund raising event. Referring to that concept, the current Rodeo Royalty, as a team, acts as an ambassador to the community and other associations. Through fundraising and other community outreach programs, the Rodeo Royalty is an important part of our history and image. They represent gay rodeo and our country lifestyle in the community.

As the end of rodeo season is quickly approaching, this is a reminder to all

members that a new royalty team will be competing for the titles of **Mr., Ms., and Miss GSGRA 2000!** Who will they be? Who will carry on the spirit and dedication of the Golden State? It could be you...any of you.

The royalty contest this year will be held following the quarterly state board meeting in Sacramento, CA on November 20, 1999. Contest rules, applications and additional information are available from Admin. VP- Sammy Van Galder. Applications and all necessary letters confirming donations must be postmarked no later than **October 20, 1999.**

For those interested in running for a title, my best advice is to get started with your fund raising activities now. A little hard work will pay off with great rewards no matter what title you are competing to win. All contestants are winners in their own way. And, remember current titleholders have the opportunity to go on and compete for Mr/Ms/Miss IGRA 2001. Isn't that incentive enough?

Call now and get a contest packet. I look forward to presenting GSGRA with a new Rodeo Royalty Team for the year 2000!

Sammy Van Galder

PO Box 215472

Sacramento, CA 95821

916-737-7610

MrGSGRA99@aol.com

Do We Have Your E-mail Address?

Send us an e-mail at membership@gsgra.org include your real name and address and we will make sure your e-mail address is in our files so that we can keep you informed *electronically.*



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 Web Page: www.gaywired.com/gayrodeo.htm

SAN DIEGO RODEO 99

THANK YOU!

From the
Greater San Diego Chapter of the Golden State Gay Rodeo Assn.

to

ALL OF YOU

who made

RODEO 99
a truly wonderful event.

Whether you were here as a spectator, volunteer, contestant, vendor, official, coordinator or in whatever capacity, you helped to make this year's rodeo into one that was enjoyed by all.

Can't wait to see what you help us do next year!

CALENDAR

Dates for November 1999			Dates for October 1999		
Nov 2	TBA	Board Meeting	Oct 1-3		Atlantic Stampede Rodeo
Nov 3	7 PM	Annual Membership Mtg.	Oct 5	7 PM	Board Meeting
Nov 5	TBA	Chapter Dinner.	Oct 6	7 PM	General Membership Mtg.
Nov 20 & 21		State Board Mtg. Sacramento, CA.	Oct 28-31		13th Annual IGRA Finals Rodeo
Nov 17	7 PM	Rodeo Roundtable Mtg.			

Greater San Diego Chapter - October 1999

SIERRA STAMPEDE

Thanks to the Sierra Stampede for such a successful rodeo, These are the contestants that competed in Sacramento's first annual rodeo; Michelle Chagnon, Ron Call Dave Pickle Bonnie Boone, Charlie Cole, Kirk Carter and David Renier. Congratulation to Bonnie Boone for winning the Woman's Barrel Racing and Flag Racing buckles and the All Around Cowgirl buckle. Also congratulation to Charlie Cole for winning the Men's Barrel Racing buckle, Kirk Carter and David Renier for winning the Team Roping and Steer Deco buckles. Kirk took Second Runner up for the All Around Cowboy. David Renier also took home the Mounted Break-Away buckle and he was the All Around Cowboy.

Submitted by Kirk Carter

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Special tanks to everyone that was at KICKER's for the San Diego Rodeo KICK-OFF Party on Sept. 10. Thank you to Mike Dimwiddie & Ms. Sherrie for being fabulous MCs, to the KICKER's Cloggers, Mike Dimwiddie, DJ Mike, Paul & Ken and other special guest for all the great entertainment. Thank You to all the contestants who entered the Wrangler Butt Contest and to all six judges. A special thanks to Ron & Montana who won the contest & donated the money to the Rodeo Association. To everyone at KICKER's our thanks for making it a night to remember. Lots of fun!! and Busy. Thank you again everyone. Now let's Rodeo.

Submitted by Michelle Chagnon.

CHAPTER BY LAWS

The special meeting of the membership to vote on changes/amendments to the Chapter by-laws will be held at the Chapter's Annual meeting on November 3, 1999. If you have any by-law changes you would like to present, just put them in writing and submit them to the By-laws Committee chairperson, Dan Bradford.

Submitted by Dan Bradford

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Chapter Dinner will be held on November 5 at the Fiddler on the Green restaurant. More details to follow

The next State Board Mtg. will be Nov 20 in Sacramento. This will include a Royalty contest. If you have any issues that you would like presented, please submit them to one of our chapter State Board Reps. Also, if anyone would like to attend, maybe we can make it into some kind of road trip. Contact Dan Bradford if you might be interested.

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

The election of the RODEO 2000 Executive Board will also be held at the November 3 meeting. Any nominations should be given to the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Michael Taylor. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor that night. Don't forget that this election also includes voting on the recipient of the Ralph Martinez Member of the Year

DON'T FORGET!

The Rodeo office has moved.

We are now located at 3758 30th That is just three doors south of the old office location

BAY AREA CHAPTER



Words from the Pres!

Congratulations San Diego on a great rodeo. You certainly know how to throw a party and raise the bar for the rest of us. I certainly hope we're all up for the challenge.

Our chapter will decide at the October membership meeting here in the Bay Area if we want to host a rodeo in 2000. I have asked our event Director, Craig Rouse, to present several budget scenarios to the membership and we'll decide as a group. The newly elected executive board met in September as a small group and talked about where we thought the chapter needed to go. There was a fair amount of concern that we had simply become a Rodeo Production Team, not a Rodeo Association. We threw around some ideas to change that, which begged a question. That question was, can we be a Chapter that offers our members a sense of belonging, a sense of pride and a sense of fellowship with all of the requirements that come with hosting a rodeo?

We then took that same question to the Eat, Greet and Meet party at Ando's house in San Francisco. Many of the same concerns were aired there. We have a lot of momentum with our rodeo, but is it at the price of the fellowship that once existed and is yearned for by many of our members?

As chapter president, I am going to strive to host events that our membership will want to attend because there isn't an open hand waiting for them at the door. We have fun at bear busts and various shows, but there is always the task of fundraising waiting at the door. I'm very concerned, shocked, pissed-off, disheartened and sad that at our Annual Meeting in August, we had only 8 people present. Just over 10 % of our membership cared enough to show up and elect new officers, change by-laws and shape the future of our organization. Usually we are still riding so high on Post Rodeo Pride that this is one of the heaviest attended meetings.

What can I do to help change that. I think the answer lies partially with the executive board stepping up to the responsibility of leading this organization and partly in YOU, the members, voicing your opinions, committing to tasks and giving a damn about our future.

We will vote at our **October** membership meeting on the future of the Bay Area Rodeo. Please come and tell us how you feel. I know we all live busy lives and if your schedule truly does not permit you to attend, call me, email me, FAX me or tape a note to a pigeon and let me know how you feel about this issue. The only way to make an informed decision is to be informed.

Now on a happier note, it truly was exciting for me to see our new contestants competing in Sacramento and San Diego...and even more exciting to see the support all of our GSGRA competitors gave to these new kids! Thanks for remembering what it feels like to be new.

I'd also like to announce my Committee Chair appointments for the following year. Please note that there are some positions that are still available. If you are interested, please let me know. If you have suggestions for the work that these committees will do, please contact the Chair person directly.

Membership -- Gregg Harvey
Fundraising and Outreach--North Bay, San Francisco and East Bay -- Chad James
Fundraising and Outreach--South Bay -- STILL OPEN
Pride Events -- STILL OPEN
Education -- TJ Dietschak
Bylaws -- All State Board Reps, chaired by Brad Roberts
Communications -- Jabby Lowe



Finally, since this will be our last newsletter update before Finals Rodeo, I want to wish all of our competitors the best of luck in your events. Have fun, play hard and stay safe. We're cheering for you!

Yours in a rodeo way,
Doug Graff
President – BAC

Fun Things Coming Your Way



Sunday, October 31st – Sundance Saloon Halloween Blowout.
Listen for additional information coming soon to the **HOTLINE**
(415-561-9228).



Wednesday, November 3rd – Bay Area Chapter night out at the National Finals in the Cow Palace. We have 50 seats reserved on a first come first serve basis. Email Clint Johnson to stake your claim now! Keep abreast by calling the Hotline (415-561-9228) on a regular basis.

Also coming your way.....more dances/events at the 1220! Stay on top of this breaking news event by checking the Hotline (415-561-9228) for upcoming events.

And don't forget – Chapter Meeting – **THURSDAY – OCTOBER 21 – 7PM** – San Jose Hyatt

Thanks to...



TJ & TerryLee for once again hosting the annual (?) pool party splash day. Great job guys!

Ando for hosting the September Eat, Greet and Meet night. We had a super time!

If you missed either of the above events...well... we can't spread too many rumors...ya just had to be there.

Congratulations to...

Debbie Andrews	Bull Riding Buckle at Sacramento
Debbie Andrews	Bareback Bronc Riding Buckle at Sacramento
Debbie Andrews	Calf Roping on Foot – 3 rd Place at Sacramento
Marc Josef	Bareback Bronc Riding – 2 nd Place at Sacramento
Patrick Burke	Bull Riding – 2 nd Place at Chicago
Doug Graff	Chute Dogging Buckle at Chicago
Todd Grusing	Steer Deco – 4 th Place at Chicago
Rudy Olvera	Steer Deco – 4 th Place at Chicago
Doug Graff	Steer Deco – 7 th Place at Chicago
Doug Graff	Wild Drag Buckle at Chicago
Doug Graff	Steer Riding at Kansas City
Debbie Andrews	Bareback Bronc Riding – 2 nd Place at San Diego
Doug Graff	Steer Riding Buckle at San Diego
Doug Graff	Chute Dogging Buckle at San Diego



Special Congratulations to:

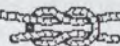
Phil Colwell for his first ribbon! Bareback Bronc Riding – 2nd on Sunday at San Diego

Chad James for his first ribbon! Chute Dogging – 2nd on Saturday at Sacramento

And let's not forget – Capital Crossroads Chapter for a GREAT Inaugural Rodeo – Super job y'all!

BAC Contacts

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Treasurer:	Gregg Harvey	Gharvey646@aol.com	Newsletter:	Jabby Lowe	(Jabbyd@aol.com)
BAC Website:	http://users.aol.com/gsgra/bac98.html		BAC Hotline:	(415) 561-9228	



What do you mean "It's not October yet!"



The Homosexual Agenda

6:00am Gym
 8:00am Breakfast (oatmeal, egg whites)
 9:00am Hair appointment
 10:00am Shopping
 12:00pm Brunch
 2:00pm Assume complete control of the US Federal, State and Local Governments, recruit youngsters to our lifestyle, break up healthy heterosexual marriages
 4:00pm Cocktails
 6:00pm Light Dinner (soup, salad, Chardonnay)
 8:00pm Theater
 11:00pm Bed

GO GET EM!

Mr. Vice President.

Ladies and Gentlemen, may I introduce you to the next MR. IGRA, our very own, Sammy Van Galder. Well, that's what I look forward to being able to say very soon. Sammy will be competing for the MR IGRA title at the Finals Rodeo. Good luck big boy, we will be thinking of you and you're already tops in our book.

DID YOU SEE JONATHON'S RIDE?

This is the question people will be asking down through the Ages. Years from now may be even decades hence,

folks will be sure to ask, will you be able to say yes?

The place was the San Diego Rodeo, the time was after the last event on Sunday, (truly this was the last event!). The event, Tracy Keiper's son Jonathan making his debut performance, steer riding.

We received the following and wanted to share it with you.

To all of our friends,

We wanted to thank all of you, for the wonderful things you did for Jonathan this weekend. The Girls that dressed him up like a real cowboy... Charlie and the boys that set him down and *EVERYONE* that stayed to cheer him on..

We can't tell you how touched we were that you all were there with us. It was amazing to see so many people in the stands and in the arena. What a wonderful group of friends you are.... We are truly blessed.

Thank you,
 Much Love,
 Tracy, Erin & Jonathan

RODEO CLASSIFIEDS

Got something you want advertised? An announcement? A wedding!!!>? Submit it for our, all new "Rodeo Classifieds Section" soon to appear on these pages. There's no charge, it's space available and we would love to hear from you.

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

Membership@gsgra.com



RE/MAX

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RICK HUNTER

(619) 260-0531

**MEMBER
BENEFIT:**

Card Carrying
G.S.G.R.A.

Members receive
a 10% Discount
on all goods and
services with the
exception of out
of town wire
orders.

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 #		
E-MAIL		
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.		
DATE		
SIGNATURE		
FAMILY MEMBER		<input type="checkbox"/> GREATER L.A. <input type="checkbox"/> BAY AREA <input type="checkbox"/> GREATER SAN DIEGO <input type="checkbox"/> CAPITOL CROSSROADS <input type="checkbox"/> MEMBER AT LARGE
NAME		MAIL THIS COMPLETED FORM WITH YOUR PAYMENT TO: G.S.G.R.A. Membership Committee 4226 East 15th St. Long Beach, Ca 90804
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.		
BIRTHDAY	/ / <small>Year Optional</small>	
E-MAIL		
DATE		
SIGNATURE		