

CALIFORNIA RODEOS

For the year 2000

Bay Area Rodeo - San Jose
June 16-18, 2000

L.A. Rodeo
Los Angeles
April 14-16, 2000



Sierra Stampede
Sacramento
Aug 18-20 2000

San Diego Rodeo
San Diego
September 21-24, 2000

The Chute

May 2000

The Official Newsletter
of G.S.G.R.A.

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

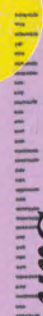
Address Correction Requested

MIGRA
3319 Greenfield Rd #264
Dearborn, MI 48120



Bay Area Rodeo - June 16-18, 2000

San Jose, California



481220

The French Flower Market

FLORIST & ANTIQUES

1439 University Avenue
San Diego, CA 92103

RICK HUNTER

(619) 260-0531

MEMBER BENEFIT:

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



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Before

You make
a move.....

Call
Me!!!

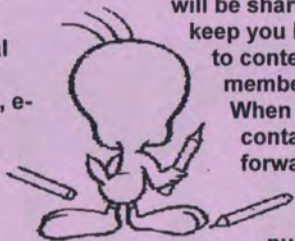


FREE One Year Home Warrantee for Members of G.S.G.R.A.

THE ISSUE OF PRIVACY

In the interests of protecting privacy, G.S.G.R.A. restricts access to member's personal information. Your name, address, telephone numbers, e-mail address, and any other personal data you may have given us will not be intentionally disclosed to other members or any entity outside G.S.G.R.A./I.G.R.A.

Access to membership data within our organization is restricted to State and Chapter Officers and Membership Chairs for use in managing the business of the



organization. If you are a registered contestant, changes in your personal data will be shared with I.G.R.A. in an effort to keep you informed of matters pertinent to contestants. We will not give other members information about you.

When we receive requests for contact information, we will forward messages or mail but we

will not disclose your address or telephone number(s). We will make every reasonable effort to protect your privacy, however, we cannot, and specifically do not guarantee anonymity to anyone.



THE BEST SHEET COMES FROM THE CHUTE

The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association

President: Craig A Rouse . 4226 East 15th Street
VP Admin: Sammy Van Galder . Long Beach, Ca 90804
VP Rodeo: Michael DeYonker . www.gsgra.org
Treasurer: Bill Chapmam . e-mail: gsgra@gsgra.org
Secretary: Clint Johnson . (619) 293-0666



9th ANNUAL BAY AREA
REGIONAL RODEO & WESTERN ROUNDUP
SANTA CLARA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS & SAN JOSE AIRPORT HYATT
JUNE 16, 17, & 18, 2000

\$79.00
SPECIAL "RODEO 2000 RATE"
SAN JOSE AIRPORT HYATT
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Cowboys & Cowgirls
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Pool parties & BBQ's: Friday & Saturday
Nightly parties: Friday, Saturday & Sunday
Vendors
Awards Ceremony and Show

OVER \$2,100.00 IN ADDED PRIZE MONEY FOR
ALL-AROUNDS & SELECTED EVENTS

Available now:
Vendor Packets, Contestant Packets, Sponsorship Packets, Program Packets & Entertainment Slots



Instinct
MAGAZINE

The Chute is the official newsletter of
The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association

Newsletter CoChairs

Ruth Hilderbrandt mamarodeo@aol.com
and Joseph Olney rodeobrit@aol.com

May
2000



Greater San Diego Chapter

3758 30th Street
San Diego, CA. 92104

UPCOMING EVENTS

HEAD FOR THE HILLS

Join the San Diego Chapter of GSGRA for a fun filled weekend of camping at the Second Chance Ranch, near Lake Henshaw in late July. All you need to have a great time is a tent, something to rest your body on and some grub to fill your stomach. There are plenty of things to do to fill your day, whether you choose to hike the trails, lounge by the pool, venture into the nearby town of Julian or dance the night away under the stars. The low cost of enjoying this spectacular setting is only \$15 per night per person. So what are you waiting for? Mark your calendar for the weekend of July 29th and call Jon Strmiska at (619) 298-4708, extension 5787 for further information or to request a reservation form.

MEMBERSHIP BBQ

If you ever thought about the possibility of becoming a member of the GSGRA-San Diego Chapter, or becoming a volunteer at our next rodeo, then now's the time to join us at the Rodeo Office located at 3758 30th St. on Saturday, June 10. From 12 noon until 4 o'clock, there will be an open house

and BBQ for any of you who are interested in finding out more about what we do and how we do it. For more information, contact James at mailbox 5432 or e-mail at jimgear@yahoo.com.

RODEO NOTES

The 16th annual L.A. Rodeo 2000 was held April 15th and 16th at the Hansen Dam Equestrian Center in Los Angeles County. The weather was much more cooperative this year and spared us from any rain. The following contestants competed from the San Diego Rodeo Chapter: Ted Caldwell, Ron Call, Kirk Carter, Randy Funderburk, Jason Hott, David Renier, and Ed Wallum. Congratulations to Randy Funderburk for winning the men's barrel racing and pole bending buckles. Randy also won the men's all-around speed event horse award and was 2nd runner-up in the men's all-around. Kirk Carter and David Renier won the wild drag race and team roping buckles. Kirk was the 1st runner-up in the men's all-around and David was 5th runner-up. Congratulations to the L.A. Rodeo Chapter for a successful rodeo weekend.

We would love to hear from you. If you would like to contact us, or get information on our organization, please do so at:

HOTLINE/ VOICE MAIL: (619) 298-4708

FAX: (619) 298-4709

E-MAIL: gsgrasan@aol.com

WEB PAGE: www.sandiegorodeo.com

RIDE INTO THE MILLENNIUM

Did you know?

The fourth San Diego Gay and Lesbian Rodeo was held on Sept. 24-26, 1993 at Del Mar Fairgrounds Equestrian Center.

The 1993 board members were:

President: Phil Baldwin
Executive

Vice Pres: Mikel Edwards

Treasurer: Ron Caldwell

Secretary: Harry Hoenscheidt
Rodeo Dir:

&

Vice Pres: Vince Coco

Arena Dir: Erin Eaton

Grand Marshal:
Ralph Martinez

CONTINUATION OF RODEO HISTORY

In November, Gay rodeo was firmly established in Texas with the staging of the First Annual Texas Gay rodeo a few miles outside Houston.

In December, the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA) leaped to life in Phoenix. Later, in September, the First Convention of IGRA was held in Denver with the four founding states in attendance. The Oklahoma Gay Rodeo Association (OGRA) was formally seated as the fifth member.

1986: Arizona's first and highly successful Gay rodeo took place in January at the El Lienzo Charro Rodeo Grounds in Phoenix.

In August, Oklahoma produced its first rodeo, ending the first circuit year on a highly successful note.

Three more Gay rodeo associations were seated at the Second Annual IGRA Convention in Denver: Kansas (KGRA), Missouri (MGRA) and New Mexico (NMGRA). The right to hold the first IGRA finals was awarded to California; they were held in Hayward in September

1987. IGRA's second president, Les Krambeal, took the oath of office at the conclusion of the convention.

1987: The feature felt most painfully this year was the glut of contestants. The IGRA officials quickly realized the problem and resolved to address it at the next convention. Another important event that year was the seating of the Silver State Gay Rodeo Association (SSGRA).

(continued next month)

A special thank you goes out to Olympic Café for supporting Rodeo 2000. Olympic Café is located at 2340 University Ave in San Diego, and can be reached at (619) 692-9082.

Let's support them for supporting us!

San Diego Chapter members

Please patronize these businesses and let them know that we appreciate the discounts they give our members and that we particularly appreciate their continued support of the GSGRA San Diego Rodeo.

We Met At





2820 Lytton St.
San Diego, CA 92110 (619) 226-9019
Web Address: www.theholesandiego.com




To all other GSGRA Chapter members, most of these businesses extend their discounts to any member with a current GSGRA membership card

2760 Shelter Island Dr.
Point Loma
San Diego, CA 92106
Tel (619) 222-2216
Fax (619) 222-5175

1451 Washington St.
San Diego, CA 92103
Ph (619) 296-8268
Fax (619) 296-4221



May 2000

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 General Mem.Mtg. 7pm	4	5 State Conv/ Beer Bust @ Kickers	6 State Conv/ Fund-raiser @ Kickers
7 State Conv/ Mexican Dinner @ D. Pickle's	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16 Rodeo Round-table 7pm	17	18	19	20 Long Beach Pride
21 Long Beach Pride	22	23	24	25	26	27 Okla. Rodeo
28 Okla. Rodeo	29	30	31			

GSGRA, Inc
Revenue vs Expenses
March 2000

Income	Interest Income	32.35
	Membership Income	2,777.00
	Merchandise Sale	24.00
	Total Income	2,833.35
Expense	General Administrative	511.37
	Membership	326.04
	Taxes	10.00
	Total Expense	847.41
Net Income		1,985.94

Balance Sheet As of March 31, 2000

ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
WFB - David Watkins Fund	1,270.85
WFB - General Operating	-106.76
WFB - Rodeo Sanction	16,714.53
WFB - Savings	7,592.10
Total Checking/Savings	25,470.72
Accounts Receivable	
Accounts Receivable	16,291.58
Total Accounts Receivable	16,291.58
Other Current Assets	
Prepaid Taxes	340.00
Total Other Current Assets	340.00
Total Current Assets	42,102.30
Other Assets	
Depreciable Assets	924.00
Total Other Assets	924.00
TOTAL ASSETS	43,026.30
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Bal Equity	43,893.70
Retained Earnings	-2,853.34
Net Income	1,985.94
Total Equity	43,026.30
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	43,026.30

GSGRA, Inc
Revenue vs Expenses and Budget Comparison
March 2000 through February 2001

	Mar 2000	Budget	Over Budget
Income			
Dance Contest	0.00	900.00	-900.00
DW Memorial Fund	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Interest Income	32.35	500.00	-467.65
Membership Income	2,777.00	12,420.00	-9,643.00
Merchandise Sale	24.00	300.00	-276.00
Reserve Funds	0.00	2,000.00	-2,000.00
State Convention	0.00	800.00	-800.00
Total Income	2,833.35	17,420.00	-14,586.65
Expense			
Buckle Sponsorships	0.00	800.00	-800.00
Dance Contest Exp	0.00	270.00	-270.00
DWMF Contestant Exp	0.00	700.00	-700.00
Education	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
General Admin	549.67	5,800.00	-5,250.33
IGRA Convention	0.00	1,500.00	-1,500.00
Membership	549.92	4,150.00	-3,600.08
Merchandise	0.00	100.00	-100.00
Mr Ms Miss	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Professional Fees	0.00	800.00	-800.00
State Convention Exp	0.00	500.00	-500.00
Taxes	10.00	800.00	-790.00
Total Expense	1,109.59	17,420.00	-16,310.41
Net Income	1,723.76	0.00	1,723.76



and the **Capital Crossroads Rodeo Association**
present the 4th Annual

BARN DANCE & BBQ

SATURDAY, MAY 20th - DOUBLE B RANCH - THORNTON, CA

3pm to Midnight - Homestyle BBQ
Country Western Dancing & Entertainment
Special performance by the River City Boyz!

Special GSGRA member price: \$8/person
Call (916)978-4040 for tickets or pick up an order form on our website!

More Ticket Information at www.gsgra.org/cc



SIERRA STAMPEDE 2000

BAY AREA CHAPTER



Words from the Pres!

Words from the President.

Tons of stuff going on folks. It's definitely crunch time for the next two months. As I write this it's almost time for the Bowl-A-Thon. Then comes the May BBQ at the Eagle Tavern, and then the big event, our 9th Annual Bay Area Regional Rodeo. I can already tell that this one's going to be awesome. If you haven't signed up to help out yet, please do. It takes a lot of work to run a rodeo, and we still have a few key positions that could use some help.

On another note, it's going to be time for our chapter elections soon, so start thinking about helping out at a new level. I'd invite each of you to consider serving as an officer of the chapter.

Finally, congratulations to the LA Chapter on another fabulous rodeo. Way to go gang!

Yours in a rodeo way.

Doug Graff
BAC President
MRIGRA99@aol.com or 408-261-3259.



Congratulations to...

All the results aren't in from the rodeo yet, but - way to go **DEBBIE ANDREWS** for her **FIRST** Calf Roping on Foot **BUCKLE!!**

Rodeo Stuff

- May 11 Rodeo Roundtable
- May 18 Chapter & Roundtable Meeting
- May 25 Rodeo Roundtable
- June 8 Rodeo Roundtable
- June 10 Rodeo Workparty
- June 15 Chapter & Roundtable Meeting
- June 16 Rodeo
- June 17 Rodeo
- June 18 Rodeo
- June 19 Tear Down & Clean-up

(All dates subject to change)



Fun Things Coming Your Way

Join us on April 30th at Renegades!

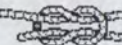
It's roundup time on May 14th at the Hayward Turf Club.

BAR-B-QUE. It's just about time for our world famous Sunday afternoon fund raiser at the Eagle Tavern. See you there on Sunday, May 21st.

Remember, all events are subject to change after press time. So, make it a habit to check the hotline at **(415) 561-9228** and/or the webpage often.

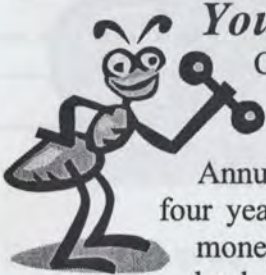
BAC Contacts

President:	Doug Graff	MrIGRA99@aol.com	Executive VP:	Adrian Arteche	Adrian_Arteche@yahoo.com
VP Rodeo Operations:	Terrylee Allert	Texas71@aol.com	Secretary:	Clint Johnson	Cjohnson@geron.com
Treasurer:	Gregg Harvey	Gharvey646@aol.com	Newsletter:	Jabby Lowe	(RodeoJab@aol.com)
BAC Website:	http://users.aol.com/gsgra/bac98.html		BAC Hotline:	(415) 561-9228	





GREATER LOS ANGELES CHAPTER



You did it!

Congratulations to all of the GLAC board members, sponsors, volunteers, entertainers, vendors, contestants, and rodeo fans who helped make the 16th

Annual L.A. Rodeo a HUGE success. For the first time in four years, the L.A. Rodeo was able to donate much needed money to designated charities and still have a little left in the bank to start next year's rodeo plans off on the right foot.

(For those of you who are curious, Christy Cotton and David Medzerian raised \$146 with Sunday night's performance at the awards ceremony. This money will be put in the bank for L.A. Rodeo 2001. In addition, All-Around Horsewoman, Renee Rettstatt donated her prize of a one-year 24-Hour Fitness membership back to the chapter to be raffled off to raise funds for the association.) If you want to be a part of planning L.A. Rodeo 2001, now is the time to get involved in your chapter. The next chapter meeting will be held May 13, 2000 at 10:00 A.M. at the Long Beach Gay and Lesbian Center. Bring your talents and your enthusiasm for all things rodeo!

Support L.A. Rodeo Sponsors!

Even though the rodeo has ended, please continue to support the following sponsors of IGRA/GSGRA and the L.A. Rodeo:

Bud Light, Jim Beam, Avis, Instinct Magazine, 24-Hour Fitness, The Burbank Hilton, United Airlines, Wet, Galpin Motors, Altman Winnebago and Re:Source.

We look forward to a long and happy relationship with each of our sponsors. Please show them how valuable their support of gay rodeo is throughout the year.

GLAC EDUCATION CHAIR STRESSES SAFETY AT BUCKOUT, BREAKS FOOT AT RODEO!

A Message from the injured...

A big thanks to everyone who helped me out Sunday evening, you all know who you are. I can't express the appreciation that I have for everyone in this association. When someone gets hurt, not just one person, but it seems like all of you are there to help. I really don't know how many people were there, but there were many. Yes, my foot is broke as is my pride, but that too will heal. Bailey is doing fine also. We should both be back on our feet for the next rodeo. Thank you all for your concern and your support.

Charlie Colella, GLAC Education Chair

If you misplaced anything at the L.A. Rodeo, please contact Thom Brennan at TbnGrendel@aol.com. He has a stash of forgotten items collecting dust in his home!

Long Beach Pride Parade Sunday, May 21st

GSGRA/GLAC will be carrying the flags to open the Long Beach Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade on Sunday, May 21, 2000. This will be a great opportunity for southside cowboys and cowgirls to meet their fellow rodeo friends while creating some visibility for GSGRA. If you are interested in participating, please contact **David Medzerian** at davidm@link.freedom.com.

Los Angeles Pride Parade Sunday, June 11th

Rumor has it that each year, the Christopher Street West organizing committee begs GLAC to bring horses to West Hollywood for the L.A. Pride Parade. This year we will give them what they want... but in our own GLAC way. In order to get all GLAC members involved in the parade, we are calling on your creativity to make your own "rodeo animal." In the wacky tradition of the Doo Dah parade, we will have a gay old time representing the spirit of the gay rodeo. Bring your stick horses and mop cows. Turn a bicycle into a wild bull or a scooter into a speed horse. Dress up as a rodeo clown or David Medzerian (cow suit required). Or simply wear your boots and hat and strut your stuff down the boulevard. The theme of this year's parade is "'Pride...The Next

Generation," and our goal is to show the crowd that the next generation of gay rodeos will be even more fabulous. In addition to having a zany time on the parade route, we will also be passing out temporary tattoos to hundreds of half-dressed boys and girls in the hot June sun. The tattoos will have the The L.A. Rodeo logo and the dates of next year's rodeo. There is no doubt that innocent bystanders may need help applying them! This event is being coordinated by **Drew Oberbeck, Sherry Le, and Devon Deming**. We are hoping for a great turnout to represent our wonderful organization. Start creating your rodeo critters now... we only have one month to go! If you plan on joining in the parade, please mail Devon at dmdeming@yahoo.com so we can get a head count.

A Reminder from President David...

ELECTION MEETING JUNE 10

Here's "official" notice: **The Annual Meeting of Members** (also known as Chapter Elections) will be held at **10 a.m. Saturday, June 10, 2000**, at The Center, 2017 E. Fourth St., Long Beach. Bylaw and Standing Rule changes may be also be considered at this meeting (though none have been proposed yet), and elections of chapter officers will take place. Here are the names of those who have been nominated for office:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • President | Drew Oberbeck |
| • Administrative V.P. | Sherry Le, Lenore Mankoff |
| • V. P. of Rodeo Operations | Tracy Keiper, Paul Thompson |
| • Secretary | Lenore Mankoff |
| • Treasurer | Mark Jensen |

Nominations also can be made from the floor during the election Meeting. However, those nominated must be present to accept or have indicated to **David Medzerian** or **Lenore Mankoff** (current President and Secretary) their willingness to accept nomination. David has decided to give each nominee about two minutes to address the group, if they wish, before the final votes are cast.

UNITED AIRLINES

is the official airline

of the GSGRA Greater Los Angeles Chapter

United is offering special L.A. Rodeo discounts of 5 percent, 10 percent or more for travel to several IGRA events this year, including:

Salt Lake City Rodeo June 3-4

Bay Area Regional Rodeo (San Jose) June 17-18

IGRA Convention (Las Vegas) Aug. 5-6

Sierra Stampede rodeo (Sacramento) Aug. 19-20

IGRA Finals Rodeo (Albuquerque) Oct. 19-22

Our chapter can earn free tickets if sufficient people use our group code.

Call United's special reservation line

**at (800) 521-4041 (open 4 a.m.-9 p.m. Pacific time)
and mention group 598EM**

Save money, show your support – and benefit your chapter, too!

L.A. News | May 2000

MORE LOS ANGELES CHAPTER INFORMATION

Congratulations to new State Board Reps.!

At the April L.A. Chapter meeting, the GLAC State Board Representatives for 2000/2001 were elected. The winners are...

**Thom Brennan
Kevin Weeks
and
Steve Creber**



Alternates are Phil Lucier and Drew Oberbeck.

These new State Board Representatives will begin representing the L.A. Chapter at State Board Meetings effective May 7, 2000 at the close of GSGRA State Convention.

California State Convention May 6-7, 2000

Come dance on down to San Diego on May 6-7, 2000 to help represent the Greater Los Angeles Chapter at the GSGRA State Convention. Votes are cast based on the size of each chapter. Any L.A. Chapter member who comes to Convention will help decide how to cast our GLAC votes. The revival of the Palm Springs Chapter will be discussed along with many other issues that affect our state organization and our chapter. New GSGRA officers will be elected at convention, and the GSGRA Dance Competition will be held on Saturday, May 6th at Kickers starting at 8:00 PM. The GSGRA State Convention will be held at the Mission Valley Marriot in San Diego. For

registration information, check the last month's Chute or contact GSGRA President **Craig Rouse** at:
(408) 378-6167.

The following nominations for GSGRA Officers have been received:

President: Roger Bergmann*, Bill Chapman, Michael DeYonker, Doug Graff*, Sammy Van Galder

EVP: Michael DeYonker & Sammy VanGalder

VP Rodeo OPS: Michael DeYonker & Nancy Novak

Secretary: Clint Johnson*, Mitch Gill & Herb Smith*

Treasurer: Bill Chapman
(*Have declined their nominations.)

Submissions to the newsletter are welcome (subject to editing for space or content) by the 15th of each month. All published materials, including the chapter logo, "LA Rodeo" logo and posters, newsletter, "LARODEO.COM" and website contents are Copyright © 1999 GSGRA-L.A., a California non-profit corporation. Any use without prior permission is a violation of copyright law.

L.A. News | May 2000



CALENDAR

MAY

- May 6-7 **GSGRA CONVENTION**
San Diego, California
- May 13 **GLAC BOARD MEETING**
10 AM Long Beach Gay & Lesbian Center
- May 21 **LONG BEACH PRIDE PARADE**
Long Beach, CA
- May 26-28 **GREAT PLAINS RODEO**
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

JUNE

- June 2-4 **SALT LAKE CITY RODEO**
Salt Lake City, Utah
- June 10 **ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS - ELECTIONS**
10 AM Long Beach Gay & Lesbian Center
- June 11 **CSW / L.A. PRIDE PARADE**
West Hollywood, CA
- June 16-18 **BAY AREA REGIONAL RODEO**
San Jose, California
- June 23-25 **HEARTLAND RODEO**
Omaha, Nebraska

2000 MEETING SCHEDULE

- 10 am Sun. July 9, Burbank Hilton (board)
1 pm Sat. Aug. 12, Azusa. (chapter, with potluck after)
10 am Sat. Sept. 16, Long Beach (board)
10 am Sat. Oct. 7, Long Beach (chapter)
10 am Sat. Nov. 4, L.A. (board)
10 am Sun. Dec. 3, L.A. (chapter)



DIRECTORY

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

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Administration
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Amy@jacap.com

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Tracy Keiper
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SECRETARY
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ComeDancn@aol.com

TREASURER
Mark Jensen
Lbcowboy@aol.com

STATE BOARD Representatives
Thom Brennan, Kevin Weeks
Steve Creber

Alternates
Ruth Hilderbrandt, Steve Leigeber

COMMITTEES

By-Laws
Mike DeYonker

Events
Sue Downing, Connie Risch

Membership
Ruth Hilderbrandt

Taxes
Thom Brennan

Records
D.J. Simmons

Webgirl
Mark Jensen

Newsletter
Devon Deming
dmdeming@yahoo.com



Capitol Crossroads PO BOX 189305 Sacramento CA 95818
916.978.4040 <http://www.gsgra.org/cc>

M ESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Howdy Everyone!

An UPDATE on SB-1462, the RODEO BAN / RESTRICTIONS Senate Bill presented by Senator Parada. This is the same issue that was voted down by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Well, Senator Parada, has now brought it into the Senate and is trying to get it passed state wide. A large cowboy opposition was present at a recent hearing, as was Matt Bowers and myself. After hearing both sides, Senator. Parada was told by the committee chair to chair is bill and to go back and re-write it. A VICTORY for RODEO! YES, showing up in mass and speaking out can make a difference. Stay Tuned, this bill will be coming back again and we need EVERYONE'S SUPPORT!

Well, April was sort of a quiet month as far as chapter activities go. The EASTER PARTY was a lot of fun and a good time was had by all those that attended. I hope the Easter Bunny was good to everyone. At the time of this printing, we had not yet voted on State Reps, so I cannot announce them to you. Watch in next month's issue for who the new State Reps are. April also brought the L.A. Rodeo and this year the weather cooperated; last year it poured rain. L.A. did a GREAT JOB. The parties were great and the rodeo was as grand as ever. THANKS L.A.!

It's great to see more and more chapter members attending meetings and events. I hope to see even more of you in the future. Things are a changin' for the better, I hope. C'mon out to a chapter meeting and meet other Country minded people or visit old friends. Better yet, get involved by being on a committee or helping with the up-coming rodeo. This is YOUR club and it DEPENDS on the SUPPORT and INPUT of EVERYONE! I've also noticed more members supporting Country Western at Faces on Saturday and Monday nights. If you want to learn to dance, Monday Night at Faces 7:30 - 9:00 pm is the place to be for FREE Dance Lessons. I would like to start having groups get together to go to rodeos (Gay & Straight). Trust me, there is a lot of EYE CANDY at the various rodeos; PRCA (Pro-Rodeo Cowboys Assoc), WRCA (Working Ranch Cowboys Assoc.), and CCRA (California Cowboys Rodeo Assoc.) Recent local rodeos



were in LaGrange (CCRA), OAKDALE (PRCA) and RED BLUFF (PRCA). I saw several chapter members at these rodeos; namely myself, Mike Lusk, Sammie VanGelder, **Matt Romero, Matt Bowers, Jeff**, and members from Bay area as well. At the Oakdale Rodeo, there were about 20 GSGRA members in all. We had a great time and the livestock was GREAT - so were the broncs and bulls. Normally, we just announce when the rodeo is and where we'll meet up and who ever shows up is guaranteed a good time. If you like rodeo, don't limit yourself to IGRA. The only problem with Straight Rodeo is that you have to behave yourself, remember where you are, and act accordingly - **BUT YOU CAN STILL HAVE FUN and ENJOY the SHOW!** Up-coming straight rodeos are:

Clements Stampede ----(6-7 May)
REDDING -----(18-20 May)
Livermore -----(10-11 June)
Bay Area Gay Rodeo ---(June 16-18)
FOLSOM -----(1-4 July)
Salinas -----(20-23 July)

May brings several events. First is the State Board Convention/Meeting in San Diego. In addition, on Saturday night will be the 10th Annual State Dance Competition at Kicker's. That should be a lot of fun and there should be a lot of HOT Cowboys and Cow Ladies to meet, dance, and chat with. I hope ya'll got rested up for our BIG Event in May - **OUR 4TH ANNUAL BARN DANCE**. The **BARN DANCE** is one of the highlights of the year and ALWAYS gets a BIG crowd. It is one of our major fund raisers for the RODEO, SO - C'mon out, yer guaranteed to have a GREAT TIME! There will be a BBQ from 3-7:00 pm, No Host Bar, Entertainment, Dancing, HOT COWBOYS & COWLADIES, Good Times, and just plain 'ol fashioned FUN. We will be returning to the DOUBLE-B RANCH in Thornton, Ca - just off I-5 and the THORNTON/WALNUT GROVE Exit. George & Bruce have been so kind as to allow us to return - THANKS GUYS! If you have never been to the DOUBLE-B Ranch, it is a great place to party in a very nice, secluded country setting. Falcon Studios and Colt often use the ranch when they are doing country style photography. C'mon out, have a great time, and SUPPORT the Capital Crossroads!!!

Ride Hard - Ride Fast
Herb Smith - President



ROUGH NOTES AND CASUAL THOUGHTS

Don't forget to turn in your questionnaire! Mail it back in the enclosed envelope so we can tally the results. We would like to have the results tallied by the May 21st meeting.

The trip to Redding was a great success. About 20 members from the club made the drive (154 miles in two hours?) Met some nice people from Redding and Oregon. The people from Ashland Oregon actually had a shorter drive than the people from Sacramento. The card sharps that were dealing blackjack should have been in Reno that night, they cleaned out most of the players.

Want to order one of those great looking shirts with the logo on the back? They are available in white or kacki. Look for the form on the web site, or order one at the next meeting.

Some members of Capitol Crossroads took a scenic trip through Hollywood after the L.A. Rodeo Dance Friday Night. The unintended trip took the better part of 30 minutes before a freeway was found back to the host hotel.

RODEO

NEXT RODEO MEETING - May 20th at Double B Ranch 1:00P.M. This will be a short update meeting prior to the Barn Dance. Come early and enjoy the countryside. Also remember Chapter meeting is on Sunday, the 21st.

WE ARE STAMPED TO "Rodeo 2000"!

Update: We are proud to announce our new host hotel, the Holiday Inn, Capital Plaza. The walk through on April 9th was very beneficial to visualize our plans and see the results of a recently completed \$2.5 million dollar renovation. If you are planning on staying at the hotel, please make your reservations early. We will be releasing rooms starting May



15th. Reservations may be made by calling 916-446-0100 and asking for the Sierra Stampede. Agreed rates are \$99/night for 1-4, but for those making reservations early, the rate is \$95.

If you haven't seen a copy of Sacramento's "Outward", pick one up. You will see not only a half page add for the Barn Dance, but that we have signed with Outward to be the producer of our Official Program for Sierra Stamped 2000. The program itself will be available at Sacramento Pride Fair on June 17th. Between then and rodeo we will be distributing over 80,000 copies of our program. **Steve Terry**, media relations director, and **Sue Wittorff**, program director, have done a great job getting this done. We have a few long hours to put in to make sure we meet our May deadline for layout. If anyone has editing or graphic arts experience/interest please **volunteer**. Call 916-451-9439.

Sacramento Pride Fair will not be the only venue for the Capital Crossroads Chapter to strut their stuff. Two returning sponsors from last year, **FACES** and **THE DEPOT**, are backing the first annual **Rodeo Kick'n Stomp 2000**, a street dance, sponsored by the Capital Crossroads Chapter. The Pride Fair ends at 6PM and for years people have wanted a place to go after the fair, especially if they didn't have an invitation to an "after" party. We will be filling that void with a live band, street dancing, entertainment, food vendors, and, most importantly, a place to go beginning at 6 P.M. This is a great chance to not only promote the rodeo, but make some needed funds. We need your help! **Volunteers**, please contact **Ray Mestas** at 916-457-0268 or Ray1@tomatoweb.com. Unfortunately, the Bay Area Rodeo is that weekend as well. However a chapter that should have over 100 members by the time you are reading this, should be able to have good representation at both. Please plan on attending one, or better yet, both.

There are many other exciting developments which will be reported on in the next issue. Vendor applications are streaming in, including several new ones. Join us at the next rodeo meeting prior to the Barn Dance, 1 P.M. on May 20th.

VOLUNTEER

We are very excited about the response we have had to date. Once again the Valley Bears will be providing with a very much-appreciated volunteer contingent. There will be a meeting of committee chairs on May 13th at Ray Mestas' home to discuss



volunteer needs and concerns. For meeting or volunteer information, please contact Ray at 457-0268 or Ray1@tomatoweb.com

Volunteers are needed for June 17th to work the rodeo booth at Pride Fair and the street dance.

CALENDAR

May

- 6 --GSGRA State Dance Competition, San Diego, Kickers.
- 6-7 --GSGRA State Board Meeting, San Diego, 10:00a.m., location TBA.
- 6-7 --Sonora PRCA rodeo
- 10-11 --San Jose Pride Weekend
- 13 -- Del Paso Art Show 6pm (Mark Marshall for info)
- 20 --4th Annual Capital Crossroads Barn Dance, Double B Ranch, Thornton, 3 P.M. to midnight. Watch for fliers or call Sammy at 916-737-7610. Volunteers needed for set-up on Friday evening (May 19th) and Saturday morning.
- 21 --Chapter Meeting , Double B Ranch
- 26-28 --IGRA: Oklahoma City

June

- 2-4 --IGRA: Salt Lake City, UT (First Rodeo)
- 9-11 --Camping Trip to Shasta Lake (Zack and Stacey Spears)
- 16-18 -- IGRA: Bay Area Rodeo
- 17 -- Sacramento Pride Festival - Rodeo Street Dance at Faces
* **volunteers needed to staff the Rodeo Booth**
- 23-25 -- IGRA: Omaha Nebraska
- 24-25 --San Francisco Pride Weekend

July

- 7-9 -- IGRA: Rocky Mountains Regional Rodeo - Denver, CO

August

- 18-20 --Capitol Crossroads Rodeo