

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

September 2000

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

GUESS WHO'S GETTING READY FOR THEIR NEXT FUNDRAISER?

Why the Greater Palm Springs Chapter of Course!!!! The event, which will feature Special Guest Entertainer **Tamara Marks** (IGRA VP-Administration), is scheduled for Saturday, September 30, 2000. The location is still to be announced but we can tell you that three of the Desert's finest Gay establishments have offered their locations for this event. The location will be announced soon so mark the date in your calendars and call for more information around mid September. JG Avila, Entertainment Chair, (760) 323-3149 or Frank Delgado, Membership Chair, (909) 882-0699

A STAR IS BORN. Well, several actually.....

Folks: As you may know, media at this year's L.A. Rodeo included a crew from "Queer Television," a program produced by CITY-TV in Toronto and airing on that station as well as the website Planetout.com. Although I've been checking the website regularly, somehow I missed the fact that the segment aired about four weeks ago! Fortunately, the old segments are on the website as well.

It is a really nice report; we should try to get a copy for promotional purposes. Special thanks to Chuck Browning and Lonnie Label, who took time to talk to the reporter from Toronto.

Member Statistics

	Start	Expired	New	Renewals	End
	08/01/00	08/31/00			09/01/00
Greater L.A.	119	4	1	6	122
Bay Area	59	1	1	1	60
San Diego	100	2	4	2	104
Capital Crossroads	103	3	7	5	112
Palm Springs	59		2		61
Non Affiliated	22	1	1	1	23
Total	462	11	16	15	482

To view it: If you have REAL PLAYER on your computer, go to this address: <http://www.planetout.com/multimedia/television/ram/qt/12/seg3.ram>

To get to it through the website, go to <http://www.planetout.com/pno/> and from the selections on the left, choose MULTIMEDIA, then TELEVISION, then ARCHIVE; you'll find it if you look for the title "Cowboys & Lesbians."

By-laws and Standing Rules

Bylaws Chair, Michael DeYonker asked us to let you know that the current By-laws and Standing Rules are available for download on the GSGRA State Web Page, <http://www.gsgra.org> under the By-laws and Standing Rules Buckle link. So consider yourself notified and go have a look under the cowboy's buckle!!!!

**See you in
San Diego
September
22 - 24**



The Golden State Gay Rodeo Association

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



**San Diego Gay and Lesbian Rodeo
September 22-24 2000
San Diego – California**

Host Hotel
Mission Valley Marriott
800-842-5329

Volunteers and information
Gsgrasan@aol.com
or
619-298-4708
or
3758 30th Street
San Diego, CA 92104

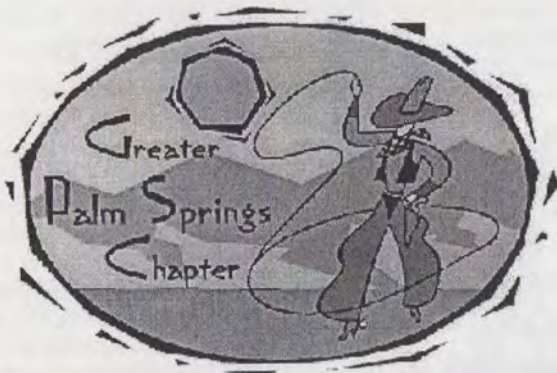
Don't miss your last chance to rodeo this summer.....

*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



2000



PMB C125
 4741 E. Palm Canyon
 Palm Springs, CA 92264
 www.gpscrodeo.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT

HOWDY and a BIG CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF YOU!!!!!!

WE did it... WE ARE THE GSGRA HOSTING CHAPTER FOR IGRA FINALS 2001.... IN PALM SPRINGS!!!!!!

Now.... the work begins. We have several VERY important activities slated for the remainder of this year and MOST importantly 2001! We have a major Fund Raiser on September 30th, featuring Tamara Marks; on November 18th we are hosting the GSGRA State Board Meeting and Royalty Competition! On top of those two great events, we will be co-host of the Country / Western Pavilion at Palm Springs Pride 2000 on November 4th and 5th! So.... everyone ...roll up your sleeves and participate in the success of each of these events. Our new VP of Administration, Lee Self and our Entertainment Chairman, JG Avila have some big tasks ahead of them and we ALL need to support their efforts and assist them in any way possible. All of these activities reflect on our Chapter and each member is responsible for maintaining the integrity of The Greater Palm Springs Chapter. A " sit back and wait " attitude will not produce the needed results.

We are here to carry forth the goal of maintaining a venue for Gays and Lesbians to participate in Rodeo and the Country and Western lifestyle. We are also here to GIVE BACK to our community charities. Participation is a MUST and the REWARDS are GREAT! I am VERY proud of each and every member of our Chapter and have full confidence that each and every task that we assume will be accomplished in a positive way!

Thank you all for your support and contributions to the successes of GPSC. NOW LET'S GET THE BALL ROLLING!!!!!!

Happy Trails,
 Barry Hamm, President

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GPSC RODEO TEAM

Since the last issue of the Chute, we've had Rodeos in Atlanta and Sacramento. Our Omaha Tornado Survivor Elodie Huttner was in Atlanta, and in spite of arriving without luggage (thanks to the airline), brought home two 3rd place ribbons in Chute Dogging.

The Women of GPSC continued to rack up some personal firsts in Sacramento! Diane Shannon won her first ribbon in an individual event -- 2nd place in Calf Roping on Foot. Elodie Huttner won 5th place ribbons in Pole Bending and Barrel Racing and 3rd place in Flags. This was the first time she entered speed events. In addition, Dan Guevara won a 2nd place in Poles and a 1st place ribbon in Barrels. We wish all our Rodeo Team Good Luck in Chicago, Kansas City and DC. There will be a lot of us on hand to cheer them on in San Diego.

Lorry King, Secretary

Volunteers are needed for the 2001 IGRA Rodeo Finals. Let us know if you can help!!!!

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LANews



PO Box 2407 ~ ~ Long Beach, Calif. 90801-2407 ~ ~ (562) 498-1675
~ ~ <http://www.larodeo.com> ~ ~ larodeo@larodeo.com ~ ~

~Meet the TEAM!~

*This regular column introduces you to the people behind GLAC. If you're involved in helping out the chapter behind the scenes, watch out, you may be next... and if you'd like to get more involved, make sure you make it to the next chapter meeting on **September 16, 2000**.*



Sherry on Skeeter (Photo by Jill Wagner)

The office of Administrative Vice President is held by **Sherry Le**. Sherry has been a member of GLAC since 1995. She attended her first IGRA rodeo in San Diego, where she competed in Steer Riding. Sherry now competes in Calf Roping on Foot, Chute Dogging, Steer Decorating, the Wild Drag Race and the Flag Race and would like to learn to rope on horseback in the near future. Sherry has won a buckle, in Calf Roping on Foot and hopes to be invited to the 2000 IGRA

finals in Calf Roping and Chute Dogging. Sherry lives in Acton with her horse **Skeeter**, six crazy dogs (**Thelma, Louise, Phoebus, Copper, Barney, and Depot**), the world-famous goat **Mikey**, **Molly** the horny lamb, the newsletter editor (**Devon**, of course), and Devon's horse **Tux**. *(Sherry has recently fallen head over heels in lust with our own sexy drag-kitten De Shannon. Rumour has it this little "drag muffin" may even appear in drag-face herself before this rodeo season comes to an end.)*

Drag Yourself to the San Diego Rodeo Send-Off Party!

On Thursday, September 14, 2000, Oil Can Harry's in Studio City will be hosting a combined party for the LA/Valley Pride organization and GLAC. The party will include a drag/talent show put together by our own fabulous **De Shannon**, last-minute sales of our raffle tickets for the pair of United Airlines tickets and Boot Barn gift certificates to be raffled off at San Diego Rodeo, a reappearance of the infamous L.A. Rodeo 2001 tattoos, and LOTS of fun. The LA/Valley Pride crew is excited about raising the roof with GLAC, so let's not let them down. (We certainly have a reputation to uphold.)

Oil Can Harry's is located at 11502 Ventura Blvd., Studio City, CA 91604-2610, (818) 760-9749. Doors open at 9:00 PM.



L.A. NEWS | SEPTEMBER 2000

GREATER LOS ANGELES CHAPTER Congratulations 2001 L.A. Rodeo Committee Chairs!

VP of Rodeo Operations	Paul Thompson
Rodeo Director	Tracy Keiper
Festival Director	Warren Sibille
Logistics Director	Roz Campbell
Volunteer Coordinator	OPEN (Assistant Sunnie Rose)
Vendor Coordinators	Connie Risch & Craig Mount
Security Coordinator	Mary McGough
Grand Entry Coordinator	(the always fabulous) David Medzerian
Contestant Coordinators	Mike DeYonker & Lewis Putnam
Entertainment Coordinator	Mitch Gill (a.k.a. drag-kitten De Shannon)
Accounting Director	Mark Jensen
Parking Coordinator	OPEN
Buckle Coordinator	Thom Brennan
Publicity Chair	Thom Sloan (Committee Members: Gerald Hill, Charlie Colella, Devon Deming, Renee Rettstatt, Cyndi Pais, Stevan Bailey)
Merchandise Coordinators	Sherry Le & Phil Lucier
Arena Director	Erin Eaton
Chute Coordinator	Sue Downing
Beverage Coordinator	Stevan Bailey



We are still looking for a **Parking Coordinator** and a **Volunteer Coordinator**...

Don't hesitate to get involved in something you will truly enjoy!

With the help of **San Diego Chapter, ASGRA** (thank you, **Les Boggs**), **AGRA** (we love you, **Victoria**), and other associations, Team L.A. has raised \$1800 towards the 2001 L.A. Rodeo with yard sales, tattoo donations, raffle tickets, and the booth at San Diego Pride. Don't forget to join San Diego Chapter for Beer Bust at Rawhide on August 27, 2000 to say thanks.

Don't forget... 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:
IGRA Finals Rodeo (Albuquerque) Oct. 19-22, 2000
Our chapter can earn free tickets if sufficient people use our group code.
Call United's special reservation line at (800) 521-4041 (4 a.m.-9 p.m. Pacific time) and mention group 598EM

Please continue to support the 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.

L.A. News | September 2000

CALENDAR



SEPTEMBER

- September 1-3 **SHOW ME STATE RODEO**
Kansas City, Missouri
- September 8-10 **ATLANTIC STAMPEDE**
Washington D.C.
- September 14 **SD RODEO SEND-OFF PARTY**
9 PM Oil Can Harry's, Studio City, CA
- September 16 **GLAC BOARD MEETING**
10 AM LB Gay & Lesbian Center
Long Beach, CA
- September 22-24 **GREATER SAN DIEGO RODEO**
San Diego, CA

OCTOBER

- October 7 **GLAC CHAPTER MEETING**
10AM LB Gay & Lesbian Center
Long Beach, CA
- October 20-23 **IGRA FINALS RODEO**
Albuquerque, NM

2000 MEETING SCHEDULE

10 am Sat. Nov. 4, L.A. (board)



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Convention News....

From the pen of our trusted Trustee:

More than 40 GSGRA members attended the IGRA convention in Las Vegas early in August. We've never had such a large delegation, and were incredibly well represented. Every one of the committees had at least one GSGRA representative -- some had two, three or more -- so our point of view was heard on each issue. Congratulations to all of the delegates, alternates and other attendees for your hard work during the weekend.

FINALS: Of course, the biggest news for GSGRA was our successful bid to host Finals 2001 in Palm Springs. Unfortunately, San Diego's bid to host Finals 2002 was not approved, with the vote going instead to Wichita (they'd also bid for 2001). Congratulations to both Palm Springs and San Diego on their fine presentations, and special congratulations to Palm Springs for their win! Now the real fun begins: All the hard work!

CONVENTION: As you know, Convention 2001 will be in Long Beach; that decision was made during last year's convention. For Convention 2002, the delegates in Las Vegas selected PONYGRA's bid to host the meeting in Cleveland. This will be the first-ever IGRA event for PONY (Pennsylvania -- Ohio - New York Gay Rodeo Association), and could be a good way to get them in to rodeo production. (The other bid for Convention 2002 was from OGRA for Oklahoma City.)

BYLAWS AND RULES: Most of the controversial proposals never reached the convention floor. After thorough discussion in the committees, the potentially troublesome items -- including changing the time of year of convention, going to a biannual convention, increasing the dues that the member associations pay, and changing the rodeo year -- all were rejected. There was much discussion of having the IGRA Dance Championships during Finals (it's now held during the Convention), but

it was decided to study the idea some more to work out potential details.

RODEO RULES: Here, too, most of the controversial proposals never reached the floor. The biggest change was adjustments to the "3D" format of the horse speed events.

AWARDS: GSGRA had several winners of the annual IGRA Awards, which are presented each year at convention. Among the five winners of the Trustees Awards -- presented for sportsmanship -- were our own Shawn Smith and David Medzerian. Among the many winners of Appreciation Awards -- given to non-IGRA-members who help IGRA in a significant way -- were Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride and the Imperial Court organization in Sacramento. And in a near-award, the GSGRA state web site was named as second-place for IGRA's new Best Web Site award.

DANCE: The IGRA Dance Championships were a huge success, and as usual GSGRA brought home many first-place awards: The GSGRA team of John Garrison and Stephen Crowe won the Division III competition; our team of Gorge Aguilar and Lorry King won the Division II competition; and the California pair Steve Cheatham and Paul Casey took Division I honors. Congratulations to all of our competitors, and especially to IGRA dance chair Ken Valdez of San Diego, who ran the competition. Ken has worked hard to increase the profile of the IGRA dance contest, and his hard work showed the night of the Las Vegas competition.

ELECTIONS: The offices of IGRA President and Secretary were up for election this year (IGRA Vice President Tamara Marks and Treasurer David Hill are one year into their two-year terms, and will be up for re-election in 2001). Re-elected -- and unopposed -- were IGRA President Craig Rouse of GSGRA and Secretary Ron Trustley of AGRA; with new two-year terms, those offices will be up for election again in 2002. In other elections, GSGRA Trustee David Medzerian was selected Chairman of the IGRA Board of Trustees.

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.



Greater San Diego Chapter

3758 30th Street
San Diego, CA. 92104

Message from the 2000 Rodeo Director

HOWDY PARDNERS....

The San Diego Chapter is proud to remind you all that the **San Diego Rodeo 2000** is happening in just a few short weeks. This year's rodeo is going to be held September 21-24. We have a few housekeeping items we want to take care of first:

1. **THANK YOU** to all that have been working so hard this year to put on this rodeo
2. **THANK YOU** to all of you that have volunteered to work at this years rodeo and hotel parties
3. **THANK YOU** to all of our GSGRA friends around the state that will be coming to play with us and support our rodeo.
4. **THANK YOU** to the very hard working rodeo round-table committee for all of your efforts year 'round to ensure that our rodeo is always such a great success.

We still need volunteers to work in many areas for the rodeo. If interested in volunteering, we have a few ways for you to sign up: www.sandiegorodeo.com (follow links to volunteer); email James Gearity at jimgear@yahoo.com; or call the Rodeo Hotline at 619-298-4708 and leave message in mailbox 5432.

We are all really excited about our rodeo and look forward to seeing you all here in San Diego for RODEO 2000. YEE HAW!!!!!!!

Nancy Novak, Lewis Sanders, Dave Pickle, and Robert Farley
(YOUR Rodeo Director Team)

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: gsglasan@aol.com

WEB PAGE: www.sandiegorodeo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

PRIDE

September is not only a great month in California for holding a rodeo, it is also a fabulous month for continuing to celebrate GAY PRIDE! Start off in Pasadena helping their gay and gay-friendly community celebrate Pride. Then come down to San Diego for some boot-stompin', cowboy(girl)-rompin' fun as the 12th annual SD Rodeo kicks off on Thursday, Sept 21 and goes until the cows come home (or Sept. 24), whichever comes first. And, to finish it off, celebrate Pride with those crazy kids in the San Fernando Valley (Sept. 30-Oct. 1). Go ahead and just make September a month for celebrating diversity!!

VOLUNTEERS

Come on all you future Ranchhands of America, there's just two more weeks to sign-up as a volunteer. Don't let this opportunity for fun pass you by!

If you are interested in volunteering for San Diego Rodeo 2000, now is the time to sign-up. For those of you with internet access, the sign-up sheet is available on our website (www.sandiegorodeo.com). If this isn't convenient for you, sign-up forms are also available in the rodeo office, or one can be sent directly to your home. Rodeo Ranchhands receive gifts for offering their time, the more time, the more gifts. Hat pins, bandannas, and T-shirts are all available for interested volunteers. There is also a Ranchhand Round-up planned for Sunday night, Sept. 24 with food and fun for all. For more information, or to request a sign-up form, either send an e-mail to James G. at jimgear@yahoo.com or leave a message at 619 298 4708 x5432. Come on out and help us make San Diego Rodeo 2000 the most a**-kickin' rodeo in San Diego history!

RODEO CALENDAR

RODEO MEETING SCHEDULE

The next General Membership meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 6th. Due to the upcoming rodeo, there will be three Rodeo Roundtable meetings in September. These meetings will be on Tuesday, September 5th, September 12th, and September 19th. Mark your calendars!

OTHER NEWS

RODEO CAMPOUT

The weekend of July 28th found members of the San Diego, Los Angeles and Palm Springs Chapters camping at the Second Chance Ranch. The weekend was relaxing for all that went whether they were lounging around the pool, playing cards or cooking on the outdoor grills. Saturday evening found campers dancing under the stars to country favorites, while several of the Kicker's Cloggers gave impromptu performances for those in attendance to enjoy. The San Diego Chapter would like to extend a very big thank you to Rick Washburn for his generosity in letting us hold the campout at his ranch.

IGRA DANCE FINALS 2000

Congratulations to all of the contestants who performed at BackStreet in Las Vegas during the IGRA Annual Convention. The winners of Div I were San Diego's own Steve Cheatham and Paul Casey. Way to go guys! Other winners were Div II—Gorge Aguilar and Lorry King (GSGRA-GPSC), Div III—John Garrison and Stephen Crowe (GSGRA). Wes Wilkinson and Stacey Spear (GSGRA—CC) took second place in Div IV. Overall, GSGRA kicked some butt!

RIDE INTO THE MILLENNIUM

Did you know?

The Ninth San Diego Gay and Lesbian Rodeo was held on Sept. 25-28, 1997 at Fred Grand Arena in Ramona.

The 1997 board members were:

President: Michael Taylor
Executive
Vice Pres: Nancy Novak
Treasurer: Jeff Jones
Secretary: Paul Fox
Rodeo Dir: Rick Washburn
Vice Pres: Jay Wilpot

Arena Director:
Casey Jackson

Grand Marshal:
Christine Kehoe

Member of the Year:
Rick Washburn

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's rodeo time!

First I would like to thank everyone for the hard work that you have already put in this year. We have seen our membership grow 20%, our involvement at the state level increase dramatically, our involvement in the local community develop, and while doing all this we have found time to have more fun social activities than we have had in recent memory (I hope everyone has had a chance to recover from our Rawhide Trip.) If our work is any indication of the success of the 12th Annual San Diego Gay Rodeo, I am positive that it will be the best ever!

While heading into the final stretch, I would like everyone to do three things: 1. Let someone know if you are overloaded or stressed so that you can get some help; 2. Whatever your original reasons were for coming on board, please don't forget why we are here! (and remember that most everyone shares those reasons) and most of all, 3. HAVE FUN!

DANCE CONTEST AT SAN DIEGO RODEO

The 8th Annual Twist N Shout Dance Contest will be held on Saturday, Sept. 23rd at the Marriott Hotel in conjunction with the San Diego Rodeo. The contest will start at 7pm. There will be three different contests. The first contest will be a Pro-Am contest where you can dance a Two-Step, Waltz, Cha-Cha, or West Coast Swing. The second contest will be a Line Dance Contest. The dances will be the Tush Push, Watermelon Crawl, and the Mambo Shuffle. The third, and final contest, will be a Jack & Jack, and Jack & Jill contest in Two-Step, Waltz, and Swing. For further information please contact Ken Valdez at 619 299-7813 or e-mail at kendance@cs.com.

**Congratulations Palm Springs for
winning the bid for 20001 Finals!!**

BAY AREA CHAPTER



Annual Meeting Update

The Bay Area Chapter held their Annual Membership meeting on August 13th in San Francisco. There was a great turnout of current members and several new members in attendance.

Two major items were accomplished. The first being selection of charities to receive donations from the chapter. The two charities selected were the AIDS Emergency Fund and the ARIS project. The 2000-2001 Board will determine how and when these funds are distributed.

We also selected the executive board for 2000-2001. The new officers are:

President - Antonio Contreras	VP Administration - Jabby Lowe
VP Rodeo Ops - Robert Pulliam	Secretary - Michael Barella
Treasurer - Gregg Harvey	

Please welcome these folks into their roles and thank our outgoing officers:

President - Doug Graff	VP Administration - Adrian Arteche
VP Rodeo Ops - Terrylee Allert	Secretary - Clint Johnson

Words from the "old" Pres!

Hey, is that the buzzer? Is my time up? Can I get off now? Just like competing in the arena, a good rider knows when he's made the best of the ride he's been given and that it's time to get off. It's time for me to get off.

So what can I say here in my last note to the members of the BAC? First, thank you. Thank you for believing in me for so long. Thank you for supporting me so much. Thank you for being a part of Gay Rodeo.

Second, we have a damn good thing going. I believe our chapter is stronger than we have ever been. I was recently asked what the optimal number of members should be for our chapter. I've thought a lot about the answer to that question and think the best answer is, "One less than the number it takes to do all the work and have all the fun." Cause the minute we have more people than activities to enjoy, we'll get lazy. We'll stop telling people about our great family and we'll lose our sense of pride. Don't let the numbers fool you. We have more experience, drive, desire and character in our chapter than ever before. Our new board is dynamite. The diversity and experience of this new board is very exciting. Keep your eyes open for some really cool things coming your way.

Finally, I'll tell you again to get involved. I'll expect to see all of you at our chapter events. I hope you have the same level of pride for our group as I do. The true strength of our group is the camaraderie we share and the fun we have when we get together.

My ride may be over, but I'm still in the arena. I'll see you all soon. Take care, have fun and stay involved.

Yours in a semi retired sort of rodeo way,

Doug Graff
BAC President 1997, 1998, 2000

And Words from the "new" Pres!

Howdy,

I'm Antonio Contreras and our new president of BAC GSGRA. Most of you probably do not know me. However, if you attended the Bay Area rodeo a couple of months ago you may remember my horse, Buddy, who dumped me during my barrel run. Needless to say, no buckles for Buddy and me – not even close.

On a happier note, I am excited by the energy in BAC and look forward to meeting all of you during the upcoming year. We have so much talent and potential in BAC. I am positive we can accomplish any goals we set together.

To get off to a great start, I hope everyone can attend our next "meeting" on Sunday, September 17th. Although we do need to accomplish some official

chapter business, my primary purpose (and I hope yours too) is to have a blast. Details follow in the upcoming events section.

Last, but certainly not least, I do want to extend a huge "thank you" to Doug Graff and the outgoing board members for their leadership over the past years.

Antonio Contreras
BAC President

A few random thoughts from some random folks ☺

Dear BAC Chapter Members,

As outgoing Vice President, I would like to take the time to thank everyone for an awesome year. The work, sweat, time and dedication that everyone provided definitely paid off in spades during last year's rodeo.

At our Annual Chapter Meeting on August 13th, Doug Graff asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell the group what their "most memorable moment" was in the past 12 months; regardless if it was related to the rodeo, a fundraising event, etc. For those of you who weren't there, I feel the need to tell you mine. Exactly twelve months ago, the Executive Board of the chapter sat at the Line-Up in San Francisco discussing the new year. Would we have a rodeo? Do we need to concentrate all of our efforts on our declining number of chapter members? Do we need to get more involved in the community in hopes that this type of involvement would make our numbers grow? As you can see, this meeting lasted for quite some time! When the issue of having a rodeo came up, there were several officers, me included, that thought we should pass on the rodeo in order to concentrate on getting more members into the chapter. Needless to say, we ended up having a rodeo anyway. After seeing exactly how successful the rodeo was (one of the best in the past few years), I realized that even with adversity at the beginning of the year, we were able to pull together as a group and put on one hell of a rodeo. This is my most memorable moment.

I wish the new Chapter Officers the best of luck, the keenest of foresight, and the wisdom of rodeos gone by. You may feel like this year will really test your strength and commitment. And guess what, you're probably right. But keep in mind that the members of the Bay Area Chapter have always been able to accomplish miracles in times of desperation. We look to you now for guidance, leadership, and direction for the coming year. Just remember that you have the support of the entire chapter.....especially mine.

Sincerely,

Adrian Arteche
GSGRA-BAC Vice President
1999-2000

Howdy,

As we step into the future, life, as we have known is has got to change. Over the past several years I have seen BAC members come & members go, but in today's market of gay organizations, we cannot lose one of you.

Yes, yes I know, after Rodeo the fire goes out and folks just plain don't want to do anymore. I fall into the same trap as well. There are so many things that we as an organization can do together to have "Fun", to enlist new members and to show our community that we are committed to our organization. WE, and that's a collective WE, need to work on solutions as to why things are not working right. WE have to re-enlist those who have left, due to whatever reason to give us a second or even a third chance. WE can, WE will do better for our organization and members.

Rodeo is just one part of our organization, a BIG part, but not the only part. As we elect a new Executive Board, as we enter a new era, WE, the collective WE again have a great opportunity to have a FUN year and put on once again, the best RODEO California has ever seen.

Bob Pulliam
BAC Vice President

Hiya,

How can you follow all of the thoughts above? Not very easily. So, short and simple. Let's have some fun this year. Let's make it a goal to get to know each other better. What we'd like all of you to do is give us some thoughts and ideas, some suggestions, of what you want to do this year as a group. What would you like to see? One other thing, please make sure we have your current email address. Look forward to hearing from ya!

Jabby Lowe
BAC Vice President

Upcoming Events and Activities

September Meeting!

Mark your calendars now for this very special kick-off event. We're doing something a little different (we warned ya (G)).

When: Sunday, September 17th

Where: The Hensley House B&B – 456 N. Third Street, San Jose

Time: 4:00 – 8:00 PM (chapter biz at 5:00)

RSVP: (800) 498-3537

Why RSVP? Because we're going to have a wine and cheese social, with some other surprises, and we need a head count. So call the number above, or email one of the officers and let us know you're coming!

Imperial Court Casino Night

The Imperial Royal Monarchy of San Jose is joining with two other organizations to present "Monte Carlo Night at the Birdcage". An evening of food, fun, casino style games, fabulous entertainment and lots of surprises. The Court was very supportive of the rodeo last year, so we're urging everyone to get dressed up in their western finest, preferably our own GSGRA shirts, and head on over. Let's flood the place with cowgirls and cowboys, have some fun, and make our presence known.

When: Friday September 15th - Doors Open at 7pm

Where: American Legion Hall 2120 Walsh Ave, Santa Clara

Tickets are \$25.00 in advance and \$30.00 at the door.

Admission Includes \$100.00 in play chips.

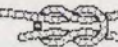
For advance ticket sales please contact: Philip Archer
at 650-428-1458 or at sj_emperorxxx@yahoo.com

All groups are Non Profit Organizations benefiting the following:

MidPeninsula Pathways Hospice Foundation
ARIS Food Basket
Center for the Blind & Sight
Mission Inn
Pediatric Aids Foundation
And many more.....

BAC Contacts

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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	





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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Well, it is over! The second annual Capital Crossroads rodeo. And as usual, the August weather was warm (hot) and sunny (hot) in the Sacramento Valley. Attendance this year was up, thanks to all of the advertising, and hard work of the rodeo committee.

The kick off dance at Faces, the dance and entertainment Friday and Saturday night, and the awards parties were also well attended. It was a chance to meet new friends as well as old acquaintances. Congratulations to everyone. You really are all winners.

The Buddy System has been implemented. This is where each new member of the rodeo group is assigned a veteran member of the group to help them by answering questions, keeping them up to date on upcoming events, explaining about events and meetings, and generally helping them get aquatinted with the Sierra Stampede rodeo group.

IN MEMORY

Zane Franson, a member of the Capital Crossroads chapter passed away August 2 in Sacramento. Zane had been diagnosed with inoperable cancer in May after he was involved in an auto accident. Zane, being the independent sort that he was, asked that his illness be kept quiet. May those railroad tracks run true for you Zane.

ROUGH NOTES AND CASUAL THOUGHTS

Chapter Rodeo Shirts: Those good looking shirts are still available. When the group is out on the town or at an event, it makes it nice way for people to help identify members of the group. They are \$40, cash or check made payable to Capital Crossroads. Call Marshall at (916) 446-6061 for information.



RODEO

The big news for this month was the second annual Capital Crossroads rodeo. Thanks to everyone that volunteered, the vendors, competitors, or spectators.

The Sierra Stampede rodeo also had a specialty event this year called "Save the Donner Party". 3 person teams had to run a course complete with "Donner Pass", Sutters Fort, and the Lassen Forest to bring a helpless member of the ill fated party back to the fort in a 2 wheeled cart. 6 teams signed up Saturday and Sunday, with a winning team each day. Congratulations to the winners!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- 10-11 -- Cowboy Gathering and Ranch Rodeo - Rowell Ranch, Castro Valley, CA
- 12-15 -- Pendleton Round-Up and Rodeo - Pendleton, OR - (PRCA)
- 13 -- Los Angeles Alzheimer's Association Dinner - For Tickets, call: 323-938-3379
- 15-17 -- Draft Horse Classic - Grass Valley Fairgrounds, CA. See the **BIG** horses!
- 15-17 -- Creston Rodeo - Creston CA (near Paso Robles)
- 22-24 -- San Diego Rodeo -- IGRA
- 29-Oct 1 - Southern Spurs Rodeo -- Atlanta GA -- IGRA

October

- 29- Oct 1 - Poway Rodeo - Poway, CA (PRCA)
- 7 -- Black Cowboys Parade - Oakland, CA
- 19-22 -- IGRA Finals Rodeo Albuquerque, NM

November

New Rodeo Year Begins - Texas Rodeo 10-12 -- TGRA Fort Worth Texas

December

TBA -- Sierra Stampede Christmas Bash

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

Address Correction Requested



San Diego Rodeo – September 22-24 September 2000