

THE JOLLY RANCHER

AN OVERVIEW OF THE INTERNATIONAL GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

EDITION 5



JULY 25TH, 2023



QUARTER 3



NOT JUST ANOTHER RODEO

Lately, I've been in this mode to show all what IGRA does and what the Associations do. What I found out is that literally, we are not just another rodeo. When I thought of the idea to look at the charities we support, I had no idea how emotional it might be. Throughout the years, all of the Associations we have (or had) have worked tireless hours to raise countless dollars. I wish I had a dollar amount for the last 10 years, or even 5 that YOU have all raised. We all know what our own Associations do, but do you know what the others are doing? Well, here ya go. Collectively, YOU have raised money to support the causes below (and there are more). The charities range from LGBT centers, breast cancer, animal rescues and shelters to religious groups, Sheriff/Fire Departments and more. It's amazing how diverse this list is. Take a look and be proud of what you do. I also have to give a huge shoutout to AGRA, who raised over \$110,000 for LGBTQ+ community organizations.

Various breast cancer research/support groups • Animal rescues • AIDS Service Organizations • HIV testing and prevention • HIV awareness • AIDS Assistance Programs • Women and children with HIV • Support and advocacy for queer youth • Transgender support groups • Suicide Prevention • Horse rescues and sanctuaries • Multiple Houses of The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence • San Gorgonio Pass Sheriff's Posse • Life Group LA • LBGT Community Centers • Domestic violence • One for Orlando – victims of the Orlando shooting • St Judes • Hearts & Hooves • Arkansas Freedom Fund • Quapaw Quarter United Methodist Church • Seis Puentes • Gay for Good – Arkansas • SASH Animal Rescue • Puppy Up – Dog Cancer Foundation • CAR Adolescent home for gay children • New Beginnings Church • Front Street Animal Shelter • Saddle Pals • Sacramento LGBT Center • ANAC Association of Nurses in AIDS Care • Ranch Hand Rescue • Bryan's House • Legacy Cottage • LGBT Resource Center

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of myself and the IGRA Board of Directors I would like to thank all the members who have supported our rodeo and royalty events to date. We have had such great turnouts. If you take a look around you will see many new faces joining the seasoned members at our events which is wonderful to see. We have several more events in the 2024 season, so let's keep the momentum going and support our member associations.

By now, the **2024 WGRF and Royalty Competition** is in the very capable hands of the operational team of 5 amazing Rodeo Directors and the mentorship of the IGRA WGRF Chair, Chris Tobin. I know the team is planning a convenient, integrated approach this year that will make the events more fun than ever. Please make plans to attend WGRF 2024, El Reno, OK in October 2024.

Convention 2024 will be in Grand Rapids Michigan this year where we will help MIGRA celebrate 30 years as a member association, and 40 years of leadership by IGRA. The Hotel and registration link will be promoted in early July.

As you know, several individuals have been working on the long-term planning for our 50- Year Celebrations in 2025. Volunteers to help out are still needed, with more details to follow. This celebration year includes:

Early 2025:

- 2025 IGRA University held in Collaboration with the SinCity Classic, Las Vegas, NV January 16-19, 2025. Join with 10,000 other LGBTQ+ Athletes.
- IGRA Parade, Float, and Booth at the 50th Anniversary World Gay Pride in Washington, DC, June 5-June 9, 2025.
- Special Gay Rodeo Archive and Museum Induction Event in Washington, DC, June 5-9, 2025.

Then in the fall we will gather in Reno, Nevada for a historic weekend celebrating the First Rodeo of the 50th year of Gay Rodeo in North America. What an accomplishment!

- 2025 IGRA WGRF and Royalty Competition in Reno, Nevada.
- 50-year Gay Rodeo Reunion Celebration: Everyone from over the years welcome to come, party, and reconnect!
- A special commemorative event at the site of the 1988 blocked WGRF.
- Dancing, Partying, Rodeo, Royalty all in one great location.

In the meanwhile, enjoy the rest of the rodeo year, stay safe, have fun and know that what we do matters to the communities we serve.

Brian Helander, President

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Paula M. Scougal



Paula began with IGRA, before it was known as IGRA. She was sitting in 3 Sister's bar when Wayne Jakino came in. He saw her there in a cowboy hat, and apparently

the only one in a cowboy hat, went up to her and asked if she wanted to join. Done deal!

Back then everyone who competed, also worked behind the scenes. That's what Paula did. She was an avid competitor for many years until 2000. After that, Paula worked behind the scenes, helping out wherever needed. Today, Paula is still an avid supporter of IGRA. She has sponsored countless buckles and also individual competitors. She stays around because of the people and the rodeo family. Paula is also a Founding Member of IGRA and a Lifetime member of CGRA.

We're glad to have you Paula. Your support is everything!

Scott Korff



A bit about Scott

Scott hails from a small town of 56, called Columbus, MI. Today he resides in Sterling Heights, MI, which is a suburb of Detroit. He has attended the

University of Michigan in 2007

and Harvard in 2013.

Scott began rodeo'ng in 2004 when he went to a fundraiser for MIGRA . . . that's Michigan in case you weren't sure, and east of the Mississippi! After being asked to help out at the '04 MIGRA rodeo, Scott started to participate more at fundraising events and began competing. He has served as MIGRA Vice President, Mr. MIGRA 2012 & 2015 and was the Rodeo Director of the 2013 Great Lakes Regional Rodeo. He is currently the MIGRA President and Trustee. Like many, Scott enjoys the friendships and family he's gained within the rodeo circuit and loves the feeling of reuniting and seeing old friends at each rodeo.

Outside of rodeo, Scott works as a mechanic on the 72 Brunswick A2 Pinsetters. He's been an avid bowler since 1983. He also qualified for the Professional Bowlers Association at the end of the 2023-24 season. Scott is also a contracted Record management Analyst for the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and has started his own Record Management firm in 2021.

Quite an impressive resume, cowboy!

WORLD GAY RODEO FINALS

As you know the 36th World Gay Rodeo Finals is fast approaching. This year, WGRF will once again be held at the Canadian County Expo Center in El Reno, OK on Oct. 24-27.

The WGRF committee is working hard to make this an even better Finals for everyone. Last year, we showed what we can accomplish when we all work together. 2024 will be bigger and better.

We are still in need of sponsors. Corporate sponsors, buckles, medals, etc. We are challenging each of you to find 1 individual or one company that would like partner with us. If you have ideas for sponsorships or have contacts, please contact the 2024 IGRA Sponsor Chair, Charlie Colella.



**WORLD GAY
RODEO FINALS®**
and **IGRA Royalty Competition**
OCTOBER 24TH-27TH **2024** EL RENO, OK

  CANADIAN COUNTY EXPO & EVENT CENTER 

For more information visit Gay-Rodeo.net



2024 IGRA SCHEDULE

North Star Regional Rodeo

July 26-28

Hugo, MN

Great Plains Rodeo

August 9-11

Oklahoma City, OK

ASGRA

August 17

Washington DC

Zia Regional Rodeo

August 23-25

Santa Fe, NM

Best Buck In The Bay

September 13-15

San Francisco, CA

World Gay Rodeo Finals

October 25-27

El Reno, TX

IGRA Convention

November 14-17

Grand Rapids, MI

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Published and Edited by Charlie Colella and Brandon Volf

If you would like to contribute to the Jolly Rancher, please contact Charlie or Brandon. We want your ideas!