

# MGRA

MISSOURI GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 5

MAY 1986

## FROM THE PRESIDENT - BOB MITCHELL

As your President I want to thank all of you who were able to go to Oklahoma City. You were all very fine representatives of MGRA and I was very pleased with everyone showing our Colors on the new shirts. This was our debut for our Emblem and everyone from other parts of the country were impressed by the shirts. Once again my hat is off to all of you.

THANKS FROM BOB

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## FROM ENTERTAINMENT/DANCE COMMITTEE OFFICER - CHARLIE MAXWELL

### MGRA OKC BUS TRIP

If you are one of the few who did not make it to OKC with us, then let me fill you in on what you missed out on.

The bar opened on the bus at about 8:30 A.M. and everyone had a drink by the time we made 7TH and Maiden Lane. For the next 3½ hours it was fast driving on the bus drivers part, fast drinking on the riders part, and I don't remember what I did but you can bet it was fast what ever it was.

Thanks to Christy, Billy, and Frances and a few others we had more than enough to drink. If you want to know how far it is to OKC for 37 people I can tell you it is about 3 bottles of Harwood, 2 bottles of Vodka, 1½ bottles of Gin, 1 bottle of Scotch, 1 bottle of Rum and a jug of Bloody Marys. That will get you there feeling very good.

We arrived at the extravaganza feeling no pain. It was like coming home again. The people of OGRA met us at the gate and we were inside looking, listening, hugging, and groping in a very short time.

The entertainment was the very best. The shows alone were worth the trip. Dancing, Singing, Games, Food and just Plain Fun made you feel as if you were at the fair. It wasn't long before MGRA let it be known that we had come to have a good time. Dennis, Ron, RL and Jim did there thing to the Cotton-Eye-Joe. While Dick, Adorf, Heleen and Ann did show off the finer points of dancing.

When the action moved outside MGRA was there once again. Bob and Christy entered the Texas Flag Race. Bob came in fourth and Christy finished fifth. But what really matters was that these two people got off there butts and did something. We are all very proud of you Christy and Bob. Then there was the Martha Washington Race. After a short talk. Brian, Keith and Jim entered the Race. The fact that they were told the bus may leave without them had very little to do with their decision to enter I am sure.

(continued)

LET US SHOW YOU

**MGRA**



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If you have never seen a size 40 try to get into a size 26 then you can imagine how the Race went. They may not have given us a First Place Ribbon but they gave us about 5 minutes of the most fun I have had in a long time. It took a lot of guts to get out there and do what they did. But I for one will never forget the enjoyment they provided us with.

Jim was also in the Stick Horse Race, which he ran away with. Unfortunately you must trot to win. Better luck next time Jim.

We should all be very proud of these five people who gave of themselves for MGRA. Bob, Christy, Jim, Brian, and Keith You are all first Place Winners with us. Thanks again.

At about 6PM we made our way back to the bus. Well most of us did. We still don't know why Mike was almost left behind. What or Who was it Mike?

There was a short ride into OKC for a dinner stop. I am sure that Dick and Beth can give you the name of the place where we ate. By the way how were those steaks anyway. Well next time maybe we will stop at Wendys.

Then it was on to the Bunkhouse. For most of us it was time to sit back, have a cold drink and relax. But before long the music called us all out on the dance floor and we were ready.

What can we say. The music, dancing, entertainment and drinks were the best. Everyone at the Bunkhouse from owner to bar back went out of their way to show MGRA a good time. Don't go to OKC without stopping at the Bunkhouse. I can tell you first hand that these fine people will show you a good time.

But as always good things must come to an end so around 1:30AM we had to leave. OGRA and IGRA were there as we loaded on the bus for the ride home. That is all but John. How many rides did it take to get back to Joplin, John?

I know there is much that I have left out but there is only so much I can write. All the little things which made this trip so special will never be forgotten. I am very proud to have been a part of it and I can't wait to do it again.

I would like to thank OGRA for making it such a special day for all of us and to all the members who worked so hard so we could have so much fun. Thanks again from all of us in MGRA.

I would also like to thank the MGRA from KC who met us in OKC. Jack and Ken you are very much a part of MGRA.

THANKS, CHARLIE

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OGRA CHANGES RODEO DATES

Please make a calendar change as to the dates for the OGRA Rodeo. The new dates will be August 15, 16, 17, 1986. The reason for the change was the acquisition of the Arena at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds. The Rodeo has also had a name change. It will be known this year as "THE GREAT

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PLAINS REGIONAL RODEO" sponsored by OGRA and co-sponsored by MGRA and KGRA. Our help is needed in the form of labor in producing a rodeo of this magnitude. Any input that can be given should be directed through Bob or the Rodeo Events Committee.

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2ND MGRA WEEKEND ROUND-UP

May 16 & 17 have been chosen for the 2ND MGRA Weekend Round-Up. All activities will take place at Billy Jack's with special Saturday evening entertainment "THE ROCKIN R CLOGGERS OF WICHITA". On Friday evening the competition for Miss MGRA will start at 9:00 PM following a local Western Talent Show which is open to anyone interested in participating. Please sign up at Billy Jack's.

THE WEEKEND SCHEDULE IS AS FOLLOWS:

FRI. - MAY 16TH	8:00PM	LOCAL WESTERN TALENT SHOW
	9:00PM	MISS MGRA COMPETITION
		(PERSONALITY INTERVIEWS FOLLOW PERFORMANCE)
SAT. - MAY 17TH		
	10:00AM - NOON	LITTLE JOHN'S BREAKFAST CLUB
		(BLOODY MARY SPECIALS)
	NOON - 2:00PM	HORSEMANSHIP COMPETITIONS FOR MR. & MS. (TBA)
	2:00PM - 4:00PM	CLOGGING LESSONS FOR MGRA CLOGGERS
	7:30PM - 8:00PM	PERSONALITY INTERVIEWS FOR MR. & MS.
	8:00PM - 9:00PM	LOCAL TALENT ENTERTAINMENT
	9:00PM -	ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTED BY ROCKIN R. CLOGGERS
	11:00PM	ANNOUNCEMENT OF MR., MS., & MISS MGRA

Entry forms for any of the contests are available at Billy Jack's or from any MGRA OFFICER. There will be a \$3.00 Weekend Cover Charge.

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BILLY JACK'S BAR - CLOGGING INSTRUCTOR

We have a Clogging Instructor for the Bar. After May 3RD He will be here every Sat. 2:00PM to 4:00PM as long as we need him. The cost is \$5.00 per person per hour. All you need is a pair of hard soul lower cut shoes. As always if you want to learn how to two-step just ask and we will be glad to help you.



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NEW GAME AT CG'S

CG's has a wonderful new Electronic Dart Game that is really fun. One or four can play at one time. No need to keep score the machine does it for you. So come on in and try your luck.

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VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball teams are forming for MGRA, BILLY JACK'S AND CG'S. Put your name down for fun and good exercise. Sign up at Billy's or CG's.

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SHIRTS AND HATS

MGRA TEE-SHIRTS & BASEBALL STYLE CAPS are now available at Billy Jack's or CG's. We appreciate your support and interest shown in these items.

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MGRA CALENDAR

MAY 14  
MAY 16 & 17  
MAY 3 - JUNE 1  
AUG. 15 - 16 - 17  
AUG. 22 - 23  
SEPT. 26 - 28  
NOV. 14 - 16

MGRA MEETING 8:00  
MGRA 2ND WEEKEND ROUND-UP  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL RODEO  
GREAT PLAINS REGIONAL RODEO  
MGRA CAMPOUT  
IGRA CONVENTION (DENVER)  
TGRA RODEO (DALLAS)

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NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The Newsletter is going full speed thanks to all of your input. The interest is high and that shows you care. Keep sending in those ideas. Remember the NEWSLETTER DEADLINE is the 25TH of each month.

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MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

MGRA MEMBERSHIP is \$20.00 Regular and \$20.00 Corporate Membership. MGRA meets the second Wednesday of each month. This may change in the summer months, but notices will be given far in advance. Send requests for membership to MGRA PO BOX 291 Webb City Missouri 64870 or to Christy Guy 2302 Menia Joplin, Mo. 64801.



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NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING

Newsletter advertising is available at \$10.00 per month or \$90.00 per year (from the first month printed). Advertising is to be submitted in Business Card Form. Ad's will be supporting MGRA.

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FROM THE HISTORICAL COMMITTEE OFFICER - BONNIE OLIVER

California was a great experience. There were 3 represented from MGRA. A jam pack crowd was in attendance. There was plenty of Beer, Good Food, and Friendly People everywhere you went. You could be entertained by the Glogger or the Rodeo Contestants. BONNIE

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FROM THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY - DAN BUTLER

This summer is going to be full of Activities and Special Events. We will be going all over the country to attend other states functions. And other people from outside of our area will be coming to Joplin. If any member knows of any group or organization that might be interested in MGRA and our Functions please let me know so they can be put on our Mailing List. I would like to take this time to give a very special thanks to my typist Jim Peck for his time and help and to Joe Jessen for the use of their house. Also I want to thank Ray Hartshorn for filling in as typist last month.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR INTEREST AND SUPPORT;

*Dan Butler*

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY  
DAN BUTLER

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT: Reserved Box Seats are now available at a Special Rodeo Price of \$10.00 per day for the Rocky Mountain Regional in Denver May 30, 31, and June 1, 1986. To get your reserved seat, contact Bob.

LET US SHOW YOU

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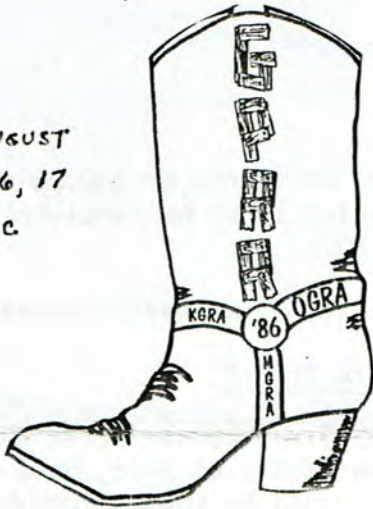
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15, 16, 17  
OKC



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MGRA WEEKEND  
ROUND-UP

MAY 16, 17<sup>th</sup>



C.G.'s

**CHA CHA PALACE**

the dance continues...

722 Main  
Joplin, MO 64801

417-623-9313