

# RODEO ROUND-UP

*Jeffrey Neal*

It will be seven weeks from Rodeo when you receive this and things are moving along but there are a lot of issues to sift through. We still believe there can be a rodeo but the skies have definitely unloaded in the past few weeks and there doesn't seem to be an end to the rains. The planning team is trying to make every option weather-withstanding and that will be the focus of our discussions as we get closer to April.

Right now, the Directors are completing the designs for Horseman's Park so that the Arena and Dance Pavilion and Vendor areas are given prime space and attention to provide patrons the best possible of events. This design will be presented to the Executive Board and the RPC on Monday February 28<sup>th</sup> and as of that meeting the RPC will be meeting every other week until Rodeo to make sure every detail happens. If you are interested in more, you are welcome to attend the RPC meetings at the Center at 6:45 p.m. on March 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup>. The meeting on Feb 28<sup>th</sup> for RPC will begin at 7:30 p.m. to allow the Executive Board to meet prior.

Now is the time to talk it up. Tell your friends, your neighbors. Participate in the mini-bar crawl, the kick-off party, the Bar Crawl, the events during the weekend and make sure that everyone knows that we are working to make this a great rodeo! Information will be posted on the website and more is coming as the final touches are made. Thanks for your support. Let's get ready to Rodeo!



## **MARCH BOARD ELECTIONS**

*Lorry King  
Trustee  
Chair, Nominating Committee*

Our Bylaws require that ballots be mailed immediately after the March General Membership Meeting. That means that I will be mailing the ballots on March 26. This year, all offices except for Trustee are open:

- President and Treasurer will serve for two years
- Vice-President and Secretary will serve for one year
- Four Members-at-Large who will each serve for one year

Candidates must be a fully paid member for at least 90 days (December 26, 2005) and may not run for or hold more than one Board position.

The Board has appointed me to be the Chair of the Nominating Committee, so if anyone is interested in running or just interested in obtaining more information about the positions, please contact me at [llwking@aol.com](mailto:llwking@aol.com). Also, feel free to ask any of the current Board members about their duties. You may nominate yourself, or be nominated by someone else. You may contact me with the nomination, and we will take nominations from the floor during the March General Membership Meeting. I will need a short bio to put in the election package that is mailed to all members. I know there are lots of talented members out there with fresh ideas and a desire to help out NGRA and their community.

# ROYALTY REPORT

*Chris Due – Mr. NGRA 2005*

*Tara Panties Litter – Miss NGRA 2005*

*Blanche Devaho – Miss NGRA 2005 First Runner Up*

*Sadie VanPatten Litter – Miss NGRA 2005 Second Runner Up*

Hello from your 2005 Royalty Team. We are still hard at work. The 2005 Team put on an amazing “Sweethearts of the Rodeo” show on February 12, where there was great entertainment and they even raised a buck or two. Rumor has it, that the “First Lady” of NGRA even broke out a few numbers! I think we might be looking at a future royalty member??? We would like to thank all of those who came out to support us and perform. Soon we were off to Dallas, Texas, to IGRA University. Chris and Blanche attended and learned so much about IGRA and IGRA Royalty. They were in a really long, but informative, class about royalty. Look for some of these newly learned ideas at upcoming fundraising events! There were many members of NGRA that took part in IGRA University, and we would like to say THANK YOU to those who attended and will be using what was learned to better NGRA!

While Chris and Blanche were in Texas, Tara and Sadie were hard at work here in Las Vegas, preparing for the upcoming fundraising events. We have some great events coming up, including the Laughlin Bus Trip and the Annual Closet Ball. They even put some finishing touches on the Board of Directors Show, where we have learned one of our favorite members might even be wearing a gown that night! More details on this in the next newsletter. Keep informed on what’s coming up by visiting our website [www.ngra.com](http://www.ngra.com). We are all preparing for the highlight of our reign, the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Bighorn Rodeo. That is just around the corner and the RPC staff is working feverishly to get everything completed and turn out one of the best rodeos on the IGRA circuit. Trust me. This is an event you do not want to miss! You never know when you might see Tara, Blanche or Sadie on horseback in high drag! Trust me. It is a Kodak moment!

The next Fundraising Committee meeting is Thursday, March 3, at The Center at 6:45 p.m. Come and share some of your ideas on how to raise money! We hope to see you all at our upcoming events. Until then, save a horse, ride a cowboy!

## An Invitation From Miss NGRA

Howdy folks, this is Tara Panties Litter. I’d like to take this time to invite you on a night out with NGRA. April 9th, 2005 the royalty team will be visiting some of Las Vegas’ bars promoting Big Horn Rodeo. This is sure to be a fabulous night as we get ready to rodeo. We are doing a mini bar crawl promoting rodeo starting with Commercial Centre and moving on out to the fruit loop. So, throw on your Rodeo best and join NGRA for “Night on the Town”.

## NGRA Association Buckle

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makers of the finest rodeo award buckles in the world



These beautiful buckles are available for the purchase price of \$120 Contact Blaine Woodie at [ngratreasurer@cox.net](mailto:ngratreasurer@cox.net) or call the rodeo hotline at 888-643-NGRA You can also buy online. [www.ngra.com](http://www.ngra.com)

# TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Lorry King

February was a busy month for your Trustee's brain! I attended the first IGRA Board of Director's Meeting of 2005 and IGRA University on the same loooong weekend. I admit it, by Sunday afternoon; I had to take a power nap!

The Board Meeting was presided over by our new IGRA president, Brian Helander, of AGRA. He set a good tone, one of calm discussion and fairness, and allowed everyone his or her say, without influencing the outcome. He also brought in Jabby Lowe, the GSGRA President, to facilitate a discussion on determining our Mission Statement. We made good progress on that topic and will finish it at our next meeting, or possibly at a special session.

We looked at the American Airlines contract, and although it has many good points, there was some concern about allowing Associations to obtain regional partners, so Brian will continue the negotiations.

A change was made on the Contestant Registration Form (IGRA Event Entry Form) to delete the Photo Release section and replace it with the statement, "This may be a media covered event."

We were advised of the International Sponsor money for 2005 – we will receive \$5,400.00 from Bud Light and \$714.50 from Bacardi Silver (half before the rodeo and half after, assuming we are compliant with the contract), as well as \$900.00 in advertising reimbursement from Bud Light.

A Contestant Injury Fund Committee has been formed and the rules for the fund will be developed.

The 2005 IGRA Royalty Team has chosen "Body Positive" of Arizona as their charity for 2005.

President Helander has asked me to join two IGRA Committees, Hall of Fame and Grand Entry. The Grand Entry Committee will examine our rules governing this aspect of the rodeo with a view to making it more fun and flexible.

University was a great experience. There was an incredible energy, sharing of ideas, openness of thinking, and a willingness to grow and change. Hopefully, this energy will continue on through the other Board Meetings and Convention as we move into a new era.

## HELP IN CELEBRATING NGRA MEMBERS BIRTHDAYS FOR MARCH



<b>Tomas Coleman:</b>	<b>March 1<sup>st</sup></b>
<b>Don Phillips:</b>	<b>March 6<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Laurie Banks:</b>	<b>March 13<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Martin Manning:</b>	<b>March 26<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Ron Swegle:</b>	<b>March 31<sup>st</sup></b>

**NGRA**  
**\*\*\*STAR\*\*\***  
**MEMBERS FOR**  
**THE MONTH**  
**OF FEBRUARY**



NGRA's star for the month of February is **Eric Hudson**. Eric showed his star quality by stepping up to help handle the Beer Bust during the "Sweet Heart of the Rodeo" fundraiser. Eric has been a member of NGRA since June 2004. Eric, thanks for your support it was truly appreciated.

**BigHorn Rodeo is approaching.**  
**We're looking for volunteers.**  
**see article on page 6**

# NGRA is looking for Closet Ball contestants

On Saturday, March 26, 2005, NGRA's annual Closet Ball event will be held at Badlands after the general membership meeting.

If you or anyone you know may be interested in competing in this event, would like more information about the event, or would like to perform during the hour that our contestants prepare for their debut, please E-mail me at: DMM8907@AOL.COM or call 699-7829. Members and non-members are encouraged to participate in this show. This event is intended as a fun experience and both genders are encouraged to compete for the title of Mr. or Miss Closet Ball, 2005.

This will be one of the last fund-raising events prior to Big Horn Rodeo 2005, so please come out to show your support for the contestants and for NGRA and share the good fellowship that makes NGRA a great organization.

Dave McKenney, aka Diddy Revealya  
Miss Closet Ball, 2004



## I.G.R.A. RODEO/EVENT SCHEDULE RODEO YEAR 2005 JANUARY 1, 2005 – DECEMBER 31, 2005

EVENT	LOCATION	DATES
Cowtown Rodeo	Fort Worth	March 4-6, 2005
T-Town Rodeo	Tulsa	April 8-10, 2005
Bighorn Rodeo	Las Vegas	April 22-24, 2005
Rodeo in The Rock	Little Rock	April 29-May 1, 2005
Rodeo Wichita	Wichita	May 13-15, 2005
Comstock Stampede	Reno	May 13-15, 2005
Great Plains Rodeo	Oklahoma City	May 27-29, 2005
Zia Regional Rodeo	Albuquerque	June 17-19, 2005
North Star Regional Rodeo	Minneapolis/St. Paul	July 1-3, 2005
Canadian Rockies Int'l Rodeo	Calgary	July 1-3, 2005
Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo	Denver	July 8-10, 2005
Southern Spurs Rodeo	Atlanta	July 22-24, 2005
Greater Motown Int'l Rodeo Part VI	Detroit	July 29-31, 2005
LA Rodeo 2005	Los Angeles	August 5-7, 2005
San Francisco Bay Area Gay Rodeo	San Francisco	August 19-21, 2005
Windy City Rodeo	Chicago	August 26-28, 2005
MGRA Show Me State Rodeo	Kansas City	September 2-4, 2005
Atlantic Stampede 2005	Washington, DC	September 9-11, 2005
Greater San Diego Rodeo	San Diego	September 23-25, 2005
Space City Rodeo	Houston	September 30-October 2, 2005
21st Annual Convention	Calgary	October 20-23, 2005
International Dance Competition	Calgary	October 22, 2005
19th Annual Finals Rodeo	Dallas	November 11-13, 2005

# PRESIDENT'S ARTICLE

Greetings to all members. I would like to start my report this time by reiterating that NGRA board elections are quickly coming upon us. All of the board positions are eligible for nominations, except trustee. The deadline for nominations is at the general membership meeting on March 26. According to our bylaws, any member interested in filling a board position needs to submit a written biography stating the position that they are interested in filling by the above mentioned date. Also, make sure to provide some personal history and qualifications. New faces and new ideas could help raise NGRA to the next level. And what an awesome ride it can be.

I want to thank all of you that were able to join us for our annual Board of Directors Show last month. It was an extremely fun evening. Thanks to your contributions, this rickety old board raised \$550.50 to go towards putting on this next rodeo. There was definitely some hidden talent brought up on stage that night.

In closing, as co-host with my lover, Aaron Stanford (a.k.a.: NGRA's First Lady) I would like to invite ALL members to our benefit show, March 19 at 9:00 pm at Badlands Saloon. Proceeds raised from the show will be donated to St. Therese Center, which is an organization helping HIV+ families. So, grab some friends and come help us raise as much money as possible. We have a great show planned with loads of terrific talent.

Thanks again for all the support that you provide to this great rodeo organization.

**March 2005**For times, locations, and more detail please visit the ngra web calendar at [www.ngra.com](http://www.ngra.com)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3 NGRA fundraising meeting - 6:30 The Center	4 Cowtown Rodeo Fort Worth, TX	5 Cowtown Rodeo Fort Worth, TX
6 Cowtown Rodeo Fort Worth, TX	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 RPC meeting The Center 6:45	15	16	17	18	19 Little Bit Country & Rock and Roll
20 NGRA Laughlin Bus Trip	21 NGRA Board of Directors Meeting - 6:30 at The Center	22	23	24	25	26 <b>General Membership Annual Closet Ball</b>
27	28 RPC meeting The Center 6:45	29	30	31		

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**How to contact your NGRA Board Members****President**John Gomes • [president@ngra.com](mailto:president@ngra.com)**Vice President**Brian Rogers • [vicepresident@ngra.com](mailto:vicepresident@ngra.com)**Secretary**Richard Schlegel • [secretary@ngra.com](mailto:secretary@ngra.com)**Treasurer**Blaine Woodie • [treasurer@ngra.com](mailto:treasurer@ngra.com)**Trustee**Lorry King • [trustee@ngra.com](mailto:trustee@ngra.com)**Members at Large**David Murie • [sunshine@ngra.com](mailto:sunshine@ngra.com)Jeff Bengston • [jeff@cosmiccowboyevents.com](mailto:jeff@cosmiccowboyevents.com)Chris Due • [christopherdue@aol.com](mailto:christopherdue@aol.com)Kevin Marienfeld • [kevindcowboy@c0x.net](mailto:kevindcowboy@c0x.net)**Rodeo Director**Jeffery Neal • [director@bighornrodeo.com](mailto:director@bighornrodeo.com) 5



# ANNUAL CLOSET BALL at BADLANDS

Saturday • March 26

Competition and Show starts at 9:30 pm

Here's your chance to make the transformation that you once thought about and to show others your talent. **Guys into Girls. Girls into Guys.** Those who compete have one hour to make their transformation and show their stuff. For more information call Miss Closet Ball 2004 - Diddy Revealya: 699-7829



If you're in the mood to witness some great fun and enjoy the company of some talented persons **HERE'S YOUR CHANCE.** See you at Badlands. Performance follows NGRA's General Membership Meeting at the Center - 7:00 pm

**Jello Shots  
for \$1.00**

**\$1.00 Raffle Tickets for  
Great Baskets of Goodies  
and a DVD Player**

**Bud Light 5.00 Beer  
Bust starts at 9:00**



A BUD LIGHT SERIES RODEO



**A LITTLE BIT COUNTRY**



Produced by NGRA's First Lady, Page Diamond  
and John Gomes

**A LITTLE BIT  
ROCK 'N' ROLL**



# **BADLANDS**

**Saturday • March 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Show starts at 9:00**

Help in supporting a great lineup of  
community entertainers in raising funds to  
support Saint Therese Center



IGRA UNIVERSITY GRAND PRIZE  
 RAFFLE WINNER:  
 AARON STANFORD (FIRST LADY)  
 HIS PRIZE---A FABULOUS MOUNTAIN  
 BIKE,  
 DONATED BY BUD LIGHT!!

# CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

We need you to be a part of a great Rodeo Event. It takes a lot of hands to make the rodeo happen. My name is Ken Wells and I am the BigHorn Rodeo Volunteer Coordinator for the 2005 rodeo event. As a member 3-year member of NGRA and a 4-year volunteer of BigHorn Rodeo I can help direct any questions on what there is to do for and with Rodeo and how rewarding it can be. Please log on to the NGRA website at [www.ngra.com](http://www.ngra.com) and follow the links to the Volunteer page. Fill out the online form and you're done. You can also contact me directly at [volunteers@bighornrodeo.com](mailto:volunteers@bighornrodeo.com) and I will be happy to e-mail the form to you. I look forward to meeting all of you.

**COWBOY & COWGIRL UP!**

Ken Wells  
 2005 BigHorn Rodeo  
 Volunteer Coordinator

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