



Big Horn Gazette

SEPTEMBER 2005 ISSUE

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Brian Rogers

NGRA has much to be thankful for this month. The good news just keeps rolling in. Fundraising has been very successful in July and August. Hats off to Miss Blanche and to Mike Windsor and his crew for their successes at our local fundraisers and at the Awesome August Party. The fundraising committee raised over \$800 and the Awesome August crew brought in over \$1,000.

I am very proud that NGRA was named "Non-Profit of the Year" by the Honorarium Committee of the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. NGRA will receive this prestigious award at the Annual Honorarium dinner to be held at The Palms on October 1. Tickets are \$100 and proceeds benefit The Center. I would love to see NGRA there in a BIG way to enjoy our success. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket or would like to sponsor a seat, please contact me at president@ngra.com.

The Rodeo Planning Committee has resumed meeting on the second Monday of the month at The Center. Groundwork is being laid for our 10th Anniversary BigHorn Rodeo to be held October 5-8, 2006. Richard Schlegel has been working on a host hotel and we have been discussing changes to the venue format to lower costs and maximize fun! Please join us on September 12.

On the IGRA front, I can see I'm going to be very busy in the coming months. I head the Rodeo Resources committee for IGRA, and the Rodeo Guidebook for Rodeo Directors, which I produce each year, will need major revisions after all the changes that are coming at IGRA Convention. You will be proud that your board is very active at the IGRA level. I am proud to be representing NGRA as a

Continues on page 2

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Robert Salcedo
Boan Jordan
Dick Casola
Charles Cavanaugh
Ann Marie Grigsby
Deborah Zaring
Johnnie Lingo
Keith Moore

NGRA membership count is 110



NGRA NEEDS YOU!

Join NGRA as a delegate at the IGRA Convention, October 21-23.

This year's convention is being held in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Home of the Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association, Calgary is a beautiful city with a strong rodeo culture. The IGRA convention is the best way to learn about gay rodeo across the country and to meet new and exciting people. The International Dance Finals will also take place in Calgary that weekend.

We are seeking members to help fill out our delegation representing NGRA in committee meetings and voting on issues that come up on the convention floor. To encourage representation, the Board of Directors has approved a \$200 travel stipend to members who attend convention, participate and report what they've learned back to the membership.

For more information about IGRA Convention, please contact your Trustee, Lorry King at Trustee@ngra.com.

CONTESTANT UPDATES

As expected, two of NGRA's contestants competed in Los Angeles on August 6 and 7. Although Lee Hale Cowboy'd Up and competed in both Calf Roping on Foot and Wild Drag, he wasn't able to finish in the Top Eight. He caught his calf both days, however, which is more than any of us could say!

Robert Salcedo continued his winning ways. He placed 6th in Steer Deco and 3rd in Goat Dressing on Saturday and in Wild Drag he placed both days - 4th on Saturday and 8th on Sunday. Thanks to Robert, Team NGRA placed 9th out of the 13 Associations who competed!

September Rodeos include Kansas City 9/2-4, DC 9/9-11, San Francisco 9/16-18, and Houston 9/30-10/2. Due to an injury, Lee won't be able to travel to SF, but we expect Robert to be there, along with Chris Due and Richard Armstrong. Good luck to all!

NGRA MEMBER FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST
David Cameron



David Cameron was selected at the August General Membership Meeting as Member of the Month for his ongoing dedication to NGRA by supporting many of our fundraising activities. He is always working behind the scenes to set up events and shows and ensure that we have necessary equipment, decorations, and raffle items to support our fundraising activities. Congratulations, David, and thank you for your hard work on behalf of NGRA

judge for the IGRA Royalty Competition at Finals in Dallas this November. Bill Watkins will also be serving as a judge and Lorry King will be tallying scores.

The most exciting news for me personally is that I have been asked by IGRA President, Brian Helander to serve as Chancellor for the 2006 IGRA University. While in the preliminary planning stages, I plan to bring University to Las Vegas in February. This is a big event, which will fall under the auspices of the RPC and bring in 100's of rodeo movers and shakers from all over the country and Canada. It's an exciting opportunity to showcase the talents of NGRA, host our friends in Las Vegas, and put on a rodeo learning experience that's the best ever!

Whew! Looks like a very busy year. Come get involved, its fun!



virgo

AUGUST 23 - SEPTEMBER 22

CELEBRATE NGRA MEMBERS SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Lee Hale	9/17
Scott Clonan	9/17
Mike Windsor	9/18
Dale Jag	9/18
Robert O'Toole	9/19

Don't forget to help celebrate all the Virgos at the Vestal Virgin Party at Spotlight September 17th

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Lorry King

The weekend of August 26-28 was a hot one in Chicago! The temperature was high, the humidity was high, the mosquitoes were biting, and the IGRA Board of Directors meeting was lengthy, sometimes calm, sometimes argumentative, and always informative. I lived through it all, with the help of "Off!" bug spray, lots of Diet Pepsi, and knowing when to speak up and when to shut up (yes, I DO know how to do that!).

The Committee that is developing the criteria for approving a rodeo reported on their progress. The areas that will be judged include – Contestant Feedback, PR and Advertising, Effective and Entertaining Show, Sponsor Feedback, Attendance, Net Income, Donation to Charities, and Arena and Facilities. I am sure we will excel in all those categories and have no trouble being approved.

A new IGRA Liability Waiver and Media Release was presented after discussion with an Entertainment Attorney. It will be used at Finals for the first time and then become mandatory beginning in 2006. It simply waives liability of IGRA and gives consent to be photographed.

Q TV has aired five IGRA Rodeos so far, including ours. You can go to qtv.com to check schedules and see clips.

There is still time to join us in Calgary as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the IGRA Convention. If you're interested, let me know by the morning of September 5th.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to NGRA Bylaws, this public notice is to inform you that additions to the NGRA Standing Rules related to the Royalty Pageant and a new Royalty Travel Fund will be voted on at the September General Membership meeting. Both proposals were presented at the August meeting.

Standing Rules Proposal #1: Creates a new judging category called "Spirit and Community Support". This category is designed encourage public participation in fundraising activities and support for NGRA events and to give consideration for those activities in the competition.

Standing Rules Proposal #2: Creates a Royalty Travel Fund to encourage Royalty travel to IGRA Rodeos and important IGRA events such as Convention and Finals. It is funded by the title holders themselves through sponsorship solicitation and separate fundraisers. Royalty title holders may draw up to the amount they have deposited in the fund. Eligible travel expenses are limited to reasonable airfare, fuel, car rental, lodging, meals, and event entry fees. All such funds will be maintained and distributed by the NGRA treasurer. All sponsorships, fundraisers, and withdrawals will require prior board approval. In addition, this proposal creates a mandatory "Personal Financial Responsibility Agreement" form. All Royalty titleholders will sign a personal financial responsibility agreement immediately upon assuming their titles. This agreement details personal accountabilities and sets out the terms of the Royalty Travel Fund.

To read these proposal in there entirety you can go to NGRA website <http://www.ngra.com/membership.asp>.

Report of the Fundraising Committee

Submitted by Paul McAlister-Cameron, a.k.a., Miss Blanche Devahoe

Howdy! All went well with the Fourth of July barbecue. It was a big hit again this year. This was our second annual B.B.Q. at Badlands and everything was great. We raised \$372.63 that evening and we had the best view of the fireworks in town.

Then Christmas in July was an impressive event as well. A big thank you to the owners and staff at the Rainbow Lounge, who hosted this event when we needed to change venues at the last minute. Mrs. Claus was there that evening, but Mr. Claus had to be called back to the North Pole; there was some kind of problem with the elves. He sent his greetings to every one of you. We had fun that night and we raised \$282.00 that evening. Thanks to all of you for the many items that went to Street Teens. They thanked NGRA for the donations. By helping the teens we have made their life a little better.

Hot Tropical Nights on Saturday, August 27 was a huge success! I would like to give David Cameron a big hand for the decorations; he has been a big help with me from the beginning. We raised nearly \$700 and it was a tremendous show, with live

singing by Alika and dancing by Imperial Crown Princess Royale VII Tago LaFemme and the Island Divas. They are all incredibly talented and had the crowd on their feet cheering. It was an amazing night of entertainment, and everyone had a lot of fun in their Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts. And the best part is everyone got lei'd.

On September 24 we will be hosting our Homecoming King and Queen Mixer. Dust off your pom poms and support the home team. We will have a photo booth and will elect a Homecoming King and Queen. So come enjoy the music from the 50's to the 90's with us that night.

Our bus trip to Laughlin has been set for Sunday, October 9. The cost will be \$15 and we will have the usual bus trip festivities. The Lariat in Bullhead City will again be hosting us that day. Watch for more information about the trip and make sure to buy your tickets early. We will likely sell out.

Thank you for your support of NGRA's efforts to put the FUN back in fundraising.



More pictures of "Hot Tropical Nights" on page 4

MEMBERSHIP SURVEY

The Membership Committee of NGRA will be mailing out a membership survey this month. We encourage you to complete this survey and return it in the self-addressed, postage-paid envelope so that we can learn information about our members and what they want to see from their rodeo organization. Additionally, this information will be used to gain demographic statistics that we can use when approaching sponsors. Thank you in advance for your participation, and we hope that you will thoughtfully complete this survey so we can better serve our members.

NGRA ROYALTY 2006 PAGEANT REPORT

Miss Frankie Miss NGRA 2004

Howdy Everyone & Greetings from your 2006 Pageant Director I am so excited about this time of year when hardworking individuals like yourselves come up to the plate and decide whether or not to put your hat (or Wig) so to speak into a very exciting, hardworking and yet a very personal rewarding aspect of our well respected Rodeo Association.

For those of you that have become members before the August 26th deadline and are thinking about running for the titles of Mr, Miss or Ms. NGRA 2006, Congratulations on taking the first step. The next step is the Pageant Application deadline of September 26th. Please feel free to email me at MissNGRA2004@AOL.com if you are interested in the positions that help to make NGRA what it is and can be.

I am very pleased to announce the appointment of Miss Kitty Litter is this year's Assistant Pageant Director...Kitty brings a lot of enthusiasm, experience

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continues from page 3

and respect for this contest and is looking forward to having a lot of fun with everyone involved.

If you aren't aware yet at this year's annual NGRA convention, Horsemanship was removed from pageant competition, so no worries about needing to ride a horse.....just yet (smile).

I am currently recruiting judges for the pageant that will make up a very diverse group of people that have experience in local as well as national pageants. The Royalty team for 2005 is also preparing for a weekend that they will not forget for a long time. currently I would like to give you a brief rundown of this year's planned activities.

September 24th at Badlands. Those contestants already signed up will be sashed and presented to the public as official contestants for Pageant. (Still 2 days to go after this event to sign up)

Then on November 25th at 8pm will be the annual Pre-Pageant show, where all contestants get to relax and enjoy themselves with entertainment from past Royalty and special guests.

November 26th at 9 am will begin the personal interview process at the Center. This is a closed segment of the Pageant that will be attended by present royalty, judges and contestants.

November 26th at approximately 7pm (location TBD) will begin the Public presentation of pageant where you will see on stage presentation/western wear and entertainment from the contestants. A very special 10yr anniversary will be presented to the 1996 Royalty team, and special entertainment selected by the stepping down team, then final walks for the 2005 team, and then sashing and crowning of the 2006 team.

November 27th at Rainbow Lounge at noon we will gather for a victory brunch at Rainbow Lounge and enjoy the lovely and talented Valerie James. After Valerie's show the stepping down royalty will be presenting their awards for 2005.

This calendar has been set for a couple of weeks now, however if any changes do arise I will let you all know as soon as possible.

On behalf of NGRA and myself, Miss Frankie Miss NGRA 2001 & 2004 I welcome all of you to Pageant 2006

"Lets Rodeo"

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



EVENT	LOCATION	DATES
MGRA Show Me State Rodeo	Kansas City	September 2-4, 2005
Atlantic Stampede 2005	Washington, DC	September 9-11, 2005
San Francisco Bay Area Gay Rodeo	San Francisco	September 16-18, 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

**HOT TROPIC
NIGHTS**



Photos by Paul Scott

**NGRA MEMBERS
ENJOYING THE FUN AND SUN
AT AWESOME AUGUST 2005**



Photos by Paul Scott

FIRST LADY'S PARLOR



By: Lady Bird Rogers

Well just let me start by saying that I have been away for an intense summer protocol training excursion. On returning home I found I have had a few letters that have come to me, so I will take this opportunity to answer one of them. As First Lady, I feel a responsibility to help the public, so I will be answering your letters in upcoming BigHorn Gazette issues, when time allows. Look for my column answers to any of your problems. Readers can contact me at NGRA1stLady@cox.net

This letter came to me recently:

Dear First Lady,

I'm not sure that I am in love with my other half. I do care about him and I know that he cares about me. The problem is that we never have sex any more. I have tried to talk to him about this and he seems to find a way to avoid the conversation. I have been OK with it but I need to know, is this normal? Do you think I should make him talk about it? What should I do?

Thank you, Sexless

Dear Sexless,

Let me start by saying that you need to find a better way to end your letters. (Sexless is not the best way to end). If you were to send your mother a letter with this ending what would she say? I'm glad that I'm not in your pumps now. What would the world think about the first lady not being able to get down on her knees and pray to the almighty magic wand?

Is this normal?

This is an interesting question. I have found that there are more couples than you would think in the same boat. Most that I talked to, gay or straight, had similar ways of coping with the issue. They have been able to keep the love between them going because of the bigger things in life that mean more to them.

Do you think I should make him talk about it? What should I do?

This depends on how well the two of you communicate, so I will help you to find the answer that is best for you. You not need to make your partner talk to you if he does not want to help you find the solution, although it would be better if he did. Ask your self if sex the only thing in the relationship missing? And is it that important to you? You still have other outlets such as toys, movies, and games. When you are happy with the answer then you will be able to move to the next step. You have to ask yourself, if there are other problems in the relationship. When you can answer all of the questions I have given you then you are able to move on and resolve to find a new man or be content in the relationship you have.

I wish you the best,
Lady Bird Rogers

NGRA Association Buckle

Jewelry Quality Rodeo Buckle
Crafted by GIST Silversmiths,
makers of the finest rodeo award
buckles in the world



These beautiful buckles are available for the purchase price of

\$125

call the rodeo hotline a
888-643 NGRA or
you can also buy online.
www.ngra.com

**BADLANDS BIGHORNS
VS
ALLEYWAY STEPPERS**

**Saturday
September 24**
AT
BADLANDS
*Homecoming
King & Queen*
MIXER

Dig out your saddle shoes, brush off your shoulder pads, shake out your pom poms. it's time to get ready for football, back-to-school and NGRA's Homecoming Stomper

Event starts at 9:00 pm following the General Membership meeting at The Center. Show starts at 10:00 pm

Raffles, Jello Shots, Entertainment are all part of this fun evening.

**Give me an N
Give me a G
Give me an R
Give me a A
NGRA wants to party!**

**DRESS YOUR
BEST FOR THE
PICTURE BOOTH
PHOTOS 1.00**

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 * MGRA Show Me State Rodeo - KC, MO * First Friday Arts & Crafts Street Fair	3 MGRA Show Me State Rodeo - KC, MO
4 MGRA Show Me State Rodeo - KC, MO	5	6	7	8 NGRA Fundraising committee meeting 8:00 MCC	9 Atlantic Stampede 2005 Washington, DC	10 Atlantic Stampede 2005 Washington, DC
11 Atlantic Stampede 2005 Washington, DC	12 NGRA RPC meeting at The Center 6:30	13 Pride Family Bingo	14	15	16 San Francisco Bay Area Regional Rodeo	17 San Francisco Bay Area Regional Rodeo
18 San Francisco Bay Area Regional Rodeo	19 NGRA Board Meeting 6:30 PM at The Center	20	21	22	23 Sanit Therese Circle of Roses Dinner*	24 NGRA General Membership Meeting NGRA Show-Homecoming King & Queen Mixer
25	26	27	28	29	30 * Space City Rodeo - Houston	



Annual Halloween Party at **BADLANDS'**

October 29th

Beer Bust starts at 9:00 PM

Costume Contest

Overall Winners Receive

First Prize • \$100

Second Prize
to be announced

Third Prize
to be announced



Draglosal Raffle Prizes

DRAGZILLA

**Black, Green and Orange
Jell-O Shots
\$1**

\$ 5.00 BUD LIGHT BEER BUST STARTS AT 9:00 PM

Judging will take place at 10:30

Categories for judging are:

- Ugliest / Scariest
- Prettiest
- Most Creative

It is the policy of Badlands not to allow masked costumes into the bar. Judges will be NGRA Royalty Contestants for 2006



Nevada Gay Rodeo Association
and
Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of The Desert Empire, Inc.

HARVEST HOEDOWN

NOVEMBER 6TH
11:00 AM



until the cows come home
Vegas Sands Ranch

Ticket Price: \$35

Includes:

Ranch Style BBQ Lunch

Hayrides

Horseback Riding

Music & Dancing

Cash Bar

Wild N Wooley Wodeo contest

Raffles and Games



Fun & Games



Enjoy a ride on a horse



Meet new friends

Fun Hayride



Enjoy old friends



Directions to
Vegas Sands Ranch:

Take I-95 / I-215 north to the Ann Road Exit • Turn right on Ann road
• Make the first Left onto Tenaya Road • Make the first right to follow Tenaya Rd. • Go to Deer Spring Road and turn right • Vegas Sands Ranch is the last ranch on right • Parking along street and in lot across the street.



Chow Down



LETTERS OF INTEREST



Saint Therese Center
 P.O. Box 98021
 Henderson NV 89009-0821
 Telephone (702) 564 4234
 Fax (702) 564 9899
 E-mail: communications@stcenter.org
 Web site: www.stcenter.org

July 21, 2007

N.G.R.A.
 P.O. Box 98021
 Las Vegas NV 89191

To all,

Angels are everywhere! They remind us that God is present! They whisper to us that God is working and touching and meeting our lives. When I am confused or concerned about something happening, it usually takes an angel to whisper in my soul and remind me to listen - that God might be calling me something. Angels are reassuring and comforting as messengers of God.

Have you had that experience of angels whispering in your soul? At times, the angels have taken human expressions - a note, phone call, or a kind word from a friend - the surprising touch of someone - the articulate insight of someone we respect - the challenge to be patient - so many ordinary human ways in which angels speak to our best interest - and help us listen to God.

They are wonderful messengers. And their message is always a reflection of the great teaching of Saint Therese: "Everything is grace" - God is everywhere - we simply have to look, listen, and respond. You and I are called to be angelic messengers at times - to speak our love - to share our faith - to remind people of God's loving presence. We are to be human angels of grace.

Your generosity of \$850.00 (Check #4298) makes a significant difference to people's lives, especially people infected and affected by HIV as their lives, as they desperately try to survive and deal with various opportunistic infections they don't know to angels. They need human angels like you to touch them and the Saint Therese Center, with God's love. You are an angel because God dwells in you and chooses you to be a messenger of love and hope.

The Saint Therese Center provided you goods to arrive to you in whole or in part, in return for your contribution. Please retain this letter for your records.

Also know that the Saint Therese Center is considering an Endowment and its community prays the angels of our lives, like you!

In the love of Saint Therese



Father Joseph O'Brien, O.P.
 Executive Director

"Experience the Little Flowers in Life"
 Reaching out to all those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS



GAY & LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA

August 10, 2008

Brian Rogers, President
 NCPHA
 2446 San Lucas Cir
 Las Vegas, NV 89121

Dear Mr. Rogers,

On behalf of the Board and Staff of the Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada, it is my privilege and honor to inform you that you have been named as this year's "Non-Profit of the Year" award recipient at The Center's 11th Annual Honoreum. You have been chosen in recognition of the outstanding contributions you have made to the LGBT community in Southern Nevada.

As recipient of this award, you will receive two complimentary seats for the dinner which will be held on October 1, 2008 at the Palma Casino and Resort from 7p.m. - 10p.m. Additional seating for the Honoreum dinner is \$100 per person. Please RSVP to Candice Nichols at 733-9800 at your earliest convenience to confirm your acceptance and attendance. Please also email a brief bio and picture for the event's academic program to director@thecenterlasvegas.com by August 31st. If you do not have a picture, please let me know and we can arrange to have one taken.

We would like to sincerely congratulate you and we are looking forward to the year's celebration.

Sincerely,

 Candice Nichols
 Executive Director

653 E. Sahara Ave., Ste. B-25, Las Vegas, NV 89104 702-733-9800 Fax 733-9878

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For discounted AA fares contact AA
 at 1-800-433-1790
 Reference Star File S17809
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