

BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN PARTY A BIG SUCCESS

Pictures on page 5 and 7

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Brian Rogers

I hope each of you had a wonderful holiday season and are all rested up for an exciting NGRA year. 2005 was a good year for NGRA and 2006 is shaping up as a banner year. I am proud to announce that through your efforts and so much support from the community that NGRA was able to donate \$14,446.23 to local charities and non-profits. That was our best year ever. That makes a grand total of \$48,937.95 since we started tracking in 1999. It's easy to see why NGRA was chosen as Non-Profit of the Year at the Center's Honorarium. Our new royalty team is committed to maintaining our high level of community service and we can expect great things from them in 2006. By the time you read this, our Brokeback Mountain Premier Party will have passed. This is one example of the exciting new types of events we will be holding in the new year.

I want to start out by welcoming our new corporate member, Charlie's Las Vegas. Charlie's has a long history of supporting gay rodeo in Denver, Chicago and Phoenix. We are excited to have them in Las Vegas and look forward to working with them and developing a mutually beneficial relationship. I also want to thank Badlands for their awesome and continuing support. Badlands manager Jackson Morrison, along with DJ Byron Burgess were voted "Honorary Members" at our December general membership meeting in honor of their contributions to NGRA. Please congratulate them.

First up on our plate in January is the IGRA University Rodeo School – Phoenix campus, which takes place January 11 & 12 just prior to Road Runner Regional Rodeo. If you are interested in learning to compete in an event, this school is for you. Registration is only \$20 per event and the school is taught by IGRA President Brian Helander and IGRA

continues on page 2

The NGRA Board of Directors wishes its members a



Best Year Yet for Donations from NGRA

The NGRA is excited to report that we distributed \$12,811.23 in cash and \$1,624.00 in in-kind donations, for a total of \$14,446.23 in 2005! In addition, the December Toys for Kids drive delivered "a mountain" of toys to St. Therese Center for the holidays.

The Center	\$2,332.10
St. Therese Center	\$9,199.13
Leather Uniform Club	\$40.00
High Sierra Rodeo Association	\$200.00
Street Teens	\$875.00
Multiple Sclerosis Society	\$100.00
The Royal Court (IRSCDE, Inc.)	\$450.00
Golden Rainbow	\$1,000.00
Winged Dragon Society	\$250.00
Total	\$14,446.23

Continues from page one

Champion Chuck Browning. NGRA always fields a large group to RRRR and our own Lorry King and Guy Puglisi are working the event as officials.

Next, NGRA hosts IGRA for IGRA University on February 17-19. This great event, as the name implies, is IGRA's "Harvard for Rodeo". The three-day event features classes on all aspects of rodeo production, community service, rodeo web design, and association development. The Board of NGRA believes strongly in the benefit this event can have for educating our members and making our association and rodeo stronger. To encourage participation, NGRA will be paying the \$75 registration fee for any member wishing to take part who goes to at least three classes. The University tri-fold and Registration form is included in this newsletter. Please complete the form and turn it in to a board member or mail it in no later than January 15.

There are many other exciting events where NGRA will be out in front. In May watch for NGRA to really ramp up our presence at the Pride festival. In July, NGRA hopes to be the first gay non-profit with its own fireworks booths. We are currently working on securing locations and will get more information out as it becomes available.

The biggest event of all for 2006 will be our 10th Anniversary BigHorn Rodeo. We hope our new date of October 5-8 will bring us favorable weather for a change. The Rodeo Planning Committee swings into high gear in January. Please come get involved.

As you can see, NGRA continues to offer a wide variety of options for your involvement in supporting the community. Your Board of Directors reminds you to please send in your membership surveys so we can learn how to better serve you.

2006 Membership Renewals and Survey

By now you should have received your renewal notice for membership dues for 2006 and a membership survey. Dues payments must be received by NGRA no later than January 31, 2006, to avoid late fees or lapse in membership. You may pay by mail, online using Paypal, or in person at one of NGRA's events. With your notice you also received a membership survey that will help the membership committee determine what kinds of activities the membership would like to participate in, what can be done to improve the value of your NGRA membership, and demographics information that will be helpful as we promote NGRA to other organizations and potential sponsors and supporters. Your participation in this survey is very important, so fill it out and return it as soon as possible. If you have any questions, you can email Winsor Cooper at ngravolunteers@aol.com. Thank you for your continued support of NGRA and participation in making it your rodeo association.

NGRA MEMBERS OF THE MONTH

FRANK FELIZ

November

SCOTT CLONAN

December

At the December meeting, the membership selected as Members of the Month for November and December, Frank "Miss Frankie" Feliz for producing a very successful royalty pageant and Scott Clonan for volunteering as the bartender at the Harvest Hoedown. Congratulations to both of them for their contributions to NGRA!



Happy Belated Birthday to **Max Wells**, whose birthday on **November 30** did not appear in our newsletter.

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Ted Caldwell | January 1 |
| John Horner | January 6 |
| Ken Wells | January 6 |
| Jeffrey Neal | January 10 |
| Bill Trunzo | January 15 |
| John Eisele | January 20 |
| Dick Casola | January 21 |
| Don Kimball | January 22 |
| Frank Feliz | January 23 |

Royalty Team Report

Happy New Year from your brand new 2006 NGRA Royalty Team. Thank you Miss Frankie for a wonderful event.

We have hit the ground running in December with our first Royalty meeting only five days after Pageant to discuss big plans for the year including fundraising, community outreach and new and fun ways for the membership to socialize.

The entire team impressively represented NGRA on December 3 at the IRSCDE Coronation Ball held at the Stardust Hotel where we were given the "royal" treatment by the entire organization. Thank you all and our best wishes for a fun and successful year.

On December 10, Ken, Cookie and I attended the first open night of the new Charlie's Las Vegas. General Manager Boan Jordan and new employee Joe (our own Mr. NGRA) showed us the new setup- really impressive! Thanks guys- we are so lucky to have another great supporter of NGRA and our Royalty Team in town.

On December 16, Joe, Cookie, Terry and I performed at the "Toys for Kids" Christmas show at Spotlight benefiting Golden Rainbow and St. Therese Center. There was a huge turnout and during the show we presented St. Therese representatives a check for the \$4044 that was raised on their behalf by NGRA Royalty members during Pageant. What a proud moment for NGRA to be able to give this much needed money to them right before the holiday.

The very next night continued the busy weekend with Joe, Terry and I hosting "A Country Christmas" show at Badlands. A special thank you to all the guest performers who pitched in to make this show a success.

The next week brought a surprise in the form of a donation to myself of several pairs of tickets to see Celine Dion at Caesar's Palace! They were good for the first weekend in January and the only request was that they be put to good use. Without much time to work with, I immediately arranged for raffles for the Rainbow Lounge (hosted by the Winged Dragon Society), at Badlands, Spotlight and Charlie's. The raffles, along with donations, raised over \$1500 in three days to benefit NGRA. A million thanks to Tara, Marty, Michael and Angel without whom I could not have survived the weekend. Also thanks to Tim Conroy, Helen Twelvetrees and Bella DeBall for a great raffle! Our team looks forward to working more with you this year.

On December, I co-hosted the Brokeback Mountain movie premier party at Charlie's with Kitty Litter. What a night! Music, dancing, raffles, auctions and movie memorabilia made for a packed house and proceeds of over \$1700! Thank you Kitty- with whose help we auctioned off a Brokeback jacket for \$260 and a signed movie poster for \$800. Outstanding!

On December 31, I hosted the Badlands new Year's Eve Bash with Terry to benefit NGRA- and finally bring this busy month to a close.

Best wishes to everyone for a happy and healthy new year from the 2006 NGRA Royalty Team.

IGRA UNIVERSITY COMES TO LAS VEGAS

For the first time in its history, IGRA University will be held in Fabulous Las Vegas, on the weekend of February 17-19, at the Plaza Hotel downtown. NGRA is proud and honored to host this event, one that will welcome instructors and students from all of IGRA's Associations across the U.S. and Canada. University is a chance for all of NGRA's members to attend one or more classes and learn everything there is to know about Rodeo and running an Association. As you can see from the list of classes, there is something for every interest in rodeo, from volunteering, to production, to marketing, financials, sponsorships, safety, and royalty. The NGRA Board has voted to pay the \$75.00 Registration fee for any member who attends at least three classes. In addition, we need volunteers to help with set-up and tear-down, transportation, and being hosts and hostesses. Please contact Lorry King at llwking@aol.com for Registration and to volunteer.

See page 4 and 5 for more information

TOP TEN SIGNS YOU'RE A GAY COWBOY

From David Letterman:

10. "Your saddle is Versace"
9. "Instead of 'Home On The Range', you sing 'It's Raining Men'"
8. "You enjoy ridin', ropin', and redecoratin'"
7. "Sold your livestock to buy tickets to 'Mamma Mia'"
6. "After watching reruns of 'Gunsmoke', you have to take a cold shower"
5. "Native Americans refer to you as 'Dances With Men'"
4. "You've been lassoed more times than most steers"
3. "You're wearing chaps, yet your 'ranch' is in Chelsea"
2. "Instead of a saloon you prefer a salon"
1. "You love riding, but you don't have a horse"

CURRICULUM

Instructor Roster, Bios and Full Course descriptions are available at www.IGRA.com

RODEO ARTS DEGREE SERIES: This series provides extensive instruction on various aspects of planning and running an IGRA Certified rodeo. Most classes contain hands-on, participatory segments / workshops.

Rodeo Production 100 level – 2 credits each

- ◇ The Rodeo Resources Guidebook
- ◇ Basic Marketing for Your Rodeo
- ◇ The Trustee's Role in IGRA
- ◇ Organizing an Effective Rodeo Planning Committee
- ◇ Managing Contestant Registration
- ◇ Recruiting and Retaining Volunteers
- ◇ Grand Entry: Agony or Ecstasy?

Rodeo Production 200 level – 2 credits each

- ◇ Negotiating the Right Stock Contract
- ◇ Financial Statements and Accurate Budgets
- ◇ Obtaining Local Sponsorships
- ◇ Arena Crew Volunteer Training: Rodeo Event Set-up Workshop & Rodeo Equipment Review – Outdoor venue with rodeo equipment
- ◇ The Art of Rodeo Clowning (Outdoor venue)
- ◇ The Role of the Rodeo Auditor/ Rodeo Secretary
- ◇ Running a Safe Rodeo...from Health and Safety

Rodeo Production 300 level – 2 credits each

- ◇ Planning and Managing Venue Logistics
- ◇ Arena Coordinator Training: Rodeo Event Set-up Workshop & Rodeo Equipment Review – Outdoor venue with rodeo equipment
- ◇ Arena & Chute Crew Volunteer Recruitment: Recruiting volunteers and training them
- ◇ New Committee Chair Orientation – Mandatory for first-time committee chairs
- ◇ Protecting Rodeo Cash Assets - Cash Handling Policies and Procedures
- ◇ Media and Your Rodeo
- ◇ Certified Rodeo Official Seminar Series (On Friday afternoon) Credits apply to Master's Degree only



CURRICULUM (Continued)

RODEO WEB DESIGN DEGREE SERIES

4 credits each By IGRA Webmaster Frank Harrell. It is recommended, but not required, that students bring a laptop.

- ◇ The Good the Bad and the Ugly of Web Design
- ◇ An introduction to HTML and Cascading Style Sheets
- ◇ Using JavaScript and Server Side Includes
- ◇ Forms for your Website

COMMUNITY SERVICE ASSOCIATE DEGREE SERIES

2 credits each

- By Lonnie La Bel and your Current Royalty Team
- ◇ Preparing for Your Local Royalty Competition
- ◇ Royalty and Media
- ◇ Royalty Horsemanship 101 (making your video): Friday Afternoon field trip to practice arena
- ◇ Looking Your Best On Stage
- ◇ IGRA Royalty Competition Prep School
- ◇ Fundraising and Community Outreach

IGRA UNIVERSITY ELECTIVE CLASSES

2 credits each

- Focusing on Association Development
- ◇ Boards that Make a Difference
- ◇ Your Association as a Community Leader (Keeping it Fun)
- ◇ Your Association as a Business
- ◇ Getting the Most out of IGRA Convention for You and Your Association
- ◇ Membership Recruitment and Retention

COFFEE WITH THE PRESIDENT

Schedule a one-on-one with President Brian Harrell and your Association

THE FUTURE OF IGRA ROUND-TABLE

Wide-ranging discussion of the issues facing IGRA and its associations. Help imagine and steer the future course of IGRA.

Classes subject to change



LAS VEGAS CAMPUS
Class of 2006

Building
The Future
Leaders of IGRA

**International Gay
Rodeo Association**

February 17-19, 2006



IGRA-U REGISTRATION

One Person Per Application

Please Print Clearly

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

To assist us with scheduling, please indicate what offerings you plan to attend by checking the boxes below

- | <i>Changes are permitted at registration</i> | Day |
|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horsemanship 101 | Fri 12 PM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Seminars | Fri 12 PM |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Arena Directors <input type="checkbox"/> Judges | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chute Coordinators <input type="checkbox"/> Auditors/Secretaries/Scorekeepers | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rodeo Arts Degree Program | Sat & Sun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Web Design Degree Program | Sat & Sun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service Degree Program | Sat & Sun |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Future of IGRA Round-Table | Sun 2 PM |

Enclose Check Payable to IGRA
Registration includes Sunday Luncheon

\$75.00 postmarked by Jan. 15, 2006

\$85.00 after Jan. 15, 2006

Detach This Panel and Mail To:
IGRA University C/O NGRA
PO BOX 96055
LAS VEGAS, NV 89123-6055

Please Feel Free To Make Copies and Distribute to Your Membership

International Gay Rodeo Association

General Information

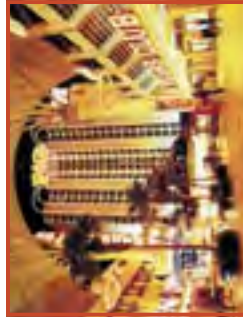
CLASS TESTING

Testing will take place in each class to establish completion of the course. Test will be multiple-choice covering the highlights of the course. 70% is the passing grade.

ADVANCE CREDIT TESTING

Advanced students can earn credits in areas where they already have experience without attending the class by successfully passing the class test. In addition, degree-level tests will be available for each degree, allowing those experts in those areas to obtain credit. Advance-credit testing will take place at the University Testing Center from Friday afternoon until Sunday at noon.

Host Hotel—The Plaza A "Vintage Vegas" Experience



Sunday – Thursday \$39.00
 Friday & Saturday \$69.00

Come early and stay late, it's Las Vegas!
 1-800- 634-6575

Mention IGRA University to Get The Group Rate
www.plazahotelcasino.com

University Degree Program

Certificate of Achievement: Minimum of 6 credits from any series and/or elective class

Associate Degree in Rodeo Website Design: 12 credits earned from web design series

Associate Degree in Community Service: 12 credits earned from community service series and may include up to 4 credits from the rodeo, web design or elective series classes

Associate Degree in Rodeo Arts: 12 credits from level 100 classes and may include up to 4 credits from community service or elective classes

Bachelor's Degree in Rodeo Arts: Associate Degree earned plus 12 credits from 200 series classes and may include up to 4 credits from community service or elective classes

Masters Degree in Rodeo Arts: Bachelor's Degree earned plus 12 credits from 300 series classes and may include up to 4 credits from community service or elective classes. Additionally must attend or monitor at least two Certified Officials seminars. Verifiable prior attendance will receive credit.



Students completing Degree Programs will receive a special graduate pin. Ladders can be added as Degrees are completed.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 Join the Fundraising Team of NGRA 7:00 PM The Center	6	7
8	9 NGRA Rodeo Planning Committee 6:30 PM The Center	10	11 IGRA U Rodeo School	12 IGRA U Rodeo School	13 Road Runner Rodeo in Phoenix	14 Road Runner Rodeo in Phoenix
15 Road Runner Rodeo in Phoenix	16	17	18	19	20 3rd Annual Winter Roundup Nashville, TN	21 3rd Annual Winter Roundup Nashville, TN
22	23 NGRA Board of Director Meeting 6:30 PM the Center	24	25	26	27	28 NGRA Gen- eral Membership Meeting 8:00 PM The Center
29	30	31				



**Brokeback
Mountain Party at
Charlie's Las Vegas
Friday
December 30**



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

\$120

call the rodeo hotline a
888-643 NGRA
702-615-6261 or
you can also buy online.
www.ngra.com



I.G.R.A. RODEO/EVENT SCHEDULE RODEO YEAR 2006

**JANUARY 1, 2006 –
DECEMBER 31, 2006**

**For more detail information on
these events you may go to**

**[http://igra.com/Calendar_Rodeo.
htm#top2006](http://igra.com/Calendar_Rodeo.htm#top2006)**

EVENT

Road Runner Rodeo
IGRA University
Cowtown Rodeo
Sunshine Stampede
Rodeo in the Rock
San Diegp Rodeo
Gateway Regional Rodeo
Heartland Rodeo
Great Plains Rodeo
North Star Regional Rodeo
Canadian Rockies International
Rocky Mountain Regional
Alamo City Rodeo
LA Rodeo
Zia Regional Rodeo
Windy City Rodeo
MGRA Show Me State Rodeo
Atlantic Sampede 2006
Bay Area Gay Rodeo
BigHorn Rodeo
IGRA Annual Convention
IGRA International Dance Competition
IGRA Finals Rodeo

LOCATION

Phoenix, AZ
Las Vegas, NV
Fort Worth, TX
Fort Lauderdale, FL
Little Rock, AK
Lakeside, CA
St. Louis, MO
Omaha, NB
Oklahoma City, OK
Minneapolis- St. Paul
Calgary, Alberta
Denver, Colorado
San Antonio, TX
Los Angeles, CA
Albuquerque, NM
Chicago, IL
Kansas City, MO.
Washington, DC
San Francisco, CA
Las Vegas, NV
Nashville, TN
Nashville, TN
Reno, NV

DATES

January 13 -15, 2006
February 17 - 19, 2006
March 3 -5, 2006
April 7 - 9, 2006
April 28 -30, 2006
April 28 -30, 2006
May 5 - 7, 2006
May 19 -21, 2006
May 26 - 28, 2006
June 30- July 2, 2006
June 30 -July 2, 2006
July 7 - 9, 2006
August 4 - 6, 2006
August 4 - 6, 2006
August 18 - 20, 2006
August 25 - 27, 2006
September 7 - 3, 2006
September 8 - 10,2006
September 15 -18, 2006
October 6 - 8,2006
October 19 - 22, 2006
October 19 - 22, 2006
November 10 -12, 2006

Brokeback Mountain Party at Charlie's Las Vegas



Support Our
Sponsors

COLT
COLTstudio.com



Q VEGAS
The Gay & Lesbian Voice for 27 Years



Charlie's
Las Vegas