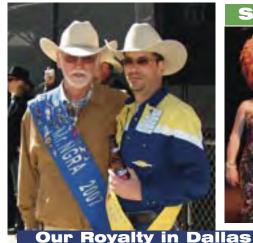


#### **March Happenings**







**Miss Closet Ball 2007** 





**Report from the President** 

Brian Rogers



I have exciting news to share with the membership. Kay Velardo of the Community Counseling Center notified me that NGRA is one of the five GLBT organizations that they will honor at their

upcoming event entitled "Threads of the Community." This event is part of SNA-PI's annual Pride Event and NGRA was selected because of the generous support of NGRA to Community Counseling Center over the years. The celebration will be held at the Liberace Museum on Monday, May 7, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Tickets are \$50 and the Community Counseling Center is asking our help in selling them. The CCC sends its "thanks to you and the NGRA for all the ways that you assist this community. " Kay can be contacted at 369-8700 ext. 239. WOW! What an exciting month March turned out to be with NGRA.

My new job has me working on Saturday nights until 10PM or so, so I had to miss the General Membership meeting. I did get there in time for the Closet Ball and it was amazing. Kudos go out to everyone who worked on it. The sets were awesome and the contestants did a great job!

I finally got to go on my first NGRA Laughlin Bus Trip and now I see what all the excitement is about. Mike and his whole team were so organized and made sure everyone had a great time. We made a ton of money doing raffles and selling regular and jello shots; we also played bingo on the way down. Once we got there everyone toured Laughlin a bit then headed over to the Lariat where we drank and partied more. That was one hell of a cutie we were all doing body shots off of!

I had to miss it, but I hear our March Madness event at Badlands was also a big hit. Thanks to Winsor, David and Melissa for organizing that.

Las Vegas Pride is coming up in May. Ken Wells is our Pride Coordinator and will be seeking volunteers for various activities NGRA will conduct to promote our organization and our upcoming rodeo. Please provide him with all the support you can.

You should have received your NGRA Board election ballots by now. Please follow the instructions carefully so your ballot is not invalidated. Your newly elected Board of Directors will take office in June at a special transition Board Meeting. Until next time...

Save a Horse...



#### **Election Ballots Due April 9**

Hi members. This is Winsor Cooper again, wearing another hat as election chair. You should have already received your election ballots in the mail. Please pay close attention to the instructions on the ballot or your votes could be invalidated. Place your ballot in the small, unmarked envelope, place the smaller envelope into the larger stamped enveloped addressed to NGRA and then sign the back and send it back to us. There was a mistake on the date due back; it was printed April 2, but ballots are actually due back April 9. Please feel free to email me at ngravolunteers@aol.com if you have any questions about voting.

Also, member of the year ballots for 2006 should be going out in April, so watch your mailboxes for that.

#### NGRA to be Honored by SNAPI and Community Counseling Center

As we approach the opening of the season of celebration for Pride 2007, the Southern Nevada Association of Pride, Inc., will be sharing this year's opening celebration at the Liberace Museum on Monday, May 7, from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. Because of the generous support of NGRA to Community Counseling Center over the years, we have chosen NGRA as one of the five GLBT organizations that we will honor at our upcoming event entitled "Threads of the Community". Tickets for the event are \$50.00. Thanks to you and the NGRA for all the ways that you assist this community. For more information, contact Kay Velardo at (702) 369-8700, ext. 239, or velardok@earthlink.net

### Volunteers Needed for Pride Festival & Parade

Volunteers are needed to help set up and ride on the NGRA float in the Pride parade on the evening of Friday, May 11, and for the festival on Saturday, May 12, from noon to 10:00 p.m. Contact Ken Wells at kenwells1962@yahoo.com

Room for rent \$450 mo, includes private bathroom and garage parking with garage opener. This is in Aliante Sun City. You do not have to age qualify. This is a friend of Scott Crowell who is looking to rent out a spare room. Must be drug free. Smokers, ok but must smoke outside of house. Must love dogs. House overlooks golf course. Please contact Hank Emerson at 639-1776. Room is available for immediate move-in.



Alika Borge	2
Mark Remillard	3
Jon Wall	3
Scott Rouse	9
Will McElwaney	18
Tracy Skinner	21
Gary Wiens	21
Winsor Cooper	23
Kevin Hall	24
Bill Watkins	24
Jeff Bengston	27
Guy Puglisi	30

#### IN THE MARKET TO PURCHASE A HOUSE

Member **Scott Crowell** has a house up for sale. He is desperately trying to sell as they are moving to Los Angeles. It is on the market now, but will not be ready for move in until after 22 May. Please contact his realtor, Aaron Schave if you are interested or know someone who is. The realtor's contact is 378-6647 cell and 988-1000 Office or email aschave98@hotmail.com the asking price is \$220K

In addition, Scott will need as many people as he can to help pack the truck on Sunday 20 May 2007. Please contact Scott Crowell at 369-9192 if you are interested in helping. It will not be much work as they are only keeping a desk, credenza, and dining room table set (table and six chairs) and many boxes. They have a two-story ground entry unit. The desk and credenza will be on the second floor, everything else

will be on first floor. The heaviest of these is the desk and credenza from the 1960s so it is solid heavy wood. Scott would like to invite everyone from NGRA to his going away bash on Friday 11 May at Charlie's from 7p – 2a for NGRA Specials with your badge or ID card. As Scott and his partner Sean are moving directly into Sean's parents, the only presents requested is your presence.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



Saturday, April 14th "Miss Cowpatty Contest" at Charlie's

Saturday. April 28 "Redneck Riviera" at Badlands Saloon

More information on page 5

Friday, Saturday, May 11 & 12 Pride Parade and Festival

Saturday, May 26 **Luau at Badlands Saloon** 

Saturday, June 9 Night of Wishes at Charlie's

Saturday, June 23 Juke Box Roulette at Badlands Saloon

**Information** 

Hello Members. I am requesting nominations for member of the year for 2006. Anyone who has been named as member of the month for last year automatically qualifies.

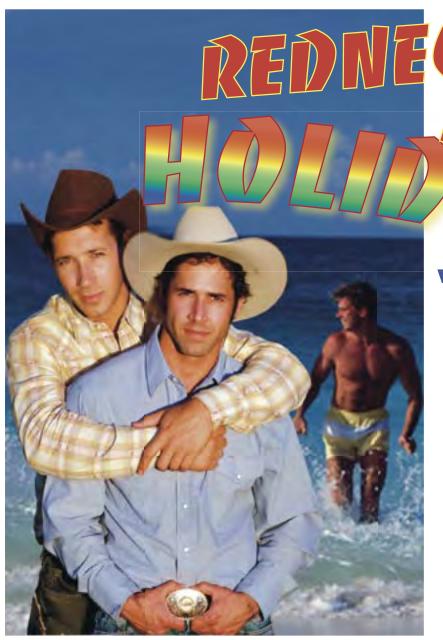
The following members automatically qualify: Ken Wells, Dave Murie, Dick Casola, Mike Windsor, Angel Negron, Jack Morrison aka Jackson, Darren Wernette, Robert Salcedo, Cindy Edlund, Robbie Dwyer, Tom Coleman, Joe Caron, Paul Scott, Rob Saunders, Jeff Bengston, Jeffrey Neal, Boan Jordan, Bill Watkinsand Richard Villa.

If you have any other members whom you feel deserve consideration, please submit a nomination in writing to me at ngravolunteers@aol. com with the reason that this person should be considered. All nominations must be in by April 30.

Thanks, Winsor Cooper Vice President and Membership Co-Chair



APRIL 2007	For times,	locations, and r	nore detail plea	se visit the ngra	web calendar at	www.ngra.com
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6 Charlie's NGRA Appreciation Night	7 Men of Charlies Contest
8	9 NGRA Board Meeting at The Center 6:30	10	11	12	Charlie's NGRA Appreciation Night	14 NGRA General Membership Meeting MISS COW PATTY CONTEST
Las Vegas Aids Walk	16 NGRA RPC Meeting	17	18	19	20 Charlie's NGRA Appreciation Night	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Charlie's NGRA Appreciation Night	28 REDNECK RIVIERA HOLIDAY AT BADLANDS
29	30	1	2	3 NGRA Fundraisng Meeting	4	5



Where Cowboys Go Wild

MERA



# Badlands Saloon

# Saturday April 28

Expect to have a lot of fun with Games, Raffle Prizes and Surprizes

# **Bud Light Beer Bust Starting at 9:00 PM**

**Russell L. Mowery**, 44, of Henderson passed away on Thursday, March 8, 2007.

Prior to moving to Las Vegas, Russ lived in New York City

where he owned and operated John Russell Couture. His designs are worn by Kelly Ripa, Susan Lucci and other celebrities who enjoyed Russ' exceptional talent as well as his fun loving personality.

Since living in Las Vegas, Russ was employed by Cintas as their lead designer which required him to frequently travel to China and through out the United States.

He was active in the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association and traveled frequently with his partner,

Chris Due, who competes in the rodeo circuit. He was Chris' biggest fan.

Russ was the Crown Prince of Reign IX of the IRSCDE, Inc. Russ believed in supporting his community and was always there to help friends in their fundraising efforts as

> well as designing his own ideas to help support our community.

His parents and siblings in Ohio; his partner, Chris; his pets, Jackson, Katie, Tyson, and Diamond; and many loving friends survive Russ.

A memorial service was held on March 12 at Palm Mortuary, which was attended, by his sister and her husband, his partner, Chris, and his friends.

People shared their stories about Russ which brought on tears and laughter as an exceptional

man's life was celebrated. He will always be in our hearts and is greatly missed. 5

# Royalty Reminiscences

Thom Coleman, Mr. NGRA 2007

We are still off and running here and going in all directions. March has been a good month, I think, for raising money for Big Horn Rodeo. With three fundraisers and, thanks to Mike Windsor and the Lariat in Bullhead City for our semi-annual bus trip to Laughlin, we garnered somewhere around \$4000 if all the numbers are in. Great job guys and gals!

Darren and I have had a busy year so far, between fundraising (Robbie and he have become the Jell-O Shot Kings and traveling, it has been a fun-filled year to date.

We froze our cowboy butts off in Phoenix and then again in early March in Dallas. We both entertained in Dallas, had a good time there and met a lot of great people. I also entertained at a tea dance held at the Round-Up Saloon in Dallas with Mr. OGRA, Travis Parker, hosting the show with some if his group, with the funds going to a local Dallas charity. Travis is a great guy and was at IGRA University as well.

I also acted as an Alternate Trustee, and I have to say that it was quite an experience to see another side of rodeo. I am constantly learning more and more and still enjoying it all the more.

Darren and I are over our fourth month as royalty and still having fun and enjoying it. It is been a lot of hard work but great to see the fruits of our labor. And it has been a lot of fun for us to help out wherever and whenever we can here and at other rodeos.

I am headed for Little Rock, Arkansas, on April 18, visiting an old friend who lives in North Little Rock. I found he he is a member of DSRA and will be helping out at the rodeo. I not only will be entertaining, if that is what you call lip syncing,





Wild Drag Buckles Sponsored by NGRA member Colin Moulton at Dallas Rodeo



but it does get the tips for the fund raisers. Will also be helping DSRA with their registration on Friday evening. I have already made some nice acquaintances over the Internet with them. Those of you who don't know and want to keep up with what is happening all around the country, go to IGRA Yahoo Groups and get in on the chatting and message board.

Memorial Day weekend is next on the list and I will be in Oklahoma City for their rodeo and to give Travis and his group some help if we can.

I want to say thank you to all that have helped and have given so generously of your time and efforts in putting together the shows, fundraisers, trips, etc. You are to be applauded for your efforts, and Bill Watkins and Mike Windsor especially deserve the kudos.

I will be out of town the next few days, headed to Arizona to do some horse back riding and trail riding. I have been "coerced" by a few people into running for Mr. IGRA and need to get my horsemanship skills back in gear, right Mitch and Shaun?

Thanks again to all and lets keep up the good work. I'm looking forward to a great BigHorn Rodeo in September and enjoying spreading the word about our rodeo to the other organizations.







# Miss Closet Ball 2007





#### I.G.R.A. RODEO/EVENT SCHEDULE RODEO YEAR 2007

For more detail information on these events you may go to http://igra.com/Calendar\_Rodeo.htm#top2007

EVENT	LOCATION	DATES DATES
Big D Rodeo	Dallas, TX	March 2 - 4, 2007
Sunshine Stampede	Fort Lauderdale, FL	April 12 - 15. 2007
Rodeo in the Rock	Little Rock, AR	April 20 - 22, 2007
Gateway Regional Rodeo	St. Louis, MO	May 4 - 6, 2007
PNWGRA Rodeo School	Boise, ID	May 11 - 13, 2007
Great Plains Rodeo	Oklahoma City. OK	May 25 - 27, 2007
Greater San Diego Rodeo	San Diego, CA	June 1 - 3, 2007
North Star Regional	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN	June 29 - July 1, 2007
Canadian Rockies Rodeo	Calgary Alberta	June 29 - July 1, 2007
Rocky Mountain Regional Rode	o Denver, CO	July 13 - 15, 2007
Zia Regional Rodeo	Albuquerque, NM	August 17 - 19, 2007
Windy City Rodeo	Chicago, IL	August 24 - 26, 2007
Atlantic Stampede	Washington, DC	September 7 - 9, 2007
MGRA Show Me State Rodeo	Kansas City, MO	September 14 - 16, 2007
Bay Area Gay Rodeo	San Francisco, CA	September 14 - 16. 2007
BigHorn Rodeo	Las Vegas, NV	September 21 - 23, 2007
Capital City Rodeo	Austin, TX	September 21 - 23, 2007
PNWGRA Rodeo School	Portland, OR	September 21 - 23, 2007
IGRA Finals Rodeo	Denver, CO	October 11 - 14, 2007
IGRA Convention	Kansas City, MO	November 7 - 11, 2007

## 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 at 888-643 NGRA 702-615-6261 or you can also buy online. www.ngra.com

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