



From the Board of Directors

Well it's been a full year for the outgoing board. Congratulations and Thank You to each of the 2007 Board Members. A job well done! The board members, starting May 1st, 2008 are **Shaun Sewell**: President, **Bill Watkins**: Vice-President, **David Blackwood**: Secretary, **Brian Rogers**: Trustee, **Rob Saunders**: Treasurer, Members-at-Large: **Darren Wernette**, **Brian Maley**, **Boan Jordan**, and **Eddy Krien**. Thank you to all members who voted in the board elections. We had a very high turn out, with over three quarters of the membership voting. It's a new year, a new beginning, new dynamics, new opportunities, and a new great rodeo to put on.

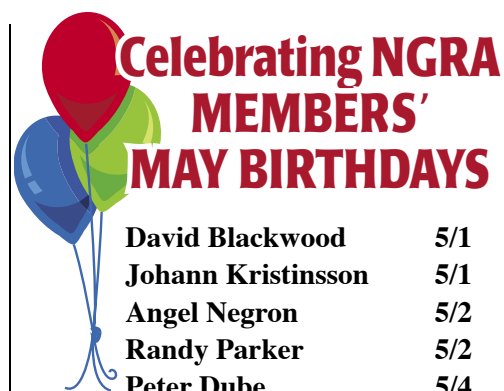
The Rodeo Planning Committee, has received full approval from the Board, for our 2008 Rodeo Beneficiaries! The proceeds from BigHorn Rodeo will be evenly split between FOCUS of Nevada, who will be opening a hot meal program in the coming months in their new space next door to MCC Church, and to The Sin City Sisters AIDS programs. We are very excited and happy to be joining forces with The Winged Dragon Society (of FOCUS) and the Sin City Sisters. Both of these programs are very well deserving and both groups are looking forward to working with us to pull off a tremendous and profitable rodeo.

The Rodeo Planning Committee has confirmed more essentials for this year's rodeo. We will once again be out at Horseman's Park, and our host hotel will be the very close by Sam's Town. We believe this will be

a convenience for everyone involved. Rather than have a host hotel party in the evenings, we will have everything focused out at the grounds, where under a large tent, we will have vendors, dance floor, stage, DJ, and all other non rodeo events. Stick around when the rodeo is done for the day, as the DJ's will be spinning, and the entertainment will continue until 11pm on Saturday night, and Sunday until immediately after Awards Ceremony. Many of you know that the rodeo folks competing love hanging out at the grounds, and this places all of us in one location, for a whooping good time. Bill Watkins has created some wonderful posters and marketing materials for rodeo, and you'll be seeing these in the coming months. Security, Ticketing, Volunteers, Logistics, Finance, Barn Manager, Party Coordinators and all the other main pieces of putting together a rodeo are in place and hard at work. Please consider volunteering with us this year!

We are in the works on getting our website changed over to the GayCowboyCentral host. Darren Wernette has been organizing and making this happen. Soon you will be seeing major changes on our website. We believe it will be easier to maintain, update, and just plain more user friendly.

See articles in this newsletter on upcoming events like PRIDE, and our participation in Las Vegas' Helldorado Days, It's been a busy and challenging spring for us, but fundraising is on target, and much more is on the way. We look forward to seeing all of you at future events!



Celebrating NGRA MEMBERS' MAY BIRTHDAYS

David Blackwood	5/1
Johann Kristinsson	5/1
Angel Negron	5/2
Randy Parker	5/2
Peter Dube	5/4
Michael Hayward	5/4
Carlos Garcia	5/16
Pat Hicks	5/23
Gene Godina	5/24
Manuel Martinez	5/28

March Member of the Month

Congratulations to **David Blackwood**, our Member of the Month for March 2008. David contributed much more than his expected duties as board secretary. He volunteered, set angst aside, shaved his goatee, and made an astounding transformation at our annual Closet Ball contest. Who knew there was an inner fabulous Celine Dion waiting to come out from David? He also was instrumental in putting together the wonderful Saturday Night Live style skit which opened our very successful 'end-of-year' Board of Director's show. The skit was original, funny, well timed, and something far outside of the usual fundraising opening acts. It set the tone for humor and good sportsmanship in the show, which was very welcome. Thank you David!

NGRA'S BOARD MEMBERS FOR 2008



Shaun Sewell, President



Bill Watkins, Vice President



David Blackwood, Secretary



Rob Saunders, Treasurer



Brian Rogers, Trustee

THOUGHTS FROM SOME OF OUR BOARD

From Rob Saunders, Treasurer 2008

In my second year as Treasurer, I plan on continuing serving and supporting NGRA within my capacity and any other way I can. This year I would like to see more of our membership getting involved. We have over 100 members....I would like to meet EVERY member. Come out and support our organization, our Rodeo and our designated charities.

Darren Wernette, Member-at-Large

Hello NGRA,
Thank you to all who voted for me in the latest election for NGRA Board of Directors. It's an honor to once again be a Member at Large, and I anticipate being able to continue to assist wherever needed. Currently I am working with gaycowboy-central.com, getting our website, ngra.com, updated. I'm also pleased to be able to reach most of you through periodic email blasts publicizing upcoming events. Please continue to let me know what I can do to help make NGRA the best it can be.

Bill Watkins, Vice-President

Thank you NGRA members for your trust in electing me to be your Vice President for the upcoming term. In guidance with our by laws I will do as much as I'm capable to keep our association a strong, important and conscientious organization with in the Southern Nevada community.

From Eddy Krien, Member-at-Large

Thank you for the opportunity to serve NGRA once again on the board of directors. I believe we have a distinct and unique voice in the Las Vegas Gay/Lesbian/Transgender community, and I look forward to forming ties between NGRA and other groups. I look forward to a productive and profitable year, as well as working with and connecting with as many of our members as possible.

Brian Maley, Member-at-Large

Greetings Cowboys-2008 is shaping up to be a terrific year for NGRA. I am excited to be part of this team of outstanding professionals! I intend to focus on better organization as well as camaraderie within our own community. In the up-coming months, as we prepare for BigHorn Rodeo 2008 you will see me out, please say hello! Many thanks for the support all of you have shown me. It means more than you know. Let's Rodeo!!

David Blackwood NGRA Secretary

After serving the past four months on the board as secretary, I look forward to this year and working with those newly elected. I am looking forward to the new ideas that come to the interactions at our meetings. I see myself this term looking at ways to help promote NGRA and BigHorn Rodeo.



Darren Wernette
Member-at-Large



Brian Maley
Member-at-Large



Eddy Krien
Member-at-Large



Boan Jordan
Member-at-Large

ANYONE FOR HORSEBACK?

NGRA is forming a Horseback Riding afternoon on Sunday, May 18th If your interested in kicking back, saddling up, and going true cowboy with...please contact Brain Maley at: bpmaley@gmail.com

Brian Rogers

Congratulations to the newly elected members of the Board. I look forward to working with all of you this year!

First off, don't forget to join us in celebrating SNAPI's 25th Anniversary Pride season. The first weekend in May is packed with activities.

Friday, May 2nd NGRA is participating in the parade.

We will have our giant mobile billboard again advertising the dates of our rodeo. NGRA members and friends are encouraged to join us and walk with our group. Make plans to find us by around 7pm at 4th Street and Coolidge. Participation is FREE.

Saturday, May 3 is the 2008 Pride Festival at the Clark County Government Center. That's the building with the pyramid next to the World Market Center. Parking is off the south end of Grand Central Parkway across from the Outlet Mall.

Next up, please join NGRA for the Helldorado Parade on Saturday May 17 where we will be reprising our Pride parade performance. This time we will meet near Charleston and Fourth Street by 6PM and walk the route promoting BigHorn Rodeo to the Las Vegas community as a whole. In other news, the IGRA has a new partner in fundraising efforts at the national level. The company is www.thegreenforceteam.com and they are an independent marketing firm for a health and wellness company called Melaleuca.

IGRA members are encouraged to go to their link on the IGRA website's main page and check out what they have to offer. You don't have to be an IGRA member to participate, so please spread the word to your friends and families.

They offer over 400 healthy, environmentally friendly products that we all use on daily basis. This is a win-win opportunity for everyone, you purchase products that you can personally use and the IGRA will benefit from your purchase and will continue to benefit month after month, since this is an ongoing fundraiser. All of the products come with a 100% money back guarantee and everyone that joins with us will get \$100.00 of free products, along with other incentives. Melaleuca will also be setting up a booth at various rodeos around the country so you can see a sampling of the products.

This type of fundraiser has proven to be a great success for other non-profit organizations and we are hoping it works well for IGRA and the membership.

Upcoming rodeos include - May 2-4, Palm Springs, CA, May 9-11, Philadelphia, PA, May 23-25, Oklahoma City, OK and we will have Trustee representation at each.

Calling for Grand Marshalls!

BigHorn Rodeo 2008 is a mere five months away. The Rodeo Planning Committee has been very busy getting things in place. Among the many details are finding Grand Marshall's for the Grand Entry portion of the rodeo. This year the RPC has decided to have a Grand Marshall from the worlds of entertainment and public service, who have helped the Gay/Lesbian/Transgender community. We are also looking for a Grand Marshall from the wider community's volunteers. Some names have been brought up as a potential Grand Marshall representing Las Vegas Volunteers. We are asking the general membership for their input of any person they feel would be a worthy candidate for this highly honored position. Please contact Grand Entry Coordinator Darren Wernette at flabuzz@cox.net, if you would like to make a submission. Please include as much information as possible as to why you believe this person is a good candidate and what kind of volunteer work they have done. The RPC will be taking these submissions and bringing them to the board for election.



May 10	Pumps and Pearls	Charlie's
May 17	Helldorado Parade	DT LV
May 24	Boogie Wonderland	Badlands
June 14	Who's your Daddy	Charlie's
June 21	Sunrise Library	
June 28	Best Butt in Jeans	Badlands
July 12	Night of Wishes	Charlie's
July 26	BBQ	Badland
August 9	Hot August Night	Charlie's
August 23	BigHorn Celebration	Badlands
September 13	BigHorn Celebration	Charlie's
September 27	Survivor's Party	Badlands

Royalty and Fundraising

Katrina, Miss NGRA 2008

As we are entering this Board of Directors transition month, we would like to thank those Board members, Gerry Gomez, Frank Gardner and Colin Moulten, who are stepping down. Your service and commitment has be appreciated by us and great big kuddo's for the time you gave as volunteers, going the extra mile in helping to guide our organization. To those new members of the Board, Bill Watkins, Brian Maley and Boan Jordan we look forward to the remaining months of our reign and to working with all of the board members to make this a successful rodeo season.

April's fundraising was very successful with nearly \$2,000 raised to benefit Big Horn Rodeo and our community through such great evenings like the our joint event with IRSCDE, Miss Cow Patty, AFAN Aids Walk, and the Spring Break Beach Party. Thank you to Tom, Eddy, Bill and Melissa for helping to lead these great events. Especially Tom and Melissa we as your current royalty so appreciate the help and support that our past royalty give in helping us this year. It is our hope to have even more of the past royalty get involved over the coming months.

Well folks it's time for your royalty to begin our journey around the Rodeo circuit promoting BigHorn Rodeo as we visit Philadelphia for Liberty Stampede and Oklahoma City for Great Plains Rodeo. There is a good contingent of not just Royalty but other members going to each of those Rodeos along with representation in the Palm Springs rodeo. Look at the calendar of upcoming Rodeo's, we would love you to join with us in representing NGRA and encouraging everyone to come to Las Vegas in September for BigHorn Rodeo! Forever in a cowboy's rose garden!

Cow Patty 2008



Miss Angie O'Plasty



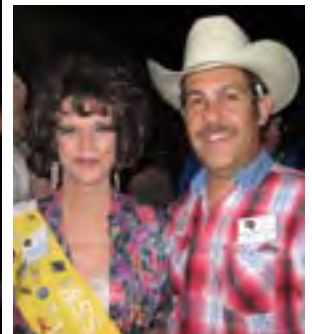
**Cow Patty 2008
Tipper Moore**



Miss Mya Buttsloose



All Cow Patty pics by Andrew Beasley



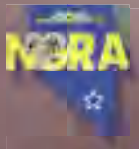
Celebrate Mother's Day at

Charlie's
Las Vegas

PUMPS AND PEARLS

SATURDAY MAY 10TH

Event starts at 9:30 PM



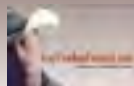
Those who wear either pumps or pearls receive a free Jell-O shot

Prizes for the persons with the longest strand of pearls and the person with the highest heels.

\$5.00 Bud Light Beer Bust \$1.00 Jell-O Shots
Raffle Prizes and Fun Entertainment

Proceeds will benefit BigHorn Rodeo 2008 whose net proceeds will be distributed equally to the Sin Sity Sisters and FOCUS

BOAN IN DRAG!
Here's your opportunity to see Boan Jordan, Manager of Charlie's Las Vegas, in drag?
May 10th
at Charlie's Las Vegas
The challenge is that \$1000 must be collected for this Spectatular event to happen.





Pictures taken of performers and patrons from this past months events



JOINT FUNDRAISER with IRSCDE

On Friday evening, April 11th, NGRA held a joint fundraiser with The Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert empire, with a “Moo Moo and Beach Wear” theme. We thank all the members of The Court who joined us, and all those who performed. Special thanks to Bootsy Carmichael for hosting. We were all pleased that a simple pet doggy themed gift basket made by Katrina fetched over \$65! It was fun night, and along with other Court events last month, NGRA’s presence in the community was well seen and appreciated.



BOOGIE WONDERLAND



SATURDAY MAY 24TH



**Badlands
Saloon**

EVENT STARTS AT 9:30 PM

**PLATFORM SHOES, BELL BOTTOMS, BIG HAIR, POLYESTER,
LOTS OF GLITZ AND GLAMOUR • IF YOU HAVE IT LET'S SEE IT.**

\$1.00 JELL-O SHOTS

\$5.00 BUD LIGHT BEER BUST

RAFFLES



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlie's	3 Show your PRIDE Festival
4	5	6	7 Fundraising Meeting 6:30	8	9 NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlie's	10 Pumps and Pearls at Charlie's
11 Mother's Day	12 NGRA Board Meeting at The Center 6:30 PM	13	14	15	16 NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlie's	17
18	19 General Member- ship meeting 6:30 RPC Meeting following	20	21	22	23 NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlie's	24 Boogie Wonderland at Badlands 9:30 PM
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



**WE
WANT
YOU**

**Vounteers needed
to help Sell
HOT DOGS!**

We are averaging a couple hundred dol-
lars each week for NGRA with this fund-
raiser. All it takes is a health card.

Contact Tom Colman for more
information at 276-8246.

Shifts are only 2 1/2 hours each.

NGRA Association Buckle

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

\$120

These beautiful buckles
are available for the purchase
online. www.ngra.com



I.G.R.A. RODEO/EVENT SCHEDULE RODEO YEAR 2008

For more detail information on these events you may visit igra.com

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
May 2-4	Hot Rodeo 2008	Palm Springs, CA
May 9-11	Liberty Stampede	Philadelphia, PA
May 23-25	Great Plains Rodeo *	Oklahoma City, OK
June 20-22	LA Rodeo	Los Angeles, CA
June 27-29	Canadian Rockies International Rodeo	Calgary, Alberta
July 4-6	North Star Regional Rodeo	Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN
July 11-13	Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo	Denver, CO
July 25-27	Capital Crossroads Rodeo	Sacramento, CA
Aug. 15-17	More Bucks by the Bay Rodeo	San Francisco, CA
Aug. 15-17	Zia Regional Rodeo	Albuquerque, NM
Aug. 22-24	Windy City Rodeo *	Chicago, IL
Sept 4 - 7	Texas 25 Rodeo	Austin, TX
Sept. 5-7	Atlantic Stampede 2008	Washington, DC
Sept. 12-14	Greater San Diego Rodeo	San Diego, CA
Sept. 19-21	BigHorn Rodeo	Las Vegas, NV
Oct. 10-12	IGRA Finals Rodeo	Denver, CO
Oct. 30- Nov. 2	IGRA 24th Annual Convention / IGRA Royalty competition	New Orleans

Please remember to support those who support our efforts within the community and BigHorn Rodeo

