



**SEPTEMBER 2008 ISSUE**

# Welcome Big Horn Rodeo 2008!

Big Horn Rodeo is finally here! After almost a full year of planning, organizing, and working together, the Rodeo Planning Committee has come up with another great rodeo for our community and our many out-of-town guests.

**Mark your calendars! Rodeo runs from Thursday September 18<sup>th</sup> to Sunday September 21<sup>st</sup>.** The location is Horseman's Park on E. Flamingo, behind Sam's Town. Sam's Town will also serve as our host hotel. We start on Thursday night with a bar crawl from the hotel, which includes a special invitation by Boot Barn, for hor'd oeuvres and last minute discounted western wear shopping. Friday afternoon we host our now famous 'Speedo's and Spurs' pool party at The Blue Moon. Friday evening, we'll be at the rodeo grounds for Contestant Registration and entertainment. All are invited to attend and welcome the out of town cowboys and cowgirls. Saturday morning events start at an early 8am, and run all day long, with vendors, food, drink, and performers in our covered pavilion area. Sunday we run the same order with awards ceremony at 6pm. All the action will remain at the rodeo grounds, where (ask anyone who was around last year and knows rodeo) all the cowboys really party when the day is done.

Our Grand Marshall this year is Channel Eight's Eyewitness News, Chris Saldana. Chris is a long time supporter of NGRA, and a proud, highly visible member of the Las Vegas Gay/Lesbian community. We will also have a 'Surprise' Grand Marshall, chosen from the list of many long-time Big Horn Rodeo volunteers.

The charity recipients from Big Horn Rodeo 2008 are The

FOCUS Group Hot Meal Program, and the Sin City Sisters Drug Assistance Program. We send a huge Thank You to



*More images from Big Horn 2007 on page 4*

Helen Twelvetrees, Tim Conroy, and all the Sin City Sisters, for their active part in promoting rodeo and working with NGRA. Anyone in NGRA who truly cares about the community, is working positively and constructively, to make rodeo a success. We love working with you, and are proud to share this special year with you.

We look forward to great entertainment throughout the weekend from headliners Steele, James & Nickels, a tremendous lesbian band headed up by one of IGRA's favorites, Valerie James. Also performing will be Colorado cowboy and songwriter Mike Shikora, and the down-home sexy moves of the LA Wranglers. We've also got Big Brother10's gay cowboy houseguest Steven Daigle, who has a long list of rodeo credentials as well.

We will have our traditional 'Ceremony of the Riderless Horse' on both Saturday and Sunday, honoring those who have made a significant impact on our community, who have gone on before us. This year will no doubt be more emotional than ever. The ceremony will honor gay rodeo founder, Wayne Jakino, the man who started it all, and Las Vegas community fundraising legend Alan Huss, aka 'Aunt Betty'. There are few people in NGRA or our wider gay community whose lives have not been touched by one of these two treasured men.

We thank the many members of the community who have been coming out to support and build up NGRA throughout the year and especially in these last few fundraising efforts. Special thanks to LA Jewell, Michelle Holliday and Chris

Continued from page 1

Reynolds for big support at our Rodeo Director's Show at Badlands on Aug 23<sup>rd</sup>. Our Bachelor Auction at Charlie's was a tremendous success, bringing in \$1,300. Thank you to Kandice Kane for organizing, Katrina for hosting and acting as auctioneer. Speaking of Katrina, the fundraiser on August 1<sup>st</sup>, A Night of Duets, was a blast! The funds went to the IGRA charity of choice. Our last fundraising push for BigHorn Rodeo will be Saturday September 13<sup>th</sup> at Charlie's. We'll then have a 'Survivor's Party' on Sept 27<sup>th</sup> at Badlands.

Rodeo season 2008 has been filled with fun, hard work, commitment, dedication, it's own share of drama, and people (fortunately and once again) setting the real goal of the organization ahead of personal feelings and differences. We are here as a unique voice in the gay/lesbian community in Las Vegas. Our mission is to represent the many facets of being gay within Western Style culture, and to put on a great rodeo. Our job is to collectively, despite 'personalities', make a successful rodeo. This year will be no different than any other year... success based on collective effort... when rodeo is successful... WE made it that way... and all deserve to be proud. Thank you to all those who have worked so hard, stayed late at meetings, gone to multiple meetings, attended events, performed, tipped, sold raffle tickets, jello shots and hot dogs, made raffle baskets, donated prizes, hauled supplies, worked a beer bust, marched in parades, sponsored a rodeo buckle, or simply represented us with an NGRA badge and a positive presence in the community. Now it's time to celebrate! Let's Rodeo!

## NGRA 2009 ROYALTY COMPETITION IS APPROACHING

According to NGRA Standing Rules those persons who are interested in competing to become members of the 2009 Royalty Team must be members of NGRA 6 months prior to the competition and turn their application in 90 days prior to competition. At present NGRA is planning to hold competition for the 2009 Royalty team in February. If you or if you know someone who may be interested in competing for the titles of Miss, Mr. Ms. or MsTer NGRA please contact Bill Watkins b0424@mindspring.com - 702.699.7829 - NGRA Vice President.

# TRUSTEE REPORT

Brian Rogers

August is gone and a very busy fall calendar is upon us. I'd like to thank Randy Meadows (aka Kandice Kane) for representing NGRA as alternate Trustee in New Mexico for the Zia Regional Rodeo. Randy reports they had a great rodeo with 58 contestants. Randy and J from New Orleans competed in "Community Goat Dressing" and got 8th place! Sorry I missed that!

I just returned from Chicago where in addition to attending the rodeo I also attended the IGRA Executive Board meeting, IGRA Board meeting, Ethical Practices Review Board meeting and a Trustee's meeting. Finally as if that weren't enough meetings, I also attended the IGRA Gay World Rodeo Finals committee meeting. Finals is shaping up very well and all of NGRA's duties are covered.

NGRA was well represented by myself as Trustee, Lorry King as Assistant Secretary and our very own MR. NGRA, Michael Judkins. Michael competed for the first time and took home his first rodeo award ribbons. He placed 5th on Saturday, 4th on Sunday, and 3rd overall in Goat Dressing.

The Windy City rodeo was a huge success! They had good weather for a change and drew big crowds on both days. The rodeo was held at a beautiful private venue and everything ran smoothly and drama-free. Unfortunately, contestant Wade Earp broke his arm riding a brutal Bronc on Sunday. He's OK now, and hopefully will be able to attend the Gay World Rodeo Finals in Denver this fall.

Look for the Homo Rodeo IGRA Contestant calendar on sale at our rodeo and events after that. Proceeds from the sales of this calendar go into a special fund administered by IGRA to help contestants with the high cost of travel to the Gay World Rodeo Finals, which is presented by IGRA each year.

If you are planning on attending the Gay World Rodeo Finals in Denver October 1-12 and would like to volunteer, please let me know. We have open spots for ticket sales, security and arena crew volunteers. Also, you can purchase tickets online now by visiting [www.igra.com](http://www.igra.com).

Also, this is the last chance to sign-up as a delegate or alternate for the annual IGRA Convention in New Orleans October 30 – November 2. NGRA will pay your registration fee and you are eligible to request a \$100 travel stipend if you attend the committee meetings on Friday and the convention sessions on Saturday and Sunday. This is where IGRA associations meet and consider changes to Bylaws and Rodeo Rules. The many standing and ad hoc committees of IGRA meet and recommend proposals which are considered by the entire assembly on Saturday and Sunday. Attending IGRA convention in New Orleans on Halloween weekend is sure to be a trip you'll never forget. Please contact me no later than October 1 if you'd like to attend IGRA Convention with our delegation.





# Royalty and Fundraising

Katrina, Miss NGRA 2008



**IT'S TIME TO RODEO!** Oh what we have all worked so hard for, over the past few months, has finally arrived –BIGHORN RODEO and the close of the IGRA Rodeo Circuit. I can't think of a better way for our rodeo friends around the country to end the season before Finals than right here in fabulous Las Vegas! There is still work to get done, but all of your efforts are so appreciated and needed. Just a few more weeks and we can all sit back and take a breath... and then by gawd get ready to start all over again for next year!

I am very pleased to report that the goals given to the Fundraising Committee early in the year, have not only been met, but have been exceeded for the 2008 rodeo budget! Thank you to the team Bill Watkins, Shaun Sewell, Michael Judkins, Randy Meadows aka Kandice Kane, Darren Wernette, Jason Dyer, Eddy Krien and Richard Levine (our Hot Dog expert) for all your support and hard work! \$25,000 looked like such a lofty goal when we started..... but WE DID IT! We were able to do this because of you, the members of this organization and because of the general support of the Las Vegas Gay/Lesbian community.

There have been negative comments made towards both our efforts in raising funds and some of the promotion of BigHorn Rodeo. I feel a sense of sorrow for those people who are embarrassed by a segment of our community, and sorrow for those who can't look beyond their own bitterness or prejudices. I can tell you that a few years back I would have never thought I would wear makeup or put on a dress, but in the spirit of raising money to help someone less fortunate than myself, I have found a wonderful opportunity to help our community. I stand before you now, proud to be included in the sisterhood of 'DRAG'. Yes, we are men who put on makeup and dresses. Are we really any different than a man that may color his hair to hide the gray, put on foundation to hide a few lines or pencil in an eyebrow to give a sexier look... I don't think so... other than the fact we admit what we do and are proud of our efforts. So to my 'sisters' Kandice Kane, DeShannon, Fay d'Away, Miss Frankie, Bearyl Manwyck, Melissa Lawrence, Tipper Moore, Kitty Litter, Saltiva Cracker, Tara Panties and others who have come before us, and to those that will come after, THANK YOU! Thank you for your hard work and dedication in raising thousands of dollars for the many causes of our community and for welcoming me into your 'sorority' with open arms..... it's time again to Rodeo! For myself and for each of you, here's to...Big Hair! Big Heels! BigHorn Rodeo!



Images from BigHorn 2007 Rodeo



## NGRA's Upcoming Events

<b>September 13</b>	<b>BigHorn Celebration</b>	<b>Charlie's</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 19-21 BIGHORN RODEO</b>		
September 27	Survivor's Party	Badlands
October 11	IGRA finials in Denver	
October. 25	Fright Night / Costumes	Badlands
November 8	Holiday Trims and Delights	Charlie's
November 22	Thanksgiving / Christmas	Badlands
December 13	Charlies' Christmas Celebraton	Charlie's
December 27	Celebrating Years End?	Badlands

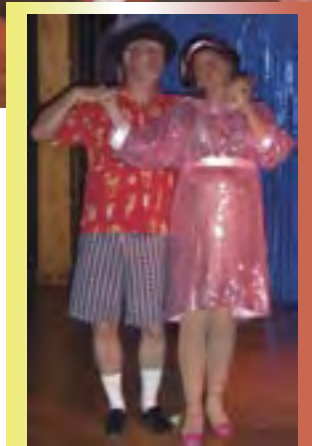


**NGRA  
Welcomes our  
new members**



**Gary Rushton  
Daniel Blackhorse-Smith  
Ken Wong**

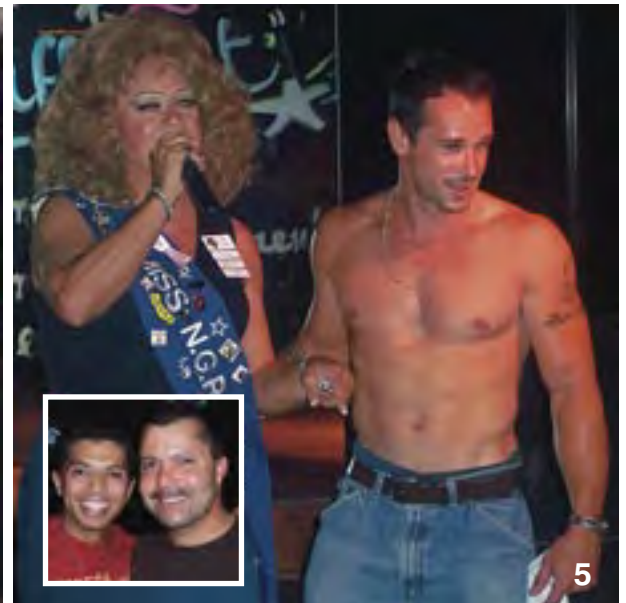
**Night of Duets  
Hosted by Katrina**



**“A toast to our beloved friend  
Wayne Jakino”**



**Hot August Night  
Guests, members and  
Very Hot Cowboys who went up for auction**





## SPOTLIGHT ON NGRA MEMBERS



If you've made frequent visits to Charlie's Las Vegas, then this month's Spotlight Member may have served you. Joe Cervantes has been a member of NGRA for 5 years. Some of you might know that Joe was Mr. NGRA 2006 but

there are things about Joe that you might not know. Jeff moved to Las Vegas from Carson City in '86. His parents still live in our capital. He falls in the middle of 4 siblings.

In talking with Joe you will find him to have a great sense of humor. He also has a wonderful smile especially when he talks about his job. Joe really enjoys his job. He finds it demanding but loves meeting and visiting with Charlie's customers. When not working he spends his time at home which he shares with his partner Mark and two dogs, Jade and Chico. Chico was rescued from a family whose house was foreclosed.

Joe says that he really liked his year representing NGRA. Traveling and meeting new friends are some of the things that he does miss. He gets great pleasure in helping the GLBT community. As the coordinator of the Men of Charlie's Las Vegas, who holds monthly events that collect money for their targeted organizations, Joe is able to continue in helping.

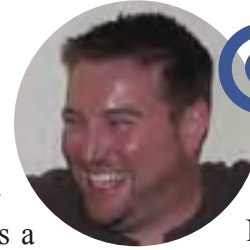
Joe did mention that come Halloween Night (October 31<sup>st</sup>) and the night following (November 1<sup>st</sup>) The Men of Charlie's were going to be having events benefiting FOCUS.

## Celebrating NGRA MEMBERS' SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Ramon Breceda	9/6
Jeffrey Butler	9/7
Johnathan Polizzi	9/7
Hank Williams	9/10
Lee Hale	9/17
Paul (PJ) Jantzen	9/17
Dale Jag	9/18
Billy Peirro	9/18
Mike Windsor	9/18
Richard Levine	9/20
Eddie Sherbert	9/20
Robert Taylor	9/20
Robert Colvin	9/30
Sean Moroz	9/30

## Member of the Month: JULY 2008 Colin Moulton



Congratulations to Colin Moulton, our July 2008 Member of the Month. Colin is a friendly and regular face with NGRA for quite awhile now. He has unwavering support of the organization, it's goals, ideals, and of rodeo in general. He served on the Board of Directors last year as a Member at Large, and has always been

generous in sharing his time, knowledge and skills with NGRA. This past rodeo season, Colin has been one of the most consistent and highly visible NGRA members on the Gay Rodeo circuit, representing us and promoting BigHorn Rodeo in an honorable, positive, selfless way. We love you Colin, and Thank You!

### Hello NGRA!

As many of you know, I have taken over the running of the NGRA website – [www.ngra.com](http://www.ngra.com). It's been a slow process and most of it is coming from a "trial and error" method of getting things updated and more user-friendly, as I've got no previous experience in web matters. I'm getting lots of help from our sponsor at [www.gaycowboycentral.com](http://www.gaycowboycentral.com) however, and I hope that I'm doing things to your liking.

I need your help in finding corrections, broken links, etc. Please feel free to contact me with anything you'd like me to add, change, or just comments in general. I promise to not be offended and will take all comments and suggestions seriously. There will be more changes in the future in the site; I've just been kind of busy to make them yet.

I've been asked to update the past NGRA Royalty list. I have a basic list up on the site, but am in need of more names, most of them runners up. Please check out what I have and if you can help me out, please let me know who to add.

Thanks for your help!

Darren Wernette, Mr. NGRA 2008, 1st Runner Up



## Go to Homorodeo.com and order your Cowboy Calender

As the cost of fuel continues to rise, so does the cost of gay cowboys/cowgirls to compete in the various IGRA sanctioned gay rodeos across the country. Imagine driving your horses across the country to compete in a gay rodeo! Please consider purchasing a calendar to help offset the cost of contestant travel costs.

**SEPTEMBER 2008**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 RPC meeting 6:30	4	5 NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlie's	6
7	8 BOD Meeting 6:30 The Center	9	10 RPC meeting 6:30 Fundraing meeting	11	12 NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlie's	13 <b>BIGHORN CELEBRATION PARTY as Charlie's</b>
14	15 <b>General Membership Meeting 6:30</b>	16	17 RPC meeting 6:30	18	19 <b>BIGHORN RODEO FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY</b>	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlie's	27 BigHorn Surviver's at Badlands 9:30 PM
28	29	30				



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

For more detail information on these events  
you may visit [igra.com](http://igra.com)

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
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	Denver, CO New Orleans

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

