



# Big Horn Gazette

**OCTOBER 2008 ISSUE**

## Big Horn Rodeo 2008!

*By Eddy Krien, Newsletter Editor*

WHEW! Big Horn Rodeo 2008 is a wrap! What a phenomenal rodeo it was! First and foremost... THANK YOU... to every person who committed themselves to making this rodeo a success. Whether you volunteered in any capacity, entertained, were down in the arena, or simply paid the price of admission to enjoy a great gay sporting event... Big Horn Rodeo 2008 was a success because of YOU. Our feedback from the contestants



has been great, and the venue of having activities at the rodeo grounds received great reviews as well. We learned a lot, overcame even more adversity, pushed on with a clear vision of what NGRA is about, and why we are here... and can proudly say we have produced one of the most well received rodeo's on the IGRA circuit. Our rodeo was the most successful in building relationships, entertainment value, quality and respectful leadership, working together in raising funds for our chosen charities, and in building bridges to the rest of the GLBT community. That is what it is about!

Special thanks to our lead entertainers, Steel James and Nickels, and Michael Shikora. Their unique and upbeat, down home, singing and musical talents were a breath of fresh air and we were honored to have them with us. Thank you to our Grand Marshall, Chris Saldana, a courageous and very public gay figure in the Las Vegas community. We also

send out all our love and thanks to LA Jewell and Blanche Devahoe, who devoted so much time and energy to our entertainment throughout the weekend. Thank you also to Boot Barn, all of our sponsors and those who sponsored buckles. Of course a world of thanks to those who traveled to compete... we Love you All.

We now take some downtime in October, but will be back at Badland's for our usual last Saturday of the month fundraiser. Join us on Saturday October 11<sup>th</sup> though at National Coming Out Day in Commercial Center, where we will have a booth set up.

This month is IGRA Finals in Denver, and then IGRA Convention and Royalty Competition in New Orleans. Our own Miss NGRA, Katrina, is revving up her engines and we all wish her the best outcome possible.... The IGRA royalty title coming home to Nevada! If you need more information on convention and the competition in New Orleans, be sure to ask any board member.

The board is also proud to announce and welcome Bill Trunzo as the new Treasurer, and David Hering, as a new Member at Large. They both have been active and positive NGRA members for a long time, and are great and qualified members to serve on the board.

That's it for October! Again, we thank those who made a commitment this year, because of you, Big Horn Rodeo lives on! Bigger and Better than ever!



**Entertainer:  
Mike Shikora**

*Photos from Paul Scott and other NGRA Members*



**GRAND MARSHALL  
CHRIS SALDANA**



**Riderless Horse  
Ceremony**



**CONTESTANTS  
AND FANS**

## 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.

## CELEBRATING NGRA MEMBER'S BIRTHDAYS IN OCTOBER



Lance Coss 10/7  
Aaron Stanford 10/7  
Gordon Deckelmeier 10/8  
Michael Judkins 10/8  
Lize McDonald 10/8  
Dan Adams 10/13  
Gina LaRock 10/17  
John Gomes 10/19  
Eddy Krien 10/20  
Gene Forsgren 10/30

## Member of the Month AUGUST 2008



Congratulations to **Richard Levine**. Most of our members know Richard as our "Hot Dog" guy. Richard has been tirelessly running the hot dog stand on Sunday evenings outside of Charlie's, and donating the proceeds to NGRA. This venue brings in much appreciated regular funds to NGRA each month, and Richard's efforts are tremendous. NGRA gave one of it's few honorary yearly memberships to Richard last January. Next time you are at Charlie's on a Sunday evening, and get a craving for something to eat between drinks, stop by to see Richard, he'll serve up a great 'dog and chips'. Thank You Richard!

## TRUSTEE REPORT

Brian Rogers

BigHorn Rodeo 2009 has gone into the history books and it was one hell of a BIG success. I can't count all the times contestants, officials and rodeo fans approached me to tell me what a great time they had and to rave about the venue, entertainment and rodeo action. My email box is still humming. Congratulations to the Rodeo Directors and whole RPC team. You are one class act!

109 contestants came and partied with NGRA last weekend from all over IGRA and we had a record number of contestants competing under the NGRA banner. This year NGRA's 16 contestants took home 24 ribbons and 3 championship buckles.

### BigHorn Rodeo Contestants Included:

Richard Armstrong (5 ribbons)  
Gary Belitza  
Jake Black  
Jeffrey Butler  
Ted Caldwell (2 ribbons)  
Courtney Cole (Buckle – Barrels, 2 ribbons)  
Chris Due (3 ribbons)  
Gigglin Glitzee Gina (Buckle – Poles, 6 ribbons)  
Tater Hart  
Michael Judkins (1 ribbon)  
Patrick Lose  
Steve McBride (2 ribbons)  
Sean Moroz  
Dustin Munk (Buckle – Bulls, 2 ribbons)  
Sis Sherri Sparkles A lot (4 ribbons)  
Darren Wernette

Congratulations to all the contestants for an awesome event! Read more about BigHorn Rodeo 2009 in the other columns in this newsletter.

If you are planning on attending the Gay World Rodeo Finals in Denver October 1-12 and would like to volunteer, please go to the IGRA website and volunteer online. 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).

Finally, 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 David Blackwood no later than October 5 if you'd like to attend IGRA Convention with our delegation. 2



# Royalty and Fundraising

Katrina, Miss NGRA 2008

There is no other way than just to say THANK YOU! Each and every person who contributed so much as a group this year to bring BigHorn Rodeo 2008 to a fruition, I so appreciate and have enjoyed working with you. Stand tall and be proud Nevada Gay Rodeo Association members and friends, you have put on one of the best events this town sees among all of the organizations working for the community. For those of our members who for some reason were unable to participate this year, know that you were missed and we hope that you are able to join us for next year.

We will allow a breather, two or three but we on the fundraising committee will soon begin to put our hats on to start the process for BigHorn Rodeo 2009. I have heard some interesting and exciting ideas thrown around for next year, it will be fun to be a part of it and hope you enjoyed your experiences enough to participate.

On a personal note I want to say thank you to each of you that are showing encouragement toward the IGRA Royalty competition. Truly know that the drive to do this is not motivated by the desire for another crown, but in my heart I only believe in our association and its right to be represented. I hope that I do you proud as you have made me proud to be a part of NGRA. Off to Denver for Finals and then to New Orleans for Convention. For those joining us on this trail, let's enjoy the ride and have fun representing the great State of Nevada and for those staying behind, we know your spirit will be with us!



**INTERNATIONAL GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION**  
**FINALS**  
**IGRA**  
**2008**  
**DENVER COLORADO**  
**OCTOBER 10 - 12**  
Make plans to attend the fun and action of rodeo at the Indoor/ Heated National Western Stock Show Event Center  
Visit [IGRA.com](http://IGRA.com) for more information  
**IGRA Finals Rodeo Entertainment Party**  
Saturday, October 11, Red Lion Hotel - Central Denver  
7:30 PM - 10:00 PM • Ticket price \$15.00

STRAIGHT FROM LAS VEGAS, SINGER - SONGWRITER  
**VALERIE JAMES**  
"Music has an amazing voice!" -Adele Russell Cross

AMERICAN MUSIC AWARD WINNER AND MULTI-PLATINUM RECORDING ARTIST  
**HANDY JONES**  
"Excellent - A wildly entertaining performance!" - New York Daily News

VOTED "BEST DRAG SHOW" BY WESTWORD, DENVER'S FAMOUSLY BEARDED COMEDY QUEENS

**BUD LIGHT** **loop**

## **IGRA RODEO/EVENT SCHEDULE RODEO YEAR 2008**

Oct. 10-12	IGRA Finals Rodeo	Denver, CO
Oct. 30- Nov. 2	IGRA 24th Annual Convention IGRA Royalty competition	New Orleans

## **FOCUS to Open Doors on November 3rd!**

NGRA offers it's heartiest congratulations to the F.O.C.U.S. Group and The Winged Dragon Society. On November 3rd, the hot meal program which FOCUS has been working on for so long, will finally be launched and open it's doors. Tim Conroy and Helen Twelvetress are to be commended on their commitment to this wonderful charitable cause, and NGRA is proud to share in this success with them. FOCUS, along with the Sin Sity Sisters Drug Assistance program, are beneficiaries of BigHorn Rodeo 2008. Mark your calendars and join FOCUS for it's ribbon cutting ceremony on Sunday November 2nd. Contact NGRA board member and Winged Dragon Society Member Eddy Krien at [clutchcargoguy@yahoo.com](mailto:clutchcargoguy@yahoo.com) for more info.



# NGRA WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Mark Ackley  
Gary Belitza  
Jake Black  
Courtney Cok  
Jimmy Gattis  
Jim Kinney  
Patrick Lose  
Dusting Munk  
Brad Tkacik  
Cory Trujillo

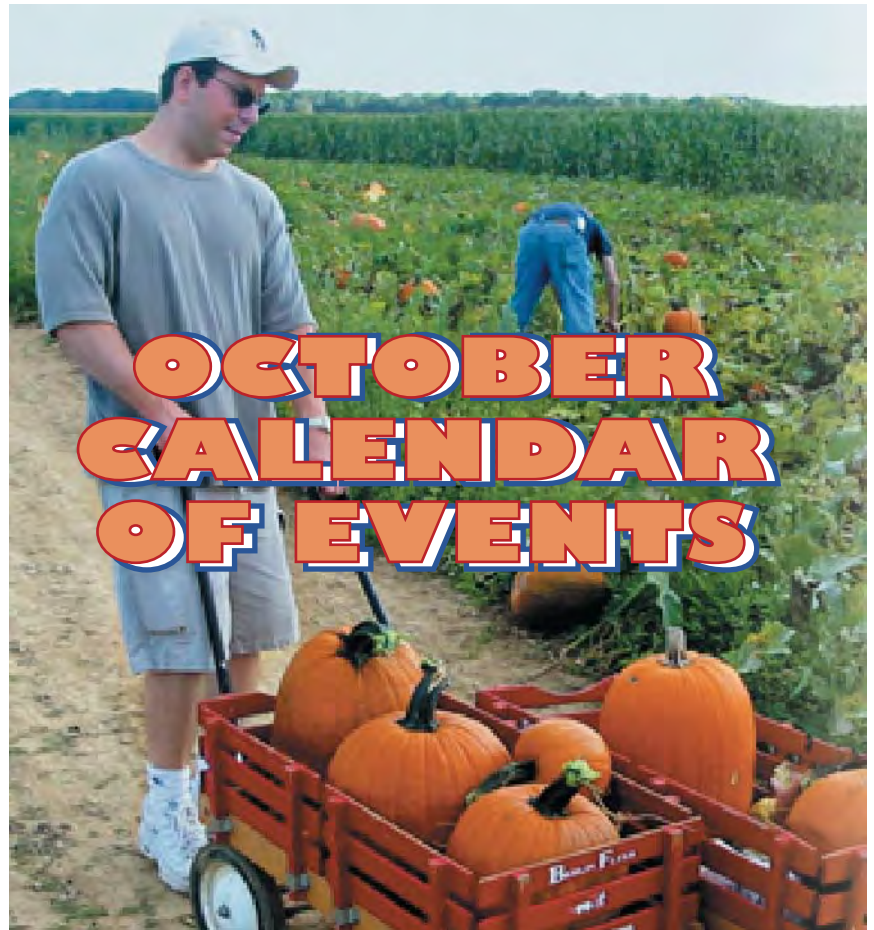


## *Wedding Bells!*

**Congratulations to NGRA members Rob Haggard-Bunting and Jeff Bunting-Haggard!**

Congratulations to NGRA members Rob Haggard-Bunting and Jeff Bunting-Haggard!

After being loving partners for nearly three years, Rob and Jeff tied the knot in a beautiful commitment ceremony on Saturday September 27th! The service and reception took place at the home of Bill Watkins and Dave McKenney. It's safe to say there was not a dry eye in the house, as Rob and Jeff's love and commitment was proclaimed and affirmed. The ceremony was presided over by Father David of the MCC church. Also taking part in the ceremony were Sister Loosy and Sister Glo of the Sin City Sisters, Tamara Goulden, Dave McKenney, Gary Klein, Jason Dyer and Eddy Krien. We love you Rob and Jeff... and wish you a long life of love and happiness together!



# OCTOBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<b>FRIDAY 03</b>	<b>NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlies</b>
<b>TUESDAY 07</b>	<b>Sin City QSocals at Stratosphere</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY 08</b>	<b>Fundrasing Meeting</b>
<b>FRIDAY 10</b>	<b>NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlies</b>
<b>OCTOBER 10 - 12</b>	<b>IGRA Finals in Denver</b>
<b>MONDAY 13</b>	<b>NGRA BOD Meeting at The Center</b>
<b>FRIDAY 17</b>	<b>NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlies</b>
<b>MONDAY 20</b>	<b>NGRA General Membership Meeting</b>
<b>FRIDAY 24</b>	<b>NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlies</b>
<b>SATURDAY 25</b>	<b>Fright Night at Badlands</b>
<b>OCTOBER 29 - NOVEMBER 02</b>	<b>IGRA Convention</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 02</b>	<b>FOCUS Grand Opening</b>

## **UP COMING EVENTS TO MAKE NOTE OF**

<b>November 8</b>	<b>Holiday Trims and Delights at Charlie's</b>
<b>November 22</b>	<b>Thanksgiving / Christmas at Badlands</b>
<b>December 13</b>	<b>Christmas Celebration at Charlie's</b>
<b>December 27</b>	<b>Celebrating Years End at Badlands</b>



SETUP TIME



RODEO UP



ENTERTAINMENT





AWARDS





# NGRA

## Thanks are sponsors for their support for BigHorn Rodeo 2008

Fellow members when the opportunities  
arises please support them.

