



November 2008



BIGHORN GAZETTE

Eddy Krien, Editor

## FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

October has come and gone, and most of us took a well deserved sigh of relief and basked in celebrating, as BigHorn Rodeo wrapped up. Once again, we produced a fabulous rodeo. BigHorn Rodeo was a financial success as well as so many other intangible ways. We built relationships and laid the groundwork for future successes. Thank you again to everyone involved, and let's DO IT AGAIN next year!

Mid October brought the IGRA Finals Rodeo in Denver and at the end of the month, several of us went off to New Orleans for the IGRA Royalty Competition and Annual Convention. Look to the Trustee's Corner for details on Finals and the Convention itself. As for the Royalty Competition, NGRA was wonderfully represented by our own Miss Katrina. Katrina did us proud, by scoring well over 80 percent of the required 75% scores. Of the categories scored, she did particularly well in horsemanship (much to her surprise), her original western wear creation was beautiful, her presentation warm and real, and (no surprise here) was probably the sexiest and classiest one we saw. Though it was a close race, Katrina brought NGRA back into the IGRA 'Miss' contest with a

flourish! Thank You Katrina! NGRA will be taking part in the IRSCDEI Coronation this year in early December. We will sponsor a table, and if you wish to attend, please contact Shaun Sewell at:

[president@ngra.com](mailto:president@ngra.com). We encourage all our members to get out and vote in the Court's election as well. NGRA and the Court have a long history together, and we both succeed with the support of the other. At IGRA Convention, it was also announced by Vice-President Andrew Goodman, that IGRA will be looking for ways to work more closely with the Court. We are excited to work with the newly elected Emperor and Empress, and further enhancing our good relations.

It's hard to imagine, but the holidays are upon us again. We have a lot of work to do, and cannot let the grass grow under our fundraising feet. We look forward to seeing you at our November and December events at Charlie's and Badlands. This is a great time to get further involved, as the holidays bring demands and we move head long into Royalty Competition and IGRA University season after the first of the year.

Thank you all for a great October!



*Lorry, Bill, Brian showing off thier awards at IGRA Convention*



*NGRA Delegates on Convention Floor*



*Bill & Lorry approving a proposal*

# TRUSTEE REPORT

Brian Rogers

These days the fall season is a really busy period for NGRA. After a successful BigHorn Rodeo 2008, yours truly packed his bags and headed off the IGRA Finals in Denver where I served as Asst. Rodeo Director (cow) and Mitch Gill served as Asst. Rodeo Director (non-cow). Our own Lorry King served as Asst. Secretary and Tom Coleman as a Timer. Also attending Finals was a large contingent of NGRA members including Bill Trunzo, Randy Meadows, Jason Dwyer, Colin Moulton who all volunteered and contestant Steve Minyard. NGRA had four contestants invited to Final including Richard Armstrong, Chris Due, Dustin Monk and Steve Minyard. The event ran smoothly and everyone had a blast in spite of the nasty weather.

Last week a bunch of us headed off to New Orleans for the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual IGRA Convention. Our delegation included me as Trustee, Delegate, Rodeo Resources and University Chair, Benjamin Avant as Bylaws Chair, Shaun Sewell as delegate and PR & Marketing Chair. Our other delegates and alternates were Lorry King, Bill Trunzo, Bill Watkins, Eddy Krien, Colin Moulton and Jeffrey Neal (Asst. Bylaws & University Chair). Mitch G was present representing another association.

On Thursday, I attended the IGRA Executive Board meeting, the Board meeting, the Trustee's meeting and an Ethical Practices Review Board meeting. That was just the start of meetings. On Friday your delegation spent the whole day attending committee meetings where proposals are crafted and reviewed for presentation to the General Assembly on Saturday and Sunday. Friday early evening we all went to cheer on our very own Katrina in the IGRA Royalty Competition. Katrina never looked or performed better and we were all so proud to call her one of our own. The competition was fierce and all of the candidates all had very high scores. After all the points were tallied, the IGRA Royalty Team for 2009 is:

- Mr. IGRA - Wade Earp (TGRA)
- Mr. IGRA 1st Runner-Up - Tom Sheridan (ILGRA)
- Mr. IGRA 2nd Runner-Up - Michael Butts (AGRA)
- Ms IGRA - Sharon Starks (AGRA)
- Ms IGRA - 1st Runner-Up - Elizabeth Anderson (GSGRA)
- MsTer IGRA - Rocket Coxx (CGRA)
- Miss IGRA - Aspen Vail (CGRA)
- Miss IGRA 1st Runner-Up - Trisha Davis (TGRA)
- Miss IGRA 2nd Runner-Up - Pussy LaHhoot (AGRA)

Friday night we all went out to Bourbon Street to marvel at the Halloween Night madness. I'll leave reporting on our social activities and the craziness of the French Quarter to others, if they dare.

The convention sessions ran from 9am to around 5pm

both days and we managed to get an amazing amount of work done, especially work on revising the Rodeo Rules. A brief summary of actions:

- The entire Rodeo Rules section was reorganized into more user-friendly sections including new sections on "Association" and "Contestant" responsibilities.
- We passed a rule change allocating \$4 of World Finals Rodeo contestant fees to the production of finals; this will help fund the event now that IGRA is producing it instead of various host associations.
- We passed several rules changes intended to make various events run more quickly, including the "Lorry King" rule change where team ropers may only one once as either a header or heeler.
- We added a new section to Rodeo Resources teaching the technical details of desirable Arena Conditions.
- We added a list of required safety equipment for Rough Stock contestants.
- For animal safety we added a requirement that the return gates have a white banner on them at least ½ their height. Also the back gate will now be open during Calf Roping on Foot.
- We eliminated the twice yearly contestant mailings.
- Running Orders will now be posted for the public to see.
- A portion raised by IGRA Royalty contestants that was earmarked for IGRA will now go to their travel fund.
- I proposed "Ribbon Roping" as our first new event in over 20 years and it passed.

In other business, I was re-elected to sit on the IGRA Executive Board as Division One Trustee Chair, so I will be able to represent NGRA's interests at the top levels of IGRA.

Finally, as Trustee I want to proudly congratulate two of our members who were honored with awards on Sunday. Lorry King was awarded the "Directors Award" for her years of service to IGRA and Bill Watkins was awarded the coveted "President's Award" for his contributions to IGRA in graphic design over the years. In addition I received an award for my work on Finals and University and we brought home two "Appreciation Awards" for SNAPI and Hawks/Rack/Onyx for their support of gay rodeo. Those will be publicly presented soon. Now it's time to rest.



# Royalty and Fundraising

Katrina, Miss NGRA 2008



Our editors have hounded me for this article and I have to admit it is one of the hardest I can pen. Going to and coming back from New Orleans has been a tremendous roller coaster ride, one that has been filled with every emotion a person has in their body. The

most overriding emotion though has been the warmth and support that I have felt from the membership on this journey. Sure I may have returned from New Orleans without bringing home a sash for you, however the experience was one of a lifetime. Know that as I walked through each step of the competition I felt as though there were 300 hands holding and pushing me along. Thank you each and every one of you, I was so honored to represent you and to say from the stage "representing the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association".

One of the many interesting points addressed during convention was the desire by IGRA to become involved with the Imperial Court system in the local community. How wonderful in the discussions to state how we here in Nevada have a long history of working together. With that regard I feel it important and encourage you to participate in a very important function of the Court, the election of Emperor and Empress. The candidates Chris Reynolds and Ginger Grant have been longtime supporters of our events and contributed tirelessly to our own fundraising efforts, with that in mind I ask you to take a few moments of your time on November 30th and go to the Center and show NGRA's support of the future monarchs.

To those of you whom may be traveling over the Thanksgiving holiday, please have a safe journey. Have a great Thanksgiving and enjoy the beginning of the holiday season! See you somewhere along the trail and don't forget our event at Badland's on Saturday November 22nd, we have some wonderful holiday trim and gift items for you to stock up on early.

## NGRA MEMBER'S CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Lorry King              | 11/1  |
| Daniel Blackhorse-Smith | 11/3  |
| Shaun Sewell            | 11/4  |
| William Carico          | 11/5  |
| Jeff Germany            | 11/9  |
| Robert Haggard-Bunting  | 11/9  |
| Boan Jordan             | 11/9  |
| Richard Schlegel        | 11/11 |
| Jake Black              | 11/17 |
| Barry Cluff             | 11/18 |
| Benjamin Avant          | 11/20 |
| Mike Norman             | 11/22 |
| Ken Carney              | 11/25 |
| Lawrence Guerra         | 11/29 |
| Max Wells               | 11/29 |



## Member of the Month September 2008



Congratulations to Tony Clark, our Member of the Month for September.

It's always difficult to decide on a Member of the Month for the month of BigHorn Rodeo, as so many volunteers do so much, and give so much of their time. For September of 09, we've elected Tony Clark. Tony was Beverage Coordinator for BigHorn Rodeo this year, but his efforts did not end there. He jumped into the position and went full force at it, with connections, long hours, and supplying volunteers. Our rodeo owes Tony a great deal, and he is one of the most positive, uplifting, hardworking and dedicated members we have. Thank You Tony!



## IGRA Finals Results!

The 22nd Annual IGRA Finals Rodeo ended last night with the awards ceremony at the Red Lion Hotel in Denver. Here are the buckle results and the number of times that contestant has won an International Finals Rodeo buckle. Of the 27 event buckles awarded, 11 were to first-timers.

- Calf Roping on Foot - Bryn Geerdes (ILGRA), 4th & Larry Travnicek (CGRA), 1st
- Pole Bending - Doreen Rue (RRRA), 1st & Andy Anaya (RRRA), 4th
- Steer Riding - Renita Encinias (NMGRA), 2nd & Ricky Wilson (GSGRA), 1st
- Break-Away Roping - Renita Encinias, 3rd & Larry Travnicek, 1st
- Team Roping - Andy Anaya & Dennis Terrell (RRRA), 10th
- Bronc Riding - Vanessa Hodgson (ASGRA), 2nd & Joe Rodriguez (SCCGRA), 1st (and first buckle ever)
- Steer Decorating - Will Lann (NMGRA) & Mitch Petersen (AGRA), 1st
- Chute Dogging - Des Gronwald (CGRA), 7th & Brian Helander (AGRA), 4th
- Barrel Racing - Trena Monnahan (OGRA), 2nd & John Beck (CGRA), 3rd (last one 20 years ago)
- Flag Race - Ty Teigen (CGRA), 1st & Andy Anaya, 4th
- Goat Dressing - Chuck Browning (AGRA), & Brian Helander, 3rd
- Wild Drag Race - Candy Pratt (RRRA), Carl Walker (SSRA), & Bob West (SSRA), 1st
- Bull Riding - Vanessa Hodgson, 2nd & Chuck Browning, 5th
- Rookie All-Around - Cindy Berner-Schlechte (HGRA) & Edward Aiello (FGRA)
- All-Around - Trena Monnahan, 4th & Andy Anaya, 8th

### Team Points

- 3rd - Golden State (GSGRA) 1,667
- 2nd - Red River (RRRA) 1,892
- 1st - Colorado (CGRA) 1,931

# UPCOMING EVENTS FOR NOVEMBER



|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>FRIDAY 14</b>    | <b>NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlies</b> |
| <b>MONDAY 17</b>    | <b>NGRA General Membership Meeting</b>     |
| <b>THURSDAY 20</b>  | <b>NGRA Royalty Applications Due</b>       |
| <b>FRIDAY 21</b>    | <b>NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlies</b> |
| <b>SATURDAY 22</b>  | <b>Holiday Celebration at Badland's</b>    |
| <b>WEDNESDAY 26</b> | <b>Fundraising Meeting</b>                 |
| <b>THURSDAY 27</b>  | <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>                    |
| <b>FRIDAY 28</b>    | <b>NGRA Appreciation Night at Charlies</b> |



# NGRA WELCOMES OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



**Topher Trevino  
JD Jensen  
Rob McDaniel**

## SPOTLIGHTING



This Spot Light member goes by the handle JD. His full name is James-Dean. JD was born and raised in Los Angeles, actually the Valley, and moved to Las Vegas about 3 years ago. His parents bought a place here about 8 years ago; it had been a seasonal residence up until JD officially moved here in

January of 2005.

Currently JD is a Regional Roving Assistant Manager for ConAm Management. ConAm manages over 30 properties here in Las Vegas and is a nation wide company. His job is pretty much to relieve Managers and associates at their properties when they need time off as well as to help aid in creating and/or updating marketing materials. JD has taken courses in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, and other Adobe Design programs. He has a passion and interest in Graphics and Marketing.

JD also has a theatrical background. He has worked professionally as a dancer & singer in numerous Los Angeles musical productions, as well as, a national tour and a couple of regional tours. His last tour was performing as Count von Count in Sesame Street Live! JD still has a great passion for theatre and singing, and hopes to be back on stage soon.

# NGRA'S HOLIDAY TRIMS & DELIGHTS NOVEMBER 22ND AT



## Badlands Saloon

Let NGRA jump-start your holiday shopping! We'll have the trimmings and last minute gifts that will help make this a special holiday for you and your loved ones.

**Holiday Entertainment**

**\$5 Raffle Gifts**

**\$1 Santa Jell -O Shots**

**\$5 Bud Light Beer Bust**



Proceeds from this event benefit NGRA and BigHorn Rodeo

# NGRA

## Thanks our sponsors in supporting BigHorn Rodeo 2008

Fellow members when the opportunities  
arises please support them.

