



BIGHORN GAZETTE

November 2009

David Hering, Editor

## NGRA'S TRUSTEE REPORT

I just returned from the World Gay Rodeo Finals where I was honored to serve as Asst. Rodeo Director. NGRA members Mitch Gill, Bill Trunzo, Colin Moulton, Andrew Goodman, Adam Johnson and Guy Puglisi all attended as well (Guy as a Asst. Secretary).

Finals continues to build each year and this year was no exception. The stands were full on Saturday and Sunday was decent as well. The Saturday evening show featured The Demented Divas and Dolly Parton impersonator Sandy Vee Anderson who was a huge success. The ballroom was packed and the local Albuquerque community supported our Finals in a big way helping ensure the event's success.

Next year NGRA is hosting the event in Laughlin and everyone I met commented on how excited they were to have the event at two such great facilities as the AVI Resort and the Mojave Crossing Event Center. I took a LOT of notes this weekend on ideas to improve the event and look forward to serving as the World Gay Rodeo Finals Rodeo Director for 2010.

Next up we will be packing up and heading north of the border for the 25th Annual IGRA Convention being hosted by CCGRA in Toronto Canada. Your 2009 delegation includes Myself, Lorry King, Jeffrey Neal, Bill Trunzo, Bill Watkins and Mitch Gill.

On Thursday I will be attending the Executive IGRA Board meeting, the full IGRA Board meeting and a Trustees meeting. On Friday your delegation will attend over 20 committee meetings. This is where IGRA associations meet and consider changes to Bylaws and Rodeo Rules. I will chair the Finals committee and Jeffrey Neal will chair the IGRA University committee. The many standing and ad hoc committees of IGRA meet and recommend proposals on Friday which are considered by the entire assembly in full-day meetings Saturday and Sunday.

Additionally, IGRA holds the 2010 IGRA Royalty competition on Thursday and Friday and our own Miss NGRA, DeShannon is running for Miss IGRA 2010. Keep your fingers crossed that she brings back the title.

IGRA Convention wraps up the IGRA rodeo year. Looking ahead, the very next International event will be IGRA University, which NGRA is hosting at the Cannery January 15-17. Jeffrey Neal is your Chancellor for 2010. IGRA will be holding its Board and Trustees meeting here and we can expect great attendance. In addition NGRA holds its annual NGRA Royalty competition that weekend as well.

It has been a honor to serve as your Trustee for the past two years. I am very proud of NGRA and all of the great contributions we have collectively made to gay rodeo. NGRA is a dynamic and innovative organization and well respected in the rodeo community at large. I look forward to a great 2010 culminating in the greatest World Gay Rodeo Finals in IGRA history.

Save a Horse...  
Your Trustee, Brain Rogers



# DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL

A SHOW THAT GIVES  
SUPPORT TO THOSE WHO  
SERVE OUR COUNTRY



**SATURDAY NOV. 14TH**  
**SHOW BEGINS AT 9:30**

*Charlie's*  
**Las Vegas**

Help support our Guys and Girls who  
our serving our country. Receive a raffle ticket for  
each item you bring to Charlie's. The items can  
be tolietries or items allowed to be sent overseas.

**Raffle Prizes**

**Bud Light Beer Bust starts at 9:00.**

# President's Report

*David Blackwood*

As I look back for the month of October NGRA made its presence known at a number of events whether they be in town or in Albuquerque, New Mexico for Finals. NGRA did its normal fundraisers that happen the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month at Charlie's and Badland's. When it came to Finals, we had those die hard NGRA members that made sure that NGRA was represented. Congratulations go out Brian Rogers for being Assistant Rodeo Director this year and we wish him all the best as he now starts laying the ground work for Finals 2010 as Rodeo Director in Laughlin, Nevada.

This was also the month that our 2010 Royalty candidates were announced. For Miss we have Kimberli Foxx aka Ric Franklin and Katrina aka Bill Trunzo and for Mr. we have Joel Castillo and JD Jensen. We will feature each of the candidates next month in our December edition. For now, I will just say that I wish each of the four candidates all the best as they start preparing for competition in January.

With the announcement of the New Royalty candidates means that the work of our current royalty team can slowly start to breathe a sigh of relief as their reign is slowly coming to an end. Well not for one of them, as DeShannon aka Mitch Gill our Miss NGRA 2009 is gearing up to try and take the Miss IGRA title for the 3rd time. From myself and the rest of the board, we wish you all the best as you compete this year in Toronto, Canada for the title of Miss IGRA. I know you will do NGRA proud.

Speaking of Toronto, Canada, I would like to thank those members that are making the trip to represent NGRA and making sure our voice is heard at Convention. I wish safe travels to Brian Rogers, Jeffrey Neal, Mitch Gill, Lorry King, Bill Trunzo and Bill Watkins.

As we start to approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I want to say thank you for creating the great organization that NGRA is.

## *Fundraising Update*

November is the time to give thanks and to count our blessings. The Fundraising Committee wants to take this time to give each member a big Thank You for all the support you have given us this past year. Each and every one of you have been a blessing to us in our efforts of raising funds for NGRA, BigHorn Rodeo 13 and our Community. We appreciate your donations, your time and your support for each of the events we have held, and hope your commitment will remain strong. Please see the flyers in this newsletter promoting our events for the upcoming month, both our salute to the troops at Charlie's on the 14th and join us for a Thanksgiving fellowship of friends at Badland's on the 28th. On behalf of the Fundraising Committee a safe and blessed Thanksgiving, if you are traveling return safely to us.

Bill Trunzo  
Fundraising Chair

**NGRA  
Welcomes our  
Newest Members:**



**Jason Lorigin  
Laura Scott**

# Good Luck DeShannon!

Hello NGRA!

We've got big news this month!

Our very own DeShannon, Miss NGRA 2009 will be representing NGRA this year at the IGRA Royalty Competition, to be held November 11-13, 2009 in Toronto.

DeShannon is no stranger to this title, having been Miss IGRA 1995 and Miss IGRA 1999.

I hope that you can all join me in sending good vibes her way. I'm extremely proud of her accomplishment and wish her all the best of luck in the competition. I know she can do it again!

I hope to see everyone out and about at upcoming NGRA events and fundraisers. Continue to check the calendar online at [www.ngra.com](http://www.ngra.com) and make plans on joining us.

Darren Wernette, Mr. NGRA 2009

# NGRA Member of the Month Sept. 2009



Congratulations to Jay Little, our Member of the Month for September.

Jay is a newer member of the organization and really showed his support during the BigHorn Rodeo and many of the WHEI events. He was everywhere at horseman's park doing anything that needed to be done. He spent most of the week at the rodeo grounds supporting logistics. He really went the extra mile and truly deserves our thanks and recognition.

Great job Jay, and feel and free to take next year off.

# NGRA Halloween 2009





*We're having an  
After Thanksgiving  
get together at  
Badlands Saloon  
on Saturday November 28th  
starting at 9:00 PM*

*You and your company are  
welcome to stop on in.  
It's NGRA's regular gathering  
at our home bar. So come  
on in, treat yourself to a \$6.00  
Bud Light beer bust and  
some freindship.*

# November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3 <b>NGRA Fundraising Meeting</b>	4	5	6 <b>NGRA Appreciation Night</b>	7
8	9 <b>Board of Directors Meeting</b>	10	11	12	13 <b>NGRA Appreciation Night</b>	14 <b>NGRA Don't Ask, Don't Tell Show</b>
15	16 <b>NGRA General Membership Meeting</b>	17	18	19	20 <b>NGRA Appreciation Night</b>	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 <b>NGRA Appreciation Night</b>	28 <b>NGRA After Thanksgiving Celebration</b>
29	30					

For times, locations and additional details, please visit the NGRA calendar on the web at [www.ngra.com](http://www.ngra.com)

## NGRA Members Celebrating Birthdays in November:

Charles Chou  
Lorry King  
Daniel Blackhorse-Smith  
Shaun Sewell  
Robert Haggard-Bunting  
Boan Jordon  
Richard Schiegel  
JD Jensen  
Barry Cluff  
Benjamin Avant  
Lawrence Guerra  
Max Wells

November 1  
November 1  
November 3  
November 4  
November 9  
November 9  
November 11  
November 12  
November 18  
November 20  
November 29  
November 29

