

# BigHorn Gazette

Monthly Newsletter for the



Nevada Gay Rodeo Association

June , 2011 Issue

Ric Franklin-Sewell, editor

## A Letter from the President of



Dr. Shaun Franklin-Sewell  
NGRA President 2011-2013

Howdy, NGRA Members!

First, thank you to every member of NGRA for your renewed belief in me as your president. I appreciate the confidence that was expressed in my leadership during the election. I hope I can live up to everyone's expectations!

I would also like to thank everyone who came out to support BigHorn Rodeo 14. Laura Scott, Guy Puglisi, and Joel Castillo tried some interesting new things, and I hope we can continue to improve on their successes in the coming years as we plan and produce western-lifestyle events, rodeo included! Final numbers won't be in for

some time, but the work of the rodeo directors, the rodeo planning committee, and the rodeo volunteers deserves early acknowledgement.

Thank you, all!

Continued on!

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Regional, State and International Royalty Joined NGRA for the "Let's Get Ready to Rodeo" Kick Off Show Thursday night before BigHorn 14.  
L to R: Miss NGRA 2011 Taylor Trash, Miss Las Vegas Gay Pride 2011 Diana Prince, Empress 13 Katrina Davenport Jewell and Miss IGRA 2011 Kimberli Foxx.



Miss NGRA 2011 1<sup>st</sup> RU Mormanizer & Miss NGRA 2011 Taylor Trash take a well deserved break from the glamour during the Rodeo Survivor's Brunch Monday after Bighorn 14. The brunch was held at and sponsored by Charlie's of Las Vegas.

## President continued...

Final numbers won't be in for some time, but the work of the rodeo directors, the rodeo planning committee, and the rodeo volunteers deserves early acknowledgement. Thank you, all!

Keep the Following Dates In Mind:

1. State convention – At the May board meeting, the state convention was set for Saturday, June 25. Details are still being ironed out, but it will be at 11 a.m at the Center.
2. Royalty competition – At the May board meeting, the date for the royalty competition was set for sometime on Thanksgiving weekend. The actual day will be finalized at the June board meeting – but it is looking like it will be hosted on Friday night, November 25.

The Board hosted a mini-retreat just slightly before our first meeting the week of rodeo. We set some goals for ourselves this term, but the main goal is working to involve our members more!

To that end, I am opening up the process of appointing various positions in the organization, and I'll detail below the positions that are open now along with their major responsibilities. Let me know, via e-mail at [president@ngra.com](mailto:president@ngra.com), if you are interested in any of these positions:

- Property Manager – Inventory List, Keeping a Safe Storage Location
- Historian – Keeping memorabilia and other items from NGRA events
- Royalty Competition Director – Organizing competition, mentoring candidates
- Public Relations Spokesperson – Arranging publicity, disseminating information
- Fundraising Chair – Raising funds, primarily through assisting the royalty team
- Corporate Sponsorship Representative – Build and maintain ongoing relationships with current and potential corporate sponsors
- Parliamentarian – Assist the president with questions of parliamentary procedure

## 2011 NGRA Convention

It's that time of year again, the new Board of Directors are in settling in and it's time for our annual NGRA Convention. It will be held on Sunday, July 25th at 11:00 AM at The Center, located at 953 E. Sahara Ave, Suite B-31.

This is the only time of year when the Bylaws can be changed and is one of the opportunities to change the Standing Rules as well. Everyone's opinions and ideas are important, so if there is anything that you feel could use more clarification, should be removed or added to the Bylaws, come and present them to the membership.

The 2011 Convention Chair is Brian Rogers and he can be reached at [memberatlarge1@ngra.com](mailto:memberatlarge1@ngra.com). Please send your ideas, along with the section of the Bylaws and he will prepare them for presentation and voting. All submissions received by June 13rd will be compiled and emailed to the membership on approximately June 16th so that you will have time to review and discuss them before the convention. Proposals received after that date will be compiled and presented at convention itself. In addition, proposals can be presented from the floor after all other previously submitted items have been voted on.

The current Bylaws and Standing Rules can be found on our website. Please bring a copy to the meeting. Lunch will be provided.

There are other positions which are not identified in the by-laws, but which are necessary to the operations of the organization.

- Royalty Liaison – Assist the royalty by communicating with the board and the president on their behalf and ensuring they meet their requirements.
- Archivist – Establishing and maintaining electronic records of NGRA
- Sunshine Coordinator – A really fun position. Sending birthday wishes and other greetings to NGRA members!

## **Porkchop's Pig Pen** **(Trustee's Report)**



Howdy Members!

It is amazing how fast the last few months have gone by! I recently returned from the second IGRA Board of Directors meeting in Fort Lauderdale. The weather was fantastic and the nightlife was pretty exciting! There was not a lot of new business brought up at the board meeting but I have included some highlights below so every one stays abreast of what is going on.

- The IGRA Royalty Team will work with the local associations when planning fundraising events. They want to make sure the associations are aware of their plans and no unnecessary conflicts arise due to communication breakdowns.
- Associations need to present nominees for the annual IGRA awards by the next board meeting as required in Standing Rule 12.
- The IGRA Administrative Assistant needs updated membership lists sent to him periodically to minimize problems with membership verification during the rodeo registration process. It is especially important to send updated lists just before each rodeo when changes have occurred.
- The Archives Committee is soliciting donations of belt buckles, posters, etc. These items are part of IGRA's history and are used for public display like was done at the Road Runner Regional Rodeo in Phoenix this year.
- It was passed at IGRA Convention in Reno last year to allow association royalty runners up to compete in the IGRA Royalty Competition. To facilitate this at the NGRA level, we will need to propose changes to our own Standing Rules at NGRA Convention this year. If it successfully passes, then our runners up will be able to participate, too.
- The Social Media Committee reported they had 1506 members on Facebook with an additional 400 pending approval. The committee said they can work with the associations to help them promote local events other than rodeos.

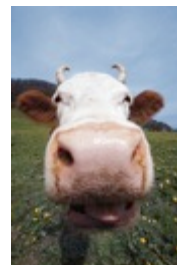
Finally, I want to thanks to Ric Franklin-Sewell, a.k.a. Kimberli Foxx (who is also Miss IGRA 2011) for taking over the task of preparing the newsletter each month. It's a very important and sometimes thankless task! And, even though the board has not approved his appointment yet, I want to thank Darren Wernette for agreeing to continue to be the webmaster. He's done great things with our website so far.

Thanks for paying attention to this long, first newsletter article. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns about NGRA, please don't hesitate to e-mail me or any other board member. You can always reach me at

[president@ngra.com](mailto:president@ngra.com).

President  
Continued

The next three rodeos are:  
Canada Rockies  
International Rodeo in  
Calgary (July 1-3); Rocky  
Mountain Regional Rodeo in  
Denver (July 8-10); and the  
Motown Rodeo in Detroit  
(July 22-24).



- The locations of the first three IGRA board meetings in 2012 were selected: St. Louis in January; Las Vegas in May; and Chicago in August.
- The trustees approved two variances for the Best Buck in the Bay: A date change to September 9-11 and an arena size of 200Lx85W. A variance was also approved to hold registration from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at WGR Finals this year. Replacements/fill-ins will be selected from eligible contestants within 15 minutes of registration closing.

I represented NGRA as Trustee and worked as Assistant Secretary in Palm Springs. Since I could not be in two places at once, Laura Scott was the designated alternate in Little Rock. Of course, I represented NGRA as the Trustee and Co-Rodeo Director at BigHorn 14. NGRA had no Trustee representation at the Great Plains Rodeo in Oklahoma City I will be attending the next IGRA board meeting during the Denver rodeo weekend and will be working as Assistant Secretary in Detroit. I anticipate seeing some of you in Denver, which is always a great time! Until next time, be good...or good at it! Let's rodeo!!



# BigHorn 14's Rodeo Directors Final Letter

I think I am totally rested up now. What an amazing weekend. First I want to send a special thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, officials and spectators. We do this every year in hopes of putting on the best show ever and hopefully raising some much needed money for our charity, the Sin City Sisters SADAP program, and although there weren't as many people as have been in the past, I believe everybody had a great time. A few special thank you's I believe are in order before I continue. Brian Rogers, you are the reason this rodeo happened. I cannot thank you enough for stepping up and taking sponsorships over. I believe this was a record, and I am truly grateful. Guy and Joel, it's so nice to not have to worry the weekend of rodeo, and know that whatever we need, it will be taken care of, thank you so much. Darren, all year you put up with my web site changes, and did it right away, thank you for just doing what you do, and not complaining, you were awesome. Bill W, always Mr. Reliable. I can't thank you enough for your wisdom and kind words and of course all your help in the last few days, and for producing a beautiful poster.

Doug Graff, thank you for keeping me in check. Yes, even I can admit I am not always the easiest to work with, but in the end, I believe we produced a great rodeo. A special thank you to all our sponsors, you took a chance on us in a bad economy, and I am so thankful for that. I want to say something about Sunday night. For those of you who missed it, it was truly a magical thing. No, not myself Heather and Kim in drag, (although that was a lot of fun) but after, the buckle auction and the emotions and energy that went into that whole night. I have been a part of IGRA for 20 years and it is nights like Sunday that make me come back again and again. To all of you who tipped us, who bid on the buckle, I thank you, for opening up your hearts and helping out a fellow competitor. I am so blessed. And now, as I travel to Houston and start my new life with the better half of me, I hope to see you all on the circuit, somewhere. Denver, Finals, Convention. I will miss most of you, but mostly I will miss the MEAN GIRLS!

In Cowgirl Pride~ Laura



The Purple Ribbon Challenge from IGRA Royalty Was met with over \$500 raised for the Trevor Project on Saturday of BigHorn 14. Above Kim Dawson (Haylie Bayles), Laura Scott (Johnna Deere) and Heather Murray (Ginger Spice) performed in full purple glamour drag as the "Daughters of DeBaygo" during the Awards Banquet on Sunday evening.

## **BADLAND'S SALOON**

**\*\*Get Well Soon Mr. NGRA 2011 Chris R\*\***

Mr. Big Bold Bear &  
Miss Big Bold Beautiful Pageant  
w/ Imperial Court June 10

### Drink Specials

Friday \$8 Liquor Bust 7pm-12am  
Saturday \$8 Beer Bust 7pm-12am  
Sunday \$5 Beer Bust 9pm-12am

## **CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS**

Glee 2 w/ NGRA June 11

Tribute to Mommy Dearest: Kimberli Foxx  
Birthday Show June 18 IGRA Benefit

### Drink Specials

Friday \$10 Liquor Bust 9pm-12am  
Saturday \$5 Beer Bust 9pm-12am  
Sunday \$5 Beer Bust 4-7pm/  
\$2 Long Islands 7p-12a

## My Life on the T-List

Wow what a month. Hot Rodeo in Palm Springs kicked off the whirl wind month. I had the pleasure of timing my first rodeo that weekend. Despite the wind and having to buy stampede straps to keep the hat on I had a great weekend. I timed Mounted Breakaway, Barrel Racing, Goat Dressing and Steer Decorating. I got to experience what it was like to have "guacamole" slung at you in timing Steer Decorating. I can say that weekend was an experience I will never forget. Upon returning home it was full swing ahead in preparation for BigHorn Rodeo 14. With 2 Rodeo Kick-off parties, rehearsals with the Boyz of Charlie's, getting everything in line for rodeo weekend and juggling my job that pays the bills kept me busy. I was honored to help with Drag Queen Bingo at Charlie's on May 10<sup>th</sup>. That was a fun night for me especially when I work early during the week.

BigHorn Rodeo Weekend was full of fun and excitement, getting to see old friends and meet new ones. I was honored to share the rodeo festivities with my fellow rodeo friends. Simply thank you to everyone that helped make BigHorn Rodeo what it was for me. As rodeo is over, it is a little sad that something you put your all into has now wrapped up and done until the next one.

I would like to personally thank Mormanizer for an amazing weekend at BigHorn Rodeo. I am honored to have you as Miss NGRA 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up. To Diana Prince, KC Golightly, Katrina, and the Sin City Sisters, it truly was amazing to ride into Grand Entry surround by all of you in the back of the truck.

I would like to invite everyone to mark your calendar for, Taylor's Temptation Island happening, Friday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at Charlie's benefiting the Sin City Sister "SADAP" Program.

That's my life of the T-List

Love,  
Taylor



## June Birthdays



Tony Clark	6/02
Kip Kipilla	6/03
Johnny Bob Dalton	6/04
Dewayne Rennels	6/05
Jay Little	6/09
Ric Franklin-Sewell	6/12
Kimberli Foxx	6/12
Ron Cox	6/13
Ken Wong	6/14
Curtiss Lewis	6/15
David Herring	6/17
Richard Armstrong	6/22
Amanda Essary	6/23
Chris Due	6/27
Darwin Trotter	6/28



## New Members

May 2011



Jeffrey Fisher  
Dewayne Lee  
Jeffrey Rosenberg  
Katie Thomas  
Matthew Todd

### NGRA Contestant Top Eight Results

#### \*\*Rodeo in the Rock (Little Rock, AR)\*\*

**Laura S.** and her team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Wild Drag Race on Saturday

**Darren W.** tied for 5<sup>th</sup> place in Goat Dressing on Saturday

#### \*\*BigHorn Rodeo (Las Vegas, NV)\*\*

**Richard A.** placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Steer Decorating on Saturday and in 6<sup>th</sup> place in Calf Roping on Foot Sunday.

**Ted C.** placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in Chute Dogging on Saturday

**Chris D.** placed 4<sup>th</sup> in Steer Decorating on Saturday

**Caidyn E.** 4<sup>th</sup> in Chute Dogging on Saturday

**Jeffrey R.** placed 8<sup>th</sup> in Steer Decorating on Sunday

# June 2011 Calendar

June 2011 Calendar for <a href="http://ngra.com">ngra.com</a>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			01	02	03	04
05	06	07	08	09	10 <b>Imperial Court Pageant Badlands 9pm</b> <b>MOC Turn About Charlie's 9pm</b>	11 <b>Glee 2.0 NGRA Charlie's 9p/show 10p</b>
12	13	14	15	16	17 <b>Imperial Court Turn About Charlie's 9pm</b>	18 <b>Mommy Dearest IGRA Charlie's Show 10</b>
19	20 <b>NGRA BOD/ Membership Meeting Comm.Cntr 6:30pm</b>	21	22	23	24 <b>Trailer Trash Tupperwear Party Charlie's 10pm</b>	25 <b>SNAPI Saturday Charlie's 10pm</b>
26	27	28	29	30		

