

BIGHORN GAZETTE

The Monthly Newsletter of the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association



6 More Weeks
of Winter
Y'ALL!



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Letter From the President

Dr. Shaun Franklin-Sewell
NGRA President



Howdy, Folks.

This month, I invite all NGRA members to our fundraising committee meeting on February 8 at 6 p.m. at Fun Hog Ranch. We need all your ideas and your help to make our fundraising successful.

In January, SNAPI donated the proceeds from their monthly fundraiser to the "We Care About Rodeo" campaign; they raised more than \$600. Thank you, SNAPI. And thank you to the Men of Charlie's Las Vegas for donating \$200 to the campaign. We really appreciate all our community support! Thanks also to Michael Judkins and Brian Maley for putting together the NGRA membership drive on Saturday, February 4.

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Curtiss Lewis, Mr. NGRA 2012 1st Runner Up relaxes at the first "Boot Scootin' Sunday," January 29, 2012, at the Fun Hog Ranch.

**SAVE THESE
DATES**

www.IGRA.com



Feb 17-19

**Road Runner
Regional
Rodeo**

Chandler, AZ

March 2-4

**A Texas
Tradition
Rodeo**

Ft. Worth, TX

April 20-22

**Sunshine
Stampede**

Davie, FL

Porkchop's Pig Pen



Trustee's Report
by Guy "Porkchop" Puglisi

SAVE THE DATE

**BigHorn Rodeo 15
May 11-13, 2012**

President Letter Continued

I want to let you all know about some important events in the life of our organization:

This month, NGRA members will receive a ballot for 2011 Member of the Year. Be sure to vote!

Nominations for election to the Board of Directors are due by the Board and General Membership Meeting on March 19. Self-nominations are accepted and encouraged! We'll be electing a Vice President, a Secretary, and four member-at-large positions. Check out the NGRA Bylaws for the duties of each position, and please think about running. We want you!

BigHorn Rodeo 15 kicks off May 11, and the General Membership will be voting to ratify the selection of this year's charity partners at the February 20 meeting.

Sometime in June or July, we'll host the annual NGRA Convention, where we review and update our bylaws and standing rules.

Hope to see you all soon!

Howdy Members!

I cannot believe another year has passed us by! 2011 seemed to be a tough year for many of my friends and family. It seemed so many people were having struggles due to the economy; health issues or the loss of loved ones. We lost several long-time supporters and/or members of NGRA last year, which was extremely sad for me personally. I am hopeful 2012 will be a better year for us all.

Since my last article, I have been extremely busy with rodeo events, the holidays and life in general. There has not been much to report since then but I have plenty to share after recently returning from the first IGRA Board of Directors meeting in St. Louis in conjunction with IGRA University. As expected, the weather was rather cold in the high teens and low twenties the entire weekend. Ironically, it was in the sixties the day after I left—go figure!

We had three students representing NGRA over the weekend and two members of our royalty team representing after classes let out. All had a lot of fun. I made very good friends with the hotel staff over the weekend. By the time I left, I think I had the entire food and beverage staff saying "Weeeeeeeeeee!!!" and hollering for Porkchop. Honestly, the hotel staff was amazing and I cannot say I minded all the attention. As for the important stuff, I have included some highlights below from the board meeting to keep you all abreast of what is going on in IGRA.

- The IGRA Royalty Team for 2011, which included our very own Kimberli Foxx, Miss IGRA, was commended by our IGRA President for raising over \$15K last year.
- IGRA had no deferred income in 2011, which means they made money and did not have to tap into reserve funds for the first time in several years.

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Page 4

Rodeo Director's Report

\$5.00 Admission for BigHorn 15

By
Laura Scott
Rodeo Director
BigHorn 15



Well here we are, three months and BigHorn Rodeo 15 will officially be here. We are gearing up for a great event, one that I think everybody will enjoy. The Rodeo Planning Committee is planning a few different things this year. Friday night, registration will be at Horseman's Park from 6pm to 9pm. At the same time, we will be featuring a BBQ and Reverse Karaoke contest, in the big tent. There will be plenty of libations flowing for those of you who may need a little liquid courage. There are cash prizes for the winners; \$100 for the best female singing a male song and \$100 for the best male singing a female song. It's going to be a lot of fun! Rodeo events begin Saturday morning starting at 9am. Saturday evening is our Hoedown at Charlie's Saloon beginning at 9pm. There will be a few performers and LOTS of dancing. Sunday morning at 9am we start all over again, then Sunday night is a BBQ for \$8 during the Awards ceremony. This is where we all get to finally let our hair down. This year spectators can see all the rodeo action for only \$5 each day with the BBQ's being of separate cost. We are pleased to announce our charities for BigHorn 15; The Sin City Sisters and The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada. We are very excited to partner with these two amazing non-profit groups and hope you will come out and support them by buying a ticket to BigHorn 15 as well as purchasing a beverage while attending.

Nevada Gay Rodeo Association
BIGHORN RODEO

**May 11-13,
2012**

See all the action for \$5

Horseman's Park • East Flamingo
Host Hotel Eastside Casper Hotel & Casino (info,
702-436-3300), Hostess NCRA for dinner.

For more information: BigHornRodeo.com



Trustee's Report Cont.

- The IGRA website, www.igra.com, has been optimized for mobile/smart phone use. There may be a few bugs right now but they will be addressed as they are reported to the Webmaster.
- IGRA hopes to have a significant presence at the Gay Games 2014 event, as there is a tremendous opportunity to promote rodeo and reach out to many people who may not know about us.
- An ad-hoc committee was formed to work on cleaning up the IGRA bylaws so they are congruent with the way IGRA is currently doing business because there have been numerous oversights as other bylaws and/or rodeo rules have changed.
- The 2012 IGRA Royalty Team anticipates having a presence at all rodeos this year. The entire team plans to be Road Runner Regional Rodeo in Phoenix Presidents' Day weekend to kick off the rodeo year.
- The IGRA Board of Directors approved the 2012 IGRA Royalty Team charities. The team will be raising money for the Trevor Project and the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition. To show support, the team will promote the color teal to be worn on Saturday for ovarian cancer awareness and purple on Sunday to support the "It gets better" campaign for the Trevor Project. The team has a fundraising goal of \$25K for 2012 and is working on a unique logo for royalty.
- A \$25K sponsorship from Bud Light is in the works. These monies will be allocated to: World Gay Rodeo Finals (WGRF), \$9,250; IGRA University, \$3,000; the International Dance Competition, \$2,000; IGRA Convention, \$3,500; the New York City Trade Show, \$2,000; a certified officials training video, \$1,250; and \$1,000 to one rodeo in each of the four divisions (San Diego, Santa Fe, Chicago and Des Moines).
- The WGRF Committee is seeking nominations for Grand Marshal. The IGRA Hall of Fame is also seeking nominations for inductees. If you have any nominations, please send them to me at trustee@ngra.com and I will pass them on to the right parties.
- The dates for WGRF and IGRA Convention were changed. They will be held 10/18-10/21 and 11/8-11/11, respectively. The rodeo dates for the Windy City Rodeo in Chicago and the Best Buck in the Bay were changed to 8/24-/26 and 9/14-9/16, respectively.
- IGRA renewed its liability insurance, which will cost NGRA \$432.74 this year in addition to our own Directors and Officers policy at a cost of \$200.
- The President of the Illinois Gay Rodeo Association (ILGRA), Ed Barry, thanked NGRA for its donation of \$500 to help them pay off their rodeo debt due to extreme rains causing them to lose a lot of money last year. NGRA received similar donations the year we had to cancel one of our rodeo days due to rain.
- Only one issue was discussed in the separate Board of Trustees meeting. All membership lists submitted to IGRA must indicate the county of residence when there is more than one association in a state. Since Nevada has two, we will need to start doing this.

The next three rodeos are: The Road Runner Regional Rodeo in Phoenix (February 17-19); A Texas Tradition in Fort Worth (March 2-4); and the Sunshine Stampede in Fort Lauderdale (April 20-22). I hope to see all of you in Phoenix! If any of you are planning to attend the Fort Worth or Fort Lauderdale rodeos and would like to be considered to serve as Alternate Trustee, please send me an email or let me know in-person. Until next time, be good...or good at it! Let's rodeo!!



Between January 1 and March 31, 2012 you can buy a horseshoe and help support BigHorn 15. Horseshoes sold in \$1, \$5 and \$10+ increments. See members of the 2012 NGRA Royalty Team to purchase your horseshoe today!



Charlie's
Las Vegas

PRESENTS:

A TRUE COUNTRY
Valentine

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2012

9 P.M. - 12 MIDNIGHT

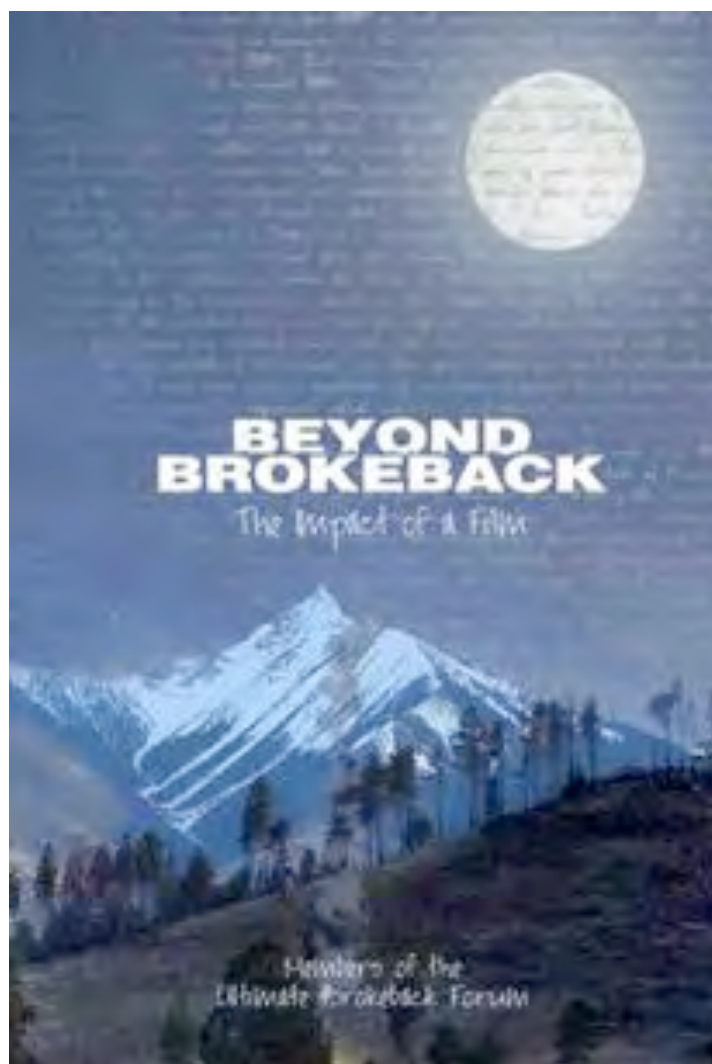
BEER BUST, GUMMY BEAR JELLO SHOTS,
RAFFLE PRIZES AND AUCTION ITEMS

proceeds go to NGRA/ BigHorn Rodeo 15
and the 2012 NGRA Royalty Team Discretionary Fund



SUNDAY 4-7PM
FEBRUARY 12TH

The Las Vegas - Clark County Library District,
Out West 2012 &
The Nevada Conservatory Theatre of UNLV
Are Pleased to Present a Complementary Performance of



A Staged Reading with Poetry & Songs

Saturday, February 11, 2:00 P.M.
Main Theatre at the Clark County Library,
1401 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119

<http://www.lvccld.org/>

More
Info
On
Pg. 7

Las Vegas - Clark County Library, Out West 2012 & University of Nevada Theatre Department present
Beyond Brokeback: A Staged Reading with Music



Saturday, February 11, 2:00 P.M.

Las Vegas – Clark County Library, Out West 2012, and the University of Nevada Theatre Department are pleased to be the first in Nevada to host the acclaimed *Beyond Brokeback: A Staged Reading with Music*. Inspired by the landmark film *Brokeback Mountain*, the program consists of staged reading of messages, essays, poetry, and music. The event is free and open to the public, to be held in the Main Theatre at the Las Vegas—Clark County Library, 1401 E. Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89119 2:00 PM on Saturday, February 11, 2pm.

Beyond Brokeback: A Staged Reading with Music was conceived and adapted for the stage by Gregory Hinton from the 2007 book *Beyond Brokeback: Impact of a Film* written by Members of the Ultimate Brokeback Forum website, culled from over 500,000 posts. Excerpts of poignant and humorous messages, essays, and poetry— by writers young and old, male and female, gay and straight— will be interpreted by six reader/musicians.

"Nevada has a rich country-western gay & lesbian history. Beyond Brokeback is a comprehensive oral history of the rural gay west," said playwright Gregory Hinton. "Beyond Brokeback leads us out of our isolation and into the open - to welcoming communities many crave and all deserve."

Members of The Ultimate Brokeback Forum are expected to descend on Las Vegas for the Nevada premiere of Beyond Brokeback. Devotees of Brokeback Mountain, they call themselves "Brokies," (akin to the "Trekkie" fans of Star Trek) and travel to Brokeback events all over the world.

Original songs from the CD "Meet Me on the Mountain," also inspired by the film and written by acclaimed Los Angeles Master Chorale composer/singer/arranger Shawn Kirchner will be performed.

Beyond Brokeback was first developed and performed in 2010 at the Autry National Center in Los Angeles as part of its acclaimed Out West at the Autry series and in commemoration of the 5th Anniversary of *Brokeback Mountain*. *Beyond Brokeback* has been performed to standing ovations by the Theatre and Dance Department of the University of Wyoming in Laramie for the Shepard Symposium on Social Justice in April, 2011, the City of West Hollywood's One City/One Pride Culture Series in June, 2011, the Bozeman Public Library in Montana in October, 2011 and Chicago's Roosevelt University in its historic Auditorium Theatre in November, 2011.

The production is generously sponsored by Las Vegas – Clark County Library, HBO, the David Bohnett Foundation, Gill Foundation, and the Gay & Lesbian Rodeo Heritage Foundation.

Inquiries Please Contact:

Gregory Hinton, Producer, Out West

323.876.9585 gregoryhinton@earthlink.net

MEMBER OF THE YEAR

The following members of the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association have been nominated for Member of the Year for 2011 automatically per their receipt of Member of the Month.

Voting will begin on February 15, 2012. Please watch your email for further info.

January - Jon Jones

February - Bill Watkins

March - Randy Grant

April - Darren Wernette

May - Ken Wells/David Blunk

June - Brian Rogers

July - Rick Hansen-Raymon

August - Ric Franklin-Sewell

September - Michael Judkins

October - Tony Clark

November - Michael Judkins

December - Rick Hansen-Raymon

No other members were nominated per Standing Rule #4 (Pages 24 and 25) of the NGRA Bylaws.

Charlie's
Las Vegas

Kimberli Foxx's 3rd Annual
Red Ribbon Review

Q VEGAS

HOSTED BY

Taylor Trash
Miss IGRA 2012 2nd RU
&
Christopher Daniels
Adult Film Superstar

Red Ribbon
RUNWAY

The Official Kick Off Party for
The Sin City Sisters Red Dress Weekend

Friday February 24th, 2012
9:00 PM
Charlie's Las Vegas

Proceeds Benefit the
Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program
Red Attire is Requested, Not Required

The Evening Will
Include Special Guest
Entertainment, Hot
Go-Go Dancers, Jell-O
Shots, Fabulous Raffle
Prizes and of Course
Fun and Frolic With
The Sin City Sisters!

HOT HOUSE
LUBRICANTS

9X6
pure silicone lubricant

Superior Products
INC.

LUCAS
ENTERTAINMENT.COM

project RED DRESS



FEBRUARY 25, 2012
WORLD MARKET CENTER
sinsitysisisters.org

VP tickets \$50 8pm to 10pm
Main tickets \$30 10pm to 2am



Proceeds from this event will be donated to Sinsity Sisters.

OUT WEST PRIDE IN THE SADDLE STARTS IN NEVADA

Flamingo Library, 6:00 PM
Saturday, May 19, 2012



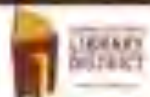
In 1975, the first Gay Rodeo was conceived in Reno as a fundraiser for the local Senior Citizens Thanksgiving Day dinner. It was hoped that "an amateur gay rodeo would be fun, raise money, and even erase local gay stereotyping." There were many challenges and great resistance, but finally the first rodeo was held on October 2, 1976. May 11-13, 2012 that innovative Nevada tradition continues with NGRA's Big Horn Rodeo 15 at Horseman's Park in Las Vegas.

Join the International Gay Rodeo Association Archives committee chair, Brian Rogers on a journey that takes us down the trail of gay

rodeo in Nevada through today. That trail of discovery includes the Comstock Gay Rodeo Association, the Silver State Gay Rodeo association, the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association and finally the High Sierra Gay Rodeo Association. Explore the rich and colorful history and discover discrimination overcome and the contribution of gay rodeo to LGBT western history.

The talk will be accompanied by an exhibition of vintage gay rodeo photographs by Blake Little, original rodeo posters, programs and rule books from early Gay Rodeo.

The production is generously sponsored by Las Vegas - Clark County Library, HBO, the David Bohnett Foundation, Gill Foundation, and the Gay & Lesbian Rodeo Heritage Foundation



FEBRUARY 2012

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11

Fundraising Meeting
6:00 pm
Fun Hog Ranch

Country Valentine
Charlies
9:00 pm

12

NGRA Royalty
Chuck Wagon
4:00 pm
Charlie's

13

14



15

16

17

Road Runner Regional
Rodeo
Chandler, AZ

18

Road Runner Regional
Rodeo
Chandler, AZ

19

Road Runner Regional
Rodeo
Chandler, AZ

20

NGRA BOD & General
Membership Meeting
6:30 pm
The Center

21

22

23

24

Red Ribbon Review
9:00 pm
Charlie's

25

Red Dress Event
VIP 8:00 pm
Main 10:00 pm
World Market Center

26

27

28

29