



## September 2013 BigHorn Gazette

From your President

### Happy Pride NGRA!

For those of you who don't know me, I thought I'd use this newsletter article to introduce myself and ask a few questions. Like many, I had an odd start in gay rodeo. I met a contestant at a bar in San Francisco and stalked followed him to the LA rodeo in 1994. I actually have proof of this because in the 1995 version of their program there I was in a crowd shot in the bleachers! <http://gayrodeohistory.org/1995/ProgramGsgraLa.htm> see page 27!! J

Fortunately, I didn't land in jail that weekend, but I did make some great new friends and returned to Michigan with a renewed interest in my country roots. It just so happened that Jim Brown was starting the Michigan International Gay Rodeo Association at the time. I became involved as a volunteer and helped produce the first, second and third annual MIGRA events before moving to California. By that time I had become a full fledged competitor with starched jeans (we all wore starched jeans back then), broken bones, an odd fascination with the drag queens and a desire to share rodeo with others.

In 1998 I became Mr. Golden State Gay Rodeo Association and learned first-hand from my Miss GSGRA just how long it took her to get ready to go out! In 1999 I became Mr. IGRA and qualified in the top 20 bull riders of the year. I rode bulls and steers at finals rodeo that year and was placed in both!

In the 2000s I became heavily involved in rodeo production in the San Francisco Bay Area. We created the rodeo brand, "Best Buck in the Bay" which is still used at that event today. I was Rodeo Director, Rodeo Clown and IGRA spokesperson during those years and even served as IGRA Trustee for 3 years.

I moved to Las Vegas in September of 2008 and needed to take a break for a little while and settle in. I was the rodeo announcer for Big Horn Rodeo and really enjoyed hanging out with the NGRA crew. What a great group of people. In all honesty, I became President, not so much because I

September 2013 Newsletter

wanted to be President but as I wanted to make sure the opportunity for younger folks to be involved continues.

I told you so much about myself, so that you know I come at this position having seen Gay Rodeo from many angles. I know that it truly takes all kinds of people with all kinds of talent to make this a success. I also know that there are members out there with skills we could use. Everyone has something they can contribute. NGRA has a great history here in Las Vegas. We are a pillar organization in our community. Like any all volunteer organization we have our moments of hiccups and drama, but, as we see time and time again we unite and support when needed.

If you'd like to get involved, but don't know how, drop me an email or say hello at one of our many events. I know you have something you can contribute.

Until Next Month,

Douglas Graff  
NGRA President  
[president@ngra.com](mailto:president@ngra.com)

## Royalty All Stars Show

NGRA held the Royalty All-Stars show on Saturday, August 10 at Charlie's Las Vegas, hosted by Miss Mandy Barbarell – Miss IGRA 2004. Charlie's was filled with Rodeo Royalty from the past, present and future as the contestants for the 2014 Royalty Team were announced.



The show consisted of performances by Doug Graff - MR. IGRA 1999, Miss Frankie - Miss NGRA 2001 & 2004, Ken Wells - MR. NGRA 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up 2006, Joe Cervantes - MR. NGRA 2006, Chris Reynolds - Mr. NGRA 2011, Mormanizer - Miss NGRA 1<sup>st</sup> Runner-up 2011 & 2012, Taylor Trash - Miss NGRA 2011 & Miss IGRA 2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up 2012, Jason Jewel - MR. NGRA 2012, Sabel D'Zyre - Miss NGRA 2012 & Miss IGRA 2013, Katrina Davenport Jewel - Miss NGRA 2008 & 2013, and lastly Alex Michaels as Liza Minelli who was on the 1992-93 team for a short period of time. These performers brought out show stopping performances, from Sabel's larger than life hair, Jason dressed in his Air Force attire to Joe with apron, baby and baby powder. The audience never knows what to expect when you put all this past royalty together.



Alex Michaels



Chris & Taylor



Jason Jewel



Joe Cervantes



Sabel D'Zyre

While you always see the performers being spotlighted, Mandy made it her duty to spotlight some other past royalty that made it to the show for the night: Chris Due - MR. NGRA 2005 & 2013; Laura Scott - Ms. NGRA 1998 & Ms. IGRA 1999, as well as Kip Kipilla aka Michelle Kristi - Miss NGRA 1992-93.



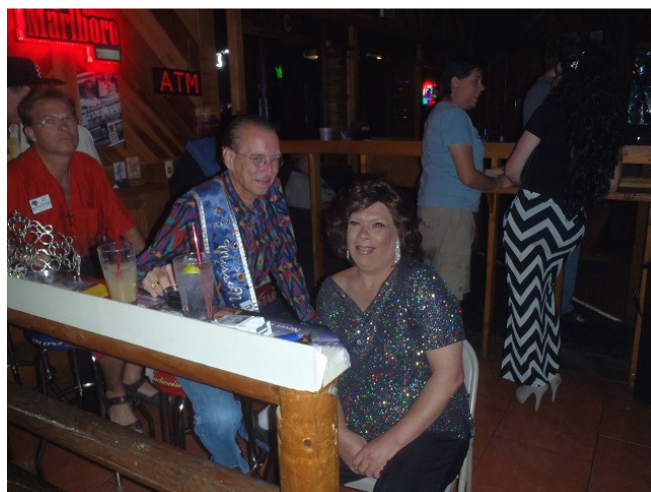
Mandy Barbarell



Doug Graff & Laura Scott



Katrina Davenport & Chris Due



Kip & Miss Frankie



As mentioned above the announcement of the contestants for the 2014 Royalty Team was made with each of them taking part with the show: Jason Metzger - Contestant for MR. NGRA 2014; Preston - Contestant for MsTer NGRA 2014, and A'Lotta Trash - Contestant for Miss NGRA 2014 all performed a number that night, while Brent Rosinski - Contestant for MR. NGRA 2014 helped capture the evening by taking photos.

And for our final picture we see Brian covering the door and Chris responsible for selling the Beer Bust.

The show along with raffles, auction, and beer bust raised \$680.50.

## NGRA 2014 Royalty Contestants Announced

NGRA announced the 2014 Royalty Contestants during the Royalty All-Stars Show held at Charlie's on Saturday, August 10. We are pleased to have four individuals running for this year's competition.

- Jason Metzger - MR. NGRA 2014
- Brent Rosinski - MR. NGRA 2014
- A'Lotta Trash - Miss NGRA 2014
- Preston - MsTer NGRA 2014



From Left to Right: A'Lotta Trash, Brent Rosinski, Jason Metzger, and Preston

This is the first year that NGRA has someone competing in the MsTer category.

This team has chosen the following charities that have approved by the board: L.E.A.N (Local Equine Assistance Network) a program created through All Vegas Horses, and BigHorn Rodeo 17. Keep a lookout for the Team as they will be carrying decorated cans to help raise money for the charities chosen. If you don't see them out or are not in town, and feel like donating, visit the NGRA store online where you can make an online donation. Mark your calendars for Friday, October 4 when the contestants put on Horseshoes and Hardwood at Charlie's Las Vegas. There will also be some very cleverly decorated horseshoes that will be auctioned off that night.

Help us in supporting our 2014 Royalty Contestants and be sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, November 30 when NGRA holds the Royalty Competition at Charlie's.

## NGRA's Hot August Night at Flex

On Friday evening, August 30, the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association (NGRA) took over Flex Cocktail Lounge, for an event titled "Hot August Night." Known for its friendly bartenders, loose gaming, and strong inexpensive cocktails, Flex proved to be the perfect setting for our event. The night saw Katrina Davenport hosting, an in-house DJ spinning beats, Flex employee Jason bartending, and Brent Rosinski selling Jell-O shots. It was the best kind of partying because it was for a good cause, with all proceeds from the sale of Jell-O shots, raffles tickets, performance tips, and a portion of the bar sales benefitting NGRA. An all-volunteer, non-profit social organization dedicated to preserving the western lifestyle and producing gay rodeos, NGRA is committed to raising funds for charitable organizations within our community.

The night featured some amazing performers such, as Jordan Ash, Jason Metzger, A'Lotta Trash, Douglas Graff, Charli (Preston) Phillips, Traci Kimberlin, and Katrina Davenport. Of course, there was real live eye candy all around, plus a hilarious frozen t-shirt contest with contestants trying to thaw the shirts between their legs, down their shirts, in the bathroom sink, and one may have even attempted to thaw theirs in the microwave. The winner of the frozen t-shirt contest was Jacqueline. There was one additional winner, but there were so many people helping I am not sure who the actual winner was. We then moved on to the Best Butt in Jeans contest. A handful of audience-selected men were paraded around on stage anonymously behind a screen. By a huge applause, Matthew Cox was determined the winner. What made this event such a shout-out for the cause is that we raised a total of \$303.

Hope to see you soon,

Brent Rosinski  
Director 2013-2014  
PR Director 2013-2014  
Mr. NGRA Royalty Contestant 2014

## From Your Volunteer Coordinator

Very many thanks to those of you who volunteered to help at Pride. We have had a good response and we shall all look very smart in our new t-shirts. These will also look good on the volunteers at Bighorn 17 where I hope you will all join me again.

Every hour worked at Pride brings in \$s for NGRA. The amount raised will be reported soon. This is a major fund-raising effort for us and again I thank all who made this possible.

My volunteer get-togethers will start again soon and anyone who wants to help with rodeo will be welcome.

Don't forget contact me on [volunteers@NGRA.com](mailto:volunteers@NGRA.com) for anything to do with volunteering for NGRA.

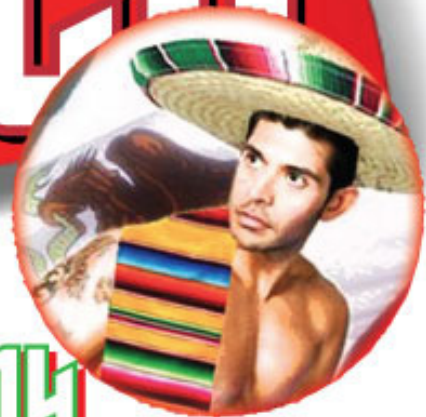
Carolyn Jones  
Volunteer Coordinator



# The Nevada Gay Rodeo Association Honors Mexican Independence Day

# VIVA MEXICO

  
**Saturday  
September 14**



-  Enjoy some Mexican Culture Performances
-  Showtime is at 10 PM
-  Celebrate with \$3 Margaritas
-  Posole (Food) donation \$5
-  Raffle Drawing for a pair of Bling Boot
-  Michelada (red beer)

*Charlie's*  
Las Vegas 

Proceeds benefit the NGRA and BigHorn 17

# Sabel D'Zyre Presents...

## A Miss IGRA 2013 Production



### "Dolly-Palooza"

celebrating the music of an icon

Saturday, September 28, 2013 at 10:00   
Beer Bust, Raffles, & Fabulous Entertainment

**Proceeds Benefit 2013 IGRA Royalty Team Charity Fundraising**



**JOIN  
NEVADA  
GAY RODEO  
ASSOCIATION  
AT *CLUB*  
*Metro***

**Beer Bust Social  
Sunday Sept. 29  
4-9pm**

Enjoy great  
country music  
on an awesome  
dancefloor

Try your luck on  
raffle prizes



## Fundraising

Happy Pride Month! This is an exciting month for many reasons. Kids are starting back to school, the temperature has started to drop a little, it's Gay Pride month, and we have announced our candidates for our 2014 Royalty Team. There are some new and fun events planned.

Coming up on Friday, September 6 is the Pride Parade. It will be down 4<sup>th</sup> Street again in the evening time. Watch for our entry and if you want to walk with us, just drop me a line through our website. The next day, September 7, we will be working the gate at the Pride Festival. It will be held at the Government Center starting at noon.

In honor of Mexican Independence Day, we will host Viva Mexico on Saturday September 14 at Charlie's Las Vegas. This event is spearheaded by two of our newer members, Efrain Cervantes and Julio Heredia and will highlight aspects of Mexican culture. There will be Margarita specials, Michelada (red beer), Posole (food) for \$5 donation. Entertainment will include cultural performances, Dance competition and a Mexican Scream contest. The drawing for the Bling Boots Raffle will happen towards the end of the night.

At the end of the month, we will be holding our first event at the new dance bar, Club Metro in QCentral. We will host a T-Dance Beer Social, country-style. Our 5 for 5 takes place on Sunday September 29. That's right, only \$5 for a 5 hour Bud Light Beer Bust from 4pm – 9pm. Enjoy great country music on an awesome dance floor and try your luck with our raffles.

Moving into the month of October, will be our Royalty Chuckwagon on Sunday October 6 from 4pm – 7pm Charlie's Las Vegas. Enjoy friends, home-cooked food and fun with an afternoon with the NGRA.

On Saturday October 12, Chris Reynolds, Mr. NGRA 2011, will host his 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Boys Night Out at Charlie's Las Vegas. It is a night of male performances where the "girls" get the night off. There will be Live singers, impersonations, Drag Kings along with our tiered beer bust, \$5 domestic or \$8 premium draft beer, jello shots, raffles and maybe a go-go boy or two.

Later in the month, we will be moving our usual quarterly Sunday event at The Garage to Saturday night from 5pm - 8pm October 26.

More on upcoming events next month. Also, look for pictures of past events here in the Newsletter.

Rodeo on!

Chris Reynolds, Fundraising Director

## IGRA Convention

IGRA Convention is in San Diego, November 15-17. If any member would like to be a delegate they need to have advised Guy Puglisi by the next Board meeting in September.

## Member of the Month

Eddy Krien

Eddy was nominated as August Member of the Month for his work for fundraising efforts and events. Congratulations Eddy.

## Happy Birthday

To those members with birthdays in September:

11	Robert Haggard-Bunting
13	Brent Rosinski
14	Jon Jones
18	Mike Windsor
21	James Johnson

## Welcome to the NGRA Corral

Cristina DiGioia

## Editor's Bits and Pieces

First of all, I would like to encourage you all to get involved in BigHorn 17. The Rodeo Director will need to build a multi-talented Team so, if you're good at something, get in touch with him, [rodeodirector@ngra.com](mailto:rodeodirector@ngra.com), and offer to help. Remember the first Rodeo Planning Committee is 6:30pm, Monday September 9 at the Center.

The response to my caption competition last month was disappointing. Like, no one entered. Doesn't anyone want to win a prize to the value of \$15? So here it is again with some changes.

To celebrate my taking over the rôle of Newsletter Editor, I invite NGRA members to enter a picture and caption competition. All you have to do is send me a picture, accompanied by a caption, which illustrates how you enjoyed BigHorn 16, OR how NGRA immersed in Pride (could be NGRA in the Parade, or volunteering in Pride). This time, if there are no entries, I'll drink the prize with my partner – hic!

The deadline is September 23. Send your entries to me, [news@ngra.com](mailto:news@ngra.com). I shall choose a judge with strong connection to BigHorn Rodeo. Only I will know the identity of competitors. I shall announce the winner in the October Newsletter.

**\$5 Beer Bust**  
**Jell-O shots**  
**Raffles**  
**Food**

**ROYALTY  
CHUCKWAGON**

**JOIN NGRA'S 2013 ROYALTY  
SUNDAY  
OCTOBER 6TH  
4 PM TO 7 PM**

*Charlie's*  
Las Vegas

Proceeds benefit NGRA, and NGRA BigHorn Rodeo 17



# BOYS NIGHT OUT

at  
*Charlie's*  
Las Vegas

**ALL MALE ENTERTAINERS**  
LADIES GET THE NIGHT OFF  
**SATURDAY • OCT. 12**

**Show starts 10 PM with Live Singers and Drag Kings**  
**Beer Bust • Raffles • Jell-O Shots**

Proceeds benefit NORA and Big-Helm Race 2014

# Calendar

## September

Fri 6	8:00 pm	Pride Parade	Downtown Las Vegas Parade Route Grandstand at 4th Street and Bridger Avenue
Sat 7	12:00 pm	Pride Festival	Clark County Government Center, 500 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89106
Mon 9	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Tue 10	6:30 pm	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sat 14	9:00 pm	Viva Mexico Fundraiser & Show	Charlie's
Mon 16	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sun 29	4:00 pm	Beer Bust Social	Club Metro

## October

Sun 6	4:00 pm	Royalty Chuckwagon	Charlie's
Sat 12	10:00 pm	7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Boys Night Out Fundraiser & Show	Charlie's
Mon 14	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon 21	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sat 26	5:00 pm	Beer Bust	The Garage

## November

Mon 11	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon 18	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
15-17		IGRA Convention	San Diego

## NGRA Board of Directors

President	Doug Graff	president@ngra.com
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Secretary	Jeffrey Neal	secretary@ngra
Treasurer	David Hering	treasurer@ngra.com
Director	Bill Trunzo	
Director	Joel Castillo	
Director	Chris Reynolds	
Director	Brent Rosinski	
Trustee	Guy Puglisi	

## NGRA 2013 Royalty

Miss NGRA	Katrina Davenport Jewel
Mr NGRA	Chris Due

## Other NGRA Contacts

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