

November 2013 BigHorn Gazette

Katrina, our new Miss IGRA 2014.



Where do I start? How do you put down words to say things when you are still in such disbelief something has happened? This past week has been an amazing ride and I am so honored to come home being a part of such a fantastic group of people as the International Gay Rodeo Association 2014 Royalty team. I can't thank the NGRA - Nevada Gay Rodeo Association enough for their support and encouragement, Douglas Graff, Laura Scott, Brent Rosinski, Lize MacDonald, Darren Wernette, Guy Puglisi, Joel Castillo and Andrew Goodman and Roger Bergman (and our adopted Scotty Shadix) your shouts of excitement still echo in my memory. To those who couldn't be there but texted your encouragement and congratulations so so appreciated. Joel there is a reason for everything... being back to back must have been it and it's so much worth the wait.

Kelly ONeil and Katrina St Andrews you two were fierce this past weekend I am so proud of the two of you and look forward to this year as we create some great memories together around the circuit.

Ed Hamilton, Cowboy Lee, Paula Chavez and Rocki Heffa you all helped make the weekend easier to get through, the hard part is over... now the fun of what we love... rodeo and fundraising!



Dan Oldenburg and Anita (Terry Weaver)... you too were so amazing and know how much I value your friendship. Terry, you and Claude especially for once again reminding me of much I love what I consider to be my second home.... Texas! Mostly because of people like the two of you and Eddy.

To you now (I've stopped counting how many) husband for the year, Jeff Germany. My friend we have waited how many years and now still not believing... we will reign together. Taking any adventure, any journey is always exciting... but how much more can one ask for than for it to be alongside one of your best friends!

To the contestants... how amazing a weekend of entertainment you provided us.... hopefully you have all found your way home safely and are beginning the preparations for the next rodeo year!

One final person to thanks... Eddy Krien. You got thrown into some situations this past week gawd only knows you never wanted to venture into.... but you were probably the best anyone could ask for in a dresser let alone a husband. Now for that dresser's union you started with Scot we'll have to have some strong negotiations regarding the benefits package!

Again for all the posts, the messages and the calls... thanks so much... this hurricane hasn't died out yet... looking forward to a great year of good rodeos, good friends and good memories!

Katrina Davenport-Jewel

Miss IGRA 2014



November 2013 Newsletter

One Queen of Las Vegas Hands over to Another







Miss IGRA 2014 Katrina Davenport-Jewel

An historic record will be made when one Miss NGRA who became Miss IGRA hands on her crown to another Miss NGRA who has also become Miss IGRA.

Vegas sure has some attractive and talented ladies.

World Gay Rodeo Finals

The International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) held the World Gay Rodeo Finals ® in Fort Worth Texas the weekend of October 17-20, 2013. The "best of the best" cowboys and cowgirls competed at the Justin Arena for the title of Gay Rodeo World Champion. The top 20 men and women competed at the invitation only event. The competition was fierce with IGRA season rivals pushing the limits of skill and speed. The event included the annual IGRA Royalty Competition where our rodeo community liaisons competed for the title of Mr, Ms. Miss and MsTer in events like western wear, entertainment and interview.

In the Rodeo events, contestants competed at two levels: the rodeo weekend "average" winner (WGRF Buckle Winner) and the season long high point winner (accumulated IGRA Season Winner).

All Around Cowboy

Men: David R. RRRA (Buckle and Season)

All Around Cowgirl

Women: Trenda M. OGRASeason: Candy P. RRRA

Calf Roping On Foot

Men Buckle: Ryan R. SCCGRA

Season: Greg B. AGRA

Women Buckle: Tena M GSGRA

Season: Robin C. TGRA

Mounted Breakaway Calf Roping

Men Buckle: Will L. NMGRA

Season: Greg B. AGRA

Women: Shelda W, NMGRA (Buckle and Season)

Bronc Riding

Men: Vince G. GWGRA (Buckle and Season)

Steer Riding

Men Buckle: Russell S. RRRA

Season: Wade E.

Women Season: Sara S.

Bull Riding

Men: Wade E. TGRA (Buckle and Season)

Chute Dogging

• Men: Brian H. NMGRA (Buckle and Season)

Women: Ashlee L. CGRASeason: Janie V. ARGRA

Barrel Racing

Men: David R. RRRA
Season: Darryl K. RRRA
Women: Trenda M. OGRA
Season: Candy P. RRRA

Pole Bending

- Men: Darryl K. RRRA (Buckle and Season)
- Women: Renita E. NMGRASeason: Candy P. RRRA

Flag Race

- Men: David L. GSGRASeason: Brian H. NMGRA
- Women: Robin C. TGRA (Buckle and Season)

TEAM EVENTS:

Steer Decorating: Buckle

- Todd T MGRA
- Trenda M. OGRA
- Season: Chuck B. SGRA, Brian H. NMGRA

Team Roping: Buckle

- Marty W. RRRA
- Trenda M. OGRA
- Season: Greg B. AGRA Darryl K. RRRA

Goat Dressing: Buckle

- Brett R. RRRA
- Russell S. RRRA
- Season: Rob S. ARGRA, Rodeo J. TGRA

Wild Drag Race: Buckle

- Ashlee L. CGRA
- Sac John GSGRA
- Gary N. GSGRA
- Season: Chuck B. SGRA, Stud M. GSGRA, David R. RRRA

Rookie Cowgirl: Ashlee L. CGRA

Rookie Cowboy: Andy S. TGRA

The New 2014 IGRA Royalty Team



- Miss IGRA Katrina Davenport Las Vegas NV. represented NGRA
- Mr. IGRA Jeff Germany Ennis TX represented OGRA
- Ms. IGRA Pauline Chavez Denver CO represented CGRA
- MsTer IGRA Rocki Heffa Ft.Worth TX represented TGRA
- Miss IGRA 1st Runner Up Kelly O'Neil Alvarado TX represented TGRA
- Mr. IGRA 1st Runner Up Lee Rodger Dallas TX represented TGRA
- Miss IGRA 2nd Runner Up Katrina St.Andrews Denver CO. represented CGRA
- Mr. IGRA 2nd Runner Up Ed Hamilton Palm Springs CA represented GSGR

Editor's Bits and Pieces

I have been asked to remind you that the Royalty Candidates still have until November 18 to receive all donations.

At this point, all money raised goes toward BigHorn Rodeo. Everyone can donate either online by way of the link to the NGRA Shop, or in-person to a Royalty Contestant.

http://www.gayrodeoshop.com/

The Royalty Candidates feel it would be wonderful to provide BigHorn Rodeo with a nice check amount.

Dead Dollies Revue

On October 26 at Charlie's Las Vegas, Sabel D'Zyre presented the last in her series of Miss IGRA 2013 Productions celebrating the music of Icons. The show was crazy and twisted like no other! Performers celebrated the icons that had passed on and paid tribute to them in the way they passed! Nothing was off-limits and nothing was too much! The audience enjoyed, and joined in, for a raucous good time with fun music and fabulous entertainers!

Proceeds raised by The 2013 IGRA Royalty Team were for the benefit of the National LGBT Cancer Network!

Sabel D'Zyre & Katrina Davenport-Jewel







Norma







Mormanizer & Pet (Gary)







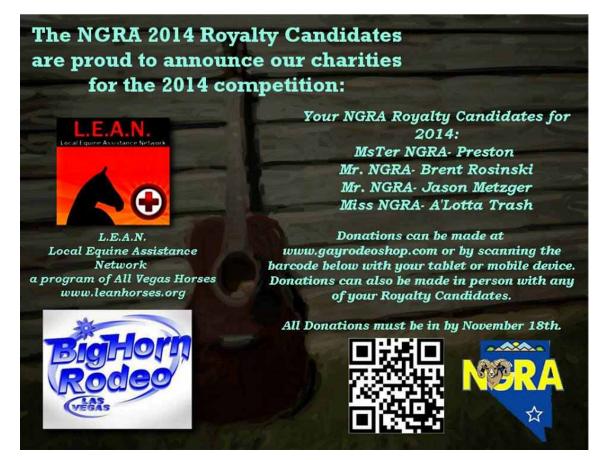
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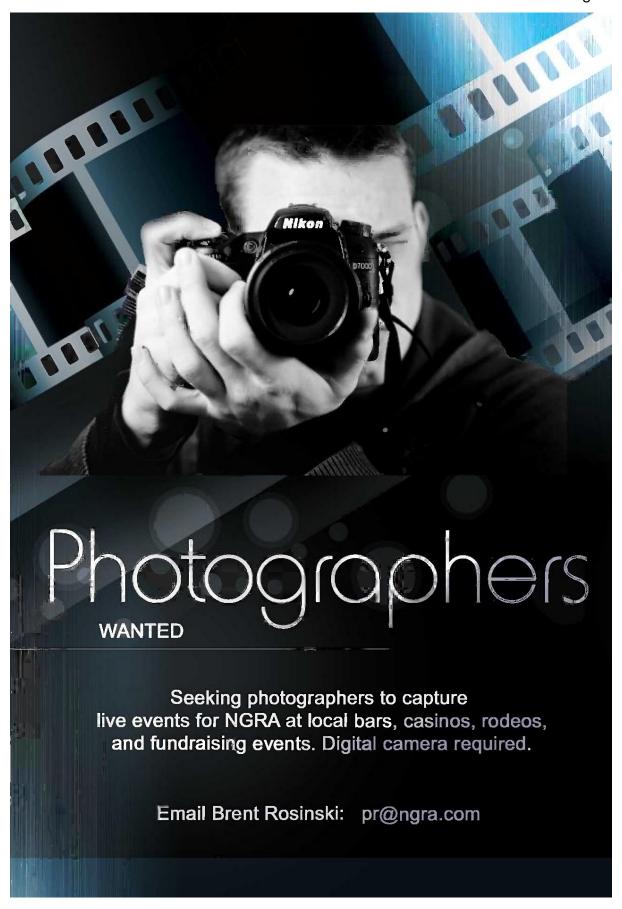
Victoria, Sabel & Sister Nina











From Your Volunteer Coordinator

As the excitement of IGRA Finals and Katrina's great success to follow Sabel as Miss IGRA dies down, our thoughts turn to next year's rodeo, Bighorn 17.

With this in mind our Rodeo Director, Jeffrey Neal, took time out from moving house to talk to the first meeting of the Volunteer Team which was held on Sunday, November 3. He outlined both the experiences which got him into rodeo and his aims for Bighorn 17. I am very grateful to Jeffrey for finding the time and energy in his hectic weekend to come along.

He told us that some of his aims for 2014 include maintaining the safe and secure aspects of the rodeo for contestants, whilst adding to the "carnival" aspect of the days and persuading more women to become involved in the event as spectators, volunteers and even competing. Amongst other things these aspects will be discussed at future Rodeo Planning Committee Meetings. If you have any thoughts come along to the Centre on Monday November 11 at 6.30 pm. Your ideas will be welcome.









After Jeffrey left to conclude his house move we tucked into the buffet and, as part of a lively discussion about the competition side of rodeo, our Historian, Ken Wells, filled us in on aspects of competing in the horseback events.

During the afternoon all the posters from previous rodeos were on display and proved a talking point for those who don't know about the early days of Rodeo in Las Vegas. These form an interesting and colourful display and were previously displayed at the old centre and should soon take up a new position in the Robert Forbus Building.

Don't forget contact me on <u>volunteers@NGRA.com</u> for anything to do with volunteering for NGRA.

Volunteer Coordinator, Carolyn Jones

Happy Birthday

To those members with birthdays in November:

1	Christina Hernandez			
1	Lorry King			
4	Shaun Franklin-Sewel			
9	Boan Jordan			
19	Barry Cluff			
20	Benjamin Avant			
21	James Bostick			
26	Peter Walters			
28	Jason Jewell			
29	Max Wells			

Welcome to the NGRA Corral

Travis Abbott
Alex Michaels
Joshua Montgomery

Fundraising

The cooler temperatures have arrived, we turned our clocks back an hour and now we are starting the holiday season on the countdown to the New Year. We are still working away raising money for Bighorn Rodeo and getting ready to sash a whole new Royalty Team. I, for one, am very excited about that. New people are getting involved and bringing new ideas to the table. Here's wishing all of the Contestants the best of luck at the upcoming Royalty Competition at the end of the month.

This month there are several opportunities to raise money for the NGRA and Bighorn Rodeo. On Saturday November 2, the Men of Charlie's had their monthly event and this time it benefitted us. Coming up on Saturday November 9 is our monthly NGRA night at Charlie's Las Vegas. This month our theme is "NGRA Gives Thanks! - A gospel-themed show". It should be a fun night. I even heard that the Church Ladies from the Imperial Court may be stopping by to visit. Besides are beer/soda bust, jello shots and raffles. The Royalty Contestants will be auctioning off a Noel photography photo shoot valued at over \$400. The money will go towards their fundraising goal for LEAN, a program of All Vegas Horses, and Big Horn Rodeo.

On Monday, November 25, we will be back at Charlie's for Monday Night Football with Family Apparel. Kickoff is at 5:30. Football on the big screens, beer specials, food, and jello shots mean it should be a blast of an evening. Later that week, Friday November 29, head on over to Flex for our Royalty Contestant Meet and Greet. It all kicks off at 9 pm and there will be drink specials, raffles and some great entertainment, and a chance to get to know the four contestants vying for spots on the 2014 Royalty Team. The next night, Saturday November 30, is the highlight of the month. It is our 2014 Royalty Competition at Charlie's Las Vegas. Door is at 8pm. The competition will include Western Wear, Public Presentation (Q&A), and entertainment. There will also be the stepping down of our 2013 Royalty and the re-sashing of Miss IGRA 2014.

Hope everyone has a great Thanksgiving Holiday, and hope to see you all out and about this month.

Chris Reynolds Fundraising Chair 2013-2014 Mr NGRA 2011

Members of the Month

Ephraim Cervantes & Julio Heredia

Ephraim Cervantes & Julio Heredia were nominated as October Members of the Month for their efforts on the Viva Mexico event and the food for the Royalty Chuck Wagon event. Congratulations Ephraim & Julio.



Greetings from the Rodeo Director

We are on our way. The Host Hotel will be Alexis Park. We are pleased to be planning our stay there and look forward to being so close to the Fruit Loop area as well as some fine gambling establishments by the Strip.

Our Volunteer Coordinator, Carolyn Jones, hosted a wonderful afternoon to interact with some of the volunteers and get some

feedback on Rodeo and ideas on what can make it better. They got the opportunity to meet and get to know me and it was a terrific way to get to know people, learn about rodeo, and ask questions in a less formal setting than our normal RPC meetings. Thank you Carolyn and Barry for hosting – and thank you to all those that attending. It was so great seeing you.

The next RPC meeting agenda is filled with presentations from organizations hoping to be a beneficiary of the rodeo efforts. There will be several short presentations for us to consider. All are welcome – you do not have to be a coordinator to be part of the process.

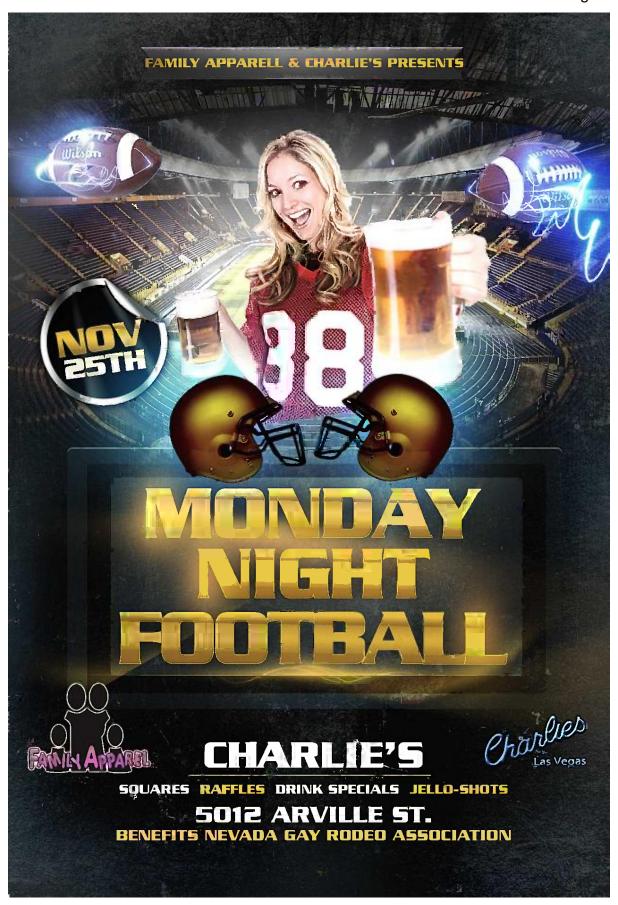
RPC meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at The Center, 401 S. Maryland Parkway.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jeffrey Neal, Rodeo Director

RodeoDirector@NGRA.com





NGRA 2013 Royalty

It really seems like only a few days ago the Board was asking if we would be available to help out and here it is time for our last Newsletter article. I honestly can say time does fly by so quickly.

We can't tell you how much we've enjoyed going the second round as your Mr and Miss; it's unfortunate the circumstances by which it befell us, but we accepted the challenge and appreciate each and every one who has helped us out along the path this year.

It has been a full calendar in the few months of our reign, filled foremost by an extremely successful night time rodeo. Las Vegas showed exactly what it was like to be out west under the stars doing rodeo! The events, meet n' greets and of course the hard work all put into making Las Vegas PRIDE a success are memories which once again make reigning as your royalty so enjoyable.

On a personal note there has been the opportunity I thought would never come again. I am so grateful for your confidence, encouragement and support as I made the quest once again for the title of Miss IGRA. Throughout the year there have been many who deserve my appreciation, Collin Moulton and my little brother Jason Jewel, thank you so much for seeing to it I got to Denver to get my requirements, David Hering the support for the brunch and being a cheering section, Guy Puglisi.... Let's just say... Revlon! Joel... we did it!!!!!! There is a reason and a purpose for everything.....the stars aligned and this was the reason and the purpose. We, along with Frank and Jeff, have made history... forever the opportunity to now be a question. From the time Michael brought you into my life helping to plan what was our first brunch, you have been a support tool but more importantly a friend! Doug, Laura and Andrew... words cannot express how much I appreciate the help you gave along this journey from planning a fundraiser to helping make sure I was prepared, ready and there! OK, so this is starting to sound like a step down speech... we'll leave this for now and save more for November 30 especially the gratitude and appreciation I have for the one most important person in my life.

To the new royalty coming in for the next year, have fun and enjoy each and every nanosecond of your year, it will fly by oh so quickly. This is an opportunity so few experience, make the most of it, work hard because the rewards you will reap far out way the sleep you will be deprived. It is your time to shine, do so as so many others who have served the Nevada Gay Rodeo Association in their time have shined.

As the song says.... Happy Trials to you, until we meet again!

Chris Due, Mr NGRA 2013

Katrina Davenport-Jewel, Miss NGRA 2013 and Miss IGRA 2014





Calendar

November

Sat 9	10:00 pm	NGRA Gives Thanks	Charlie's
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
14-17		IGRA Annual Convention 2013	Hilton San Diego Mission Valley, 901 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108
Mon 25	5:00 pm	Monday Night Football	Charlie's
Tues 26	6:30 pm	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Fri 29	9:00 pm	Royalty Candidate Meet & Greet	Flex Cocktail Lounge
Sat 30	9:00 pm	Royalty Competition	Charlie's

December

Mon 9	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon 16	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Mon 23	5:00 pm	Monday Night Football	Charlie's

January

Mon 13	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon 20	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center

NGRA Board of Directors

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NGRA 2013 Royalty

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