



January 2014 BigHorn Gazette

BIGHORN RODEO

HORSEMAN'S PARK
5800 EAST FLAMINGO RD
LAS VEGAS • NEVADA • 89122

www.bighornrodeo.com

Host Hotel: Alexis Park
(702) 796-3000 mention NGRA014

FRI - SAT NIGHT
MAY
9TH & 10TH
2014

Starts at 3 PM

Logos: NGRA, BUD LIGHT, IGRA

Bighorn 17 Beneficiaries Announced

At its December Meeting, the NGRA Board voted to accept the recommendations of the Rodeo Planning Committee (RPC) to nominate Opportunity Village and the Sin Sity Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence as the beneficiaries of the 2014 Bighorn Rodeo.

The Sin Sity Sisters



No doubt many of you will be aware of the Sin Sity Sisters and their wonderful work. The following is taken from their website, <http://www.sinsitysisters.org/whoarewe.html>.

The Mission and Philosophy of The Sin Sity Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence is:

“We exist as an order of 21st century nuns dedicated to the promulgation of universal joy and the expiation of stigmatic guilt. Our ministry is one of public manifestation and habitual perpetration. We work to raise money for our Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program (SADAP) and other community charities. We advocate for queer rights and visibility and conduct safer sex outreach. We work to affirm the value and beauty of all persons and particularly within the queer community. We strive diligently to keep our sense of humor, never taking ourselves so seriously that we forget to have fun.”

Opportunity Village



Perhaps less familiar to some but equally deserving of our support will be Opportunity Village. This information is also taken from their website <http://www.opportunityvillage.org/>.

“Opportunity Village is a not-for-profit organization that serves people in the Southern Nevada community with intellectual disabilities, to enhance their

lives and the lives of the families who love them. Opportunity Village is dedicated to helping people with severe intellectual and related disabilities become the very best they can be. Through vocational training, community employment, day services, advocacy, arts and social recreation, citizens with severe disabilities are able to find new friends, realize future career paths, seek independence and community integration and unleash creative passions.

Opportunity Village was founded in 1954 by a small group of local families seeking to improve the lives of their children with intellectual disabilities. Since then, Opportunity Village has grown to become Nevada's largest private, not-for-profit community rehabilitation program, serving more than 3,000 people annually through vocational training, community job placement, art & life skill enrichment, advocacy, and social recreation programs.

More than just a charity, Opportunity Village operates three employment training center campuses and a Thrift Store in Southern Nevada. It also operates a vehicle donation program, trains and places hundreds of adults in jobs throughout the community, and hosts some of the most popular special events in all of Las Vegas, including the annual Magical Forest and the Las Vegas Great Santa Run. The entire community is affected by the organization as businesses not only contract with Opportunity Village to fulfil assembly and packaging, mass mailings and other business to business services but numerous companies and organizations hire our clients as regular employees.

Through hard work, sweat, and a little luck, Opportunity Village has helped Southern Nevada's most vulnerable citizens integrate into society while earning a paycheck, a feeling of achievement, and a renewed sense of independence. It's no wonder why Opportunity Village has earned the distinction of "Las Vegas' Best Community Organization."

Almost entirely self-funded, Opportunity Village is possible because Southern Nevadans realize the value in supporting their neighbors with intellectual disabilities. In our society, people with intellectual disabilities live their lives constantly being told what they can't do. Opportunity Village strives to break that stigma, encouraging its clients to follow their dreams, whether they include community or sheltered employment, social recreation, music, art or just the chance to be independent."

L.E.A.N.



L.E.A.N, a recipient of the fundraising activities of our new Royalty Team also made a presentation to the RPC but it was agreed that, rather than offer funds to this charity NGRA members could perhaps better offer help in kind. More of this later.

From your President

Happy New Year NGRA!



I'm not always the most detail oriented person. Just as NGRA Vice President, David Blackwood, knows how many times I ask him By-Laws related questions. So when I learned that NGRA's membership numbers have stayed fairly constant while other associations numbers are dropping and associations are folding, it got me to thinking. Why? And maybe more importantly, how do we keep our members?

Honestly, I don't know the answer. Membership reasons are a varied as the number of members. Whatever your reason(s) for joining and renewing are, I'm glad they keep you here.

As we head into 2014, and our membership renewal season, please let us know:

- what you like most about NGRA (keep doing);
- what you would like NGRA to do (start doing), and
- what you like least about NGRA (stop doing)

I'll make no promises that we'll get to all of the ideas, but we will use them to shape our future.

There are a ton of fun events coming up in early 2014, I hope to see as many of you out and about with your NGRA badges on or even a new NGRA logo'd shirt (Family Apparel is selling them at most of our Saturday night events).

Happy New Year!
Douglas Graff
NGRA President

From Your Royalty Team

Greetings and Happy New Year from the 2014 Royalty Team! We hope you had a Happy Holiday. December was a great month for the Royalty Team. We were very proud to walk as the newly appointed team at Reign 16 Coronation for the Imperial Court. It was a fantastic event and it was such a pleasure to be invited.

December saw our first official fundraiser with "Dance Your Pants Off," which was a great success, thanks to the amazing support of the NGRA membership, as well as the NGRA Board of Directors and Charlie's Las Vegas.

With the passing of the New Year, we are exceptionally excited about the wonderful events that we will put on this year, the opportunity to attend IGRA University, as well as all of the various rodeos the Team will attend in other cities.

We hope to see everyone out for our first event of 2014, "Cowboys in Wonderland: A Night of Twisted Fairy Tales" on January 11 at Charlie's Las Vegas. The show will begin at 10 pm. We will also compete against the Las Vegas Softball Team on January 14 at 9:30 pm, which will be held at Charlie's Las Vegas, for some good ol' fashion "Family Feud." To close out our month, we have "City Slickers and Country Kickers" at the Garage on January 25 at 5 pm.

We are really looking forward to a great year as well as a great rodeo. Mark your calendars for Bighorn Rodeo 17, May 9 and 10 at Horseman's Park.

Wishing everyone a healthy, happy, and successful New Year (the Chinese year of the horse).

Your 2014 Royalty Team.

From Your Volunteer Coordinator

I must start by saying I hope you all had a great Christmas and I wish you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

As I start the New Year I realise that it is only five months to rodeo. Five months might sound a long time but with all that needs to be done the time will fly by. Jeffrey has some exciting ideas and I hope we can help make these come to fruition and make Bighorn a wonderful and successful time. Our beneficiaries will thank us for it.

The website will soon have sign up forms available and I shall look out for your name.

In the meantime, I shall be busy arranging my next volunteer gathering which will be in mid-February when many of us will have attended the AGRA rodeo in Phoenix.

Don't forget contact me on volunteers@ngra.com for anything to do with volunteering for NGRA.

Volunteer Coordinator, Carolyn Jones



Photographers

WANTED

Seeking photographers to capture live events for NGRA at local bars, casinos, rodeos, and fundraising events. Digital camera required.

Email Brent Rosinski: pr@ngra.com

NGRA Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your NGRA Membership.

Renewal payments made prior to January 31, 2014 are \$24.00. Renewal payments made between February 1, 2014 and February 28, 2014 will be assessed a \$10.00 late fee (\$34.00). Memberships not renewed prior to March 1 will be cancelled.

Membership Renewal payments can be made on the NGRA website at www.ngra.com or via postal mail to the following address:

NGRA - Membership Renewal
PO Box 96055
Las Vegas, NV 89193

If you've renewed your membership - Thank you! If not, please do so prior to the January 31 deadline.

Thank you for your continued support of NGRA.

David Hering,
NGRA Treasurer

Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in January:

1	Ted Caldwell
6	Ken Wells
10	Jeffrey Neal
12	Matthew Cox
15	Bill Trunzo
26	Jimmy Gattis

Member of the Month

Roger Bergmann

Roger Bergmann was nominated as December Member of the Month for his representation of NGRA at the IGRA Convention. Congratulations Roger.

Charlie's Man of the Year Contest



Charlie's Las Vegas, one of NGRA's long standing sponsors, held the Man of Charlie's Man of the Year Contest on Friday December 13.

This was certainly not an unlucky day for Jim Gillenwater who won the title of Man of the Year 2013 and along with Connor Cooper raised \$2,930 which was shared between joint beneficiaries: the Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, the St Therese Center and the NGRA.

Here we see Mr NGRA (Brent Rosinski), Jim Gillenwater and Miss NGRA (A'Lotta Trash).

Dance Your Pants Off

December 14 saw the first fundraiser organised by our new Royalty team. This was a fun evening with, as the title suggests, lots of dance music and no show.

Throughout the night we were treated to the first of many gourmet Jell-O shots to be devised by Mr NGRA, Brent. His first presentations were Strawberry-Banana with Whipped Cream Vodka and a real strawberry and/or Eggnog with Spiced Rum topped with Whipped Cream, Nutmeg, and Cinnamon. Sold by the unstoppable team of Barry with the basic shots, Brent adding whipped cream, cinnamon, nutmeg and strawberries, and Jaqueline taking the punters money. Buying one of these was truly an enjoyable experience. So much so that 75 shots made \$116. Look out for the next in Brent's line of wonderful creations.

The evening's raffle, conducted by Miss NGRA, A'Lotta, and Mr NGRA, first Runner Up, Jason, had great prizes and raised \$140.

Proving she was a crafty lady, A'Lotta made a wonderful Christmas wreath from horseshoes which added to the evening's live auction total of \$120.

So including the money raised from the beer bust the evening raised over \$450. A great success and congratulations to our new Royalty Team.

There was, perhaps, one small area for improvement. Almost no-one took to the dance floor to "Dance Their Pants Off." If anyone is interested in attending an NGRA sponsored dance class, probably not in a bar, do get in touch with Chris at fundraising@ngra.com.

Fundraising

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a great holiday season. It's the beginning of a new year and some new events planned. The Committee has been busy planning out some great events for the coming year.

Coming up this month, the Royalty Team is hosting Cowboys in Wonderland - A Twisted Fairytale Night. It will be hosted at Charlie's Las Vegas on Saturday January 11 with a beer bust starting at 9 pm and the Twisted Fairytale themed show starting at 10 pm. Check out our special jello shots – Let Them Eat Cake, Dragon Fruit, and Poison Sour Apple. Besides our raffle prizes, we will also have two packages of general admission tickets for two people to the Hustlaball Las Vegas 2014 at Share nightclub on January 19. Value is \$100 per package. On Tuesday, January 14, we will be facing off against Charlie's Softball team in Family Feud at Charlie's Las Vegas. During Drag Queen bingo, which starts at 9ish, there will be a Family Feud game. The winner will then be in the finals on Tuesday January 21. Come on out and cheer your NGRA team on. On Saturday January 25 from 5-8 pm, head on over to The Garage for our City Slickers and Country Kickers event. This is a good starting place before partying that night or good for those that don't want to be out late. We will have food for \$5 per plate donation, a beer bust and raffles. This is a good opportunity to come out and meet some of our members along with our new Royalty Team. We will have information about NGRA and Big Horn Rodeo available.

Moving into February, we will have Redneck Runway on Saturday February 8 at Charlie's Las Vegas with a show starting at 10 pm. We will have some fun Redneck games during the show. Our Miss Cow Patty contest is coming up in March. If anyone is interested in competing, please feel free to contact myself or David Blackwood aka Taylor Trash. In the next issue, we will have more information on upcoming events and the events leading up to Big Horn Rodeo, which will be held on May 9, and 10, 2014. For the second year, we will have a night time rodeo. It will be a great time out of the heat of the noon day sun.

Our fundraising meetings for the next three months will be held at The Center at 6:30 pm on the following dates: **Thursday January 9, Thursday February 13 and Thursday March 13**. All are invited to attend these meetings.

See you all out and about,

Chris Reynolds
Fundraising Director 2013-2014

Don't be late to this
very important date!
Please join us in Wonderland
to celebrate



COWBOYS in Wonderland



Saturday, January 11, 2014
9 p.m. - 12 a.m.

Follow the White Rabbit to
Charlie's
5012 Arville Street
Las Vegas, NV 89118

The Queen of Hearts is expecting you
or it's off with your heads



Charlie's
Las Vegas



Proceeds Benefit NGRA and BigHorn Rodeo

Come on out to Charlie's
for a night of Bingo and...

FAMILY FEUD

	NEVADA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION	VS	CHARLIE'S SOFTBALL TEAM	
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Tuesday, January 14, 2014

9:30pm

**Charlie's Las Vegas
5012 Arville St.
Las Vegas, NV 89118**

Charlie's
Las Vegas

NGRA presents
**City Slickers
&
Country Kickers**

Saturday January 25

5:00 to 8:00 PM

\$5 Domestic Beer Bust

\$8 Premium Beer Bust

Jell-O shots

Food



The Garage
1487 East Flamingo Road
Las Vegas, NV 89119

Proceeds benefit NGRA, NGRA BigHorn Rodeo

Calendar

January

Thurs 9	6:30 pm	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sat 11	9:00 pm	Cowboys in Wonderland - A Twisted Fairytale Night	Charlie's
Mon 13	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Tues 14	9:30 pm	Family Feud - NGRA versus Charlie's Softball Team	Charlie's
17-19		IGRA University 2014	Crowne Plaza St. Louis Downtown 200 N Fourth St, St. Louis, MO 63102
Mon 20	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sat 25	5:00 pm	City Slickers and Country Kickers	The Garage

February

Mon 10	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Thurs 13	6:30 pm	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
14-16		Arizona Gay Rodeo	7611 South 29 th Avenue, Laveen, AZ 85339
Mon 17	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sat 22	8:00 pm	Red Dress 2014; Red Light District Rumba!	World Market Center, 495 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89106
Mon 24	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
28-2		Texas Traditional Rodeo	Dallas Fair Park Coliseum 1121 First Avenue, Dallas, TX 75210

Calendar (continued)

March

Mon 10	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Thurs 13	6:30 pm	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Mon 17	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Mon 24	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center

NGRA Board of Directors

President	Doug Graff	president@ngra.com
Vice President	David Blackwood	vicepresident@ngra.com
Secretary	Jeffrey Neal	secretary@ngra
Treasurer	David Hering	treasurer@ngra.com
Director	Bill Trunzo	Director1@ngra.com
Director	Joel Castillo	Director2@ngra.com
Director	Chris Reynolds	Director3@ngra.com
Director	Brent Rosinski	Director4@ngra.com
Trustee	Guy Puglisi	trustee@ngra.com

NGRA 2014 Royalty

Mr NGRA	Brent Rosinski	mrngra@ngra.com
Mr NGRA, 1 st Runner Up	Jason Metzger	
Miss NGRA	A'Lotta Trash	missngra@ngra.com
MsTer NGRA	Preston	

Other NGRA Contacts

Fundraising Director	Chris Reynolds	fundraising@ngra.com
Historian	Ken Wells	history@ngra.com
Membership Secretary		membership@ngra.com
Merchandising	Kathy Alday	kathy@familyapparellasvegas.com
Newsletter Editor	Barry Jones	news@ngra.com
Public Relations Director	Brent Rosinski	pr@ngra.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Carolyn Jones	volunteers@ngra.com
Webmaster	Darren Wernette	webmaster@ngra.com