

July 2015 BigHorn Gazette



At our School's Out Event the top prize was a \$100 Voucher for dinner for two donated by Firefly on Paradise. Here the winner is accompanied by head mistress Norma Llyaman and our game of chance vendors Ona'stagea and Barry.

Table of Contents

Item	Page(s)
Cover	1
Table of Contents	2
School's Out – June 13 th	3 - 5
Taylor's Temptation Island III – June 20 th	6
Summer Camp – June 27 th	6 - 11
Presidential Ramblings	12
Historian's Update	13
Talking to Royalty	14 & 15
Fundraising	16
Friends of NGRA	16
From Your Volunteer Coordinator	17
WANTED: One Rodeo Director	18
NGRA will be marching in the Pride Parade	18
NGRA 2016 Royalty Competition	18
Benefits of being a Member of NGRA	19
Survey	19
Food at Fundraisers	20
Editor's Bits and Pieces	21
Happy Birthday	21
Member of the Month	21
Flyers	22 - 34
Calendar - July	35
Calendar - August	36
Calendar - September	37
NGRA Board of Directors	38
NGRA 2015 Royalty	38
Other NGRA Contacts	29

School's Out Charlie's Saturday, June 13th

For some of us June 13th saw end of term celebrations with the School's Out event at Charlie's. Our stern headmistress Norma Llyaman waved her ruler and tried to bring order to the event. Sadly everyone ended up in detention until they had passed her end of term tests in history, math, science and economics. The fastest person to answer her question got a grab bag and went on to compete in her final round where she asked the four finalists to solve riddles. To keep their spirits up during their grueling ordeal each contestant received a shot. The winner got to take home a bottle of bubbly.



Headmistress Norma examines her students

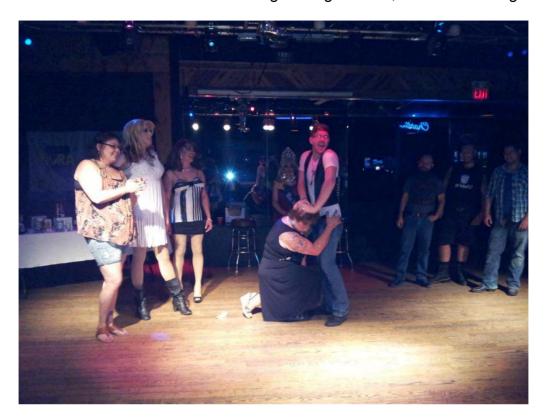
Grade cards were sold by Ona'stagea and Barry. Your chance of winning one of the wide range of prizes depended on the final school grade you drew and presented to Buzz and Vic at the prize table.



As well as our regular attractions we also had delicious food for sale. Blondies Bacon Creations appealed to those who couldn't resist the mouth-watering small of grilling bacon.

Our beer bust was manned by Jeffrey Neal and real shots were sold by Chad and Brian.

As ever there was an outstanding array of performers who performed individually and as a Glee Club joining Norma and James Valentine in an amazing closing number, "Summer Loving" from Grease.





As always my unconditional thanks to Norma, all the performers, the bar staff at Charlie's and the dedicated members of the fundraising team.

Taylor's Temptation Island III Charlie's Saturday, June 20th

The night raised \$2,300. Taylor Trash and Michael "Dawg" Yarbrough are proud to announce that \$500 of this will be going to The International Gay Rodeo Association and the remaining \$1,800.00 will stay within our community going to the Sin Sity Sister's Aids Drug Assistance Program.

Summer Camp Badlands Saturday, June 27th

NGRA returned to Badlands after a break of some years. We were made very welcome by the manager Mark and all the patrons of the bar.



Winnie Baygo (aka NGRA President Doug Graff) made a stunning appearance together with our other entertainers,



Ona'stagea our Miss Closet Ball 2014



and Maggie May our Miss Cow Patty 2011



Winnie used her considerable talents to encourage contestants in our games as they fought to put on frozen underpants



and as others tried to get dressed inside a sleeping bag in an attempt to win a bottle of bubbly.





Thanks to all our contestants.

Our stalwart vice president, Ken Hruby, manned the beer bust table and Miss Kitty made a welcome return to the scene selling our chance cards, ably assisted by Buzz Green taking the customers money.



This month's game, following the Summer Camp theme saw punters buying the chance to take a Rice Krispy treat from a laden table.



As well as enjoying the treat some customers found a lucky number underneath it and went on to win a prize. Vic Raquel and David Wells managed the treat table and handed out the prizes.



A fine body of men, Chris Reynolds, Ken Wells and Stephan Schuppert sold a wide variety of shots provided by the management with the cash collected by David Wright.

I even managed a couple of line dances as the DJ played a great selection of country music.

Once again thanks to all who helped make this event at Badlands a very successful evening

Carolyn Jones Fundraising Chair fundraising@ngra.com

Presidential Ramblings

Happy Summer! I hope you're all enjoying the long days and great sunshine here in NGRA land. I know I am. AND I know how easy it can be to flop in the pool and relax instead of getting in a hot car to go anywhere...so, I have two things to ask this month:

- 1. Remember your presence at our fundraising events helps. Cowboy up from the middle up!! If it's easier to wear something NGRA on the top and then go with shorts and thongs on the bottom, go for it! We'd love to see you any way we can.
- 2. Consider helping NGRA from the comforts of your home office or mobile device. Here's how you can help
 - Re-Tweet and/or Facebook share all NGRA announcements, and
 - Consider becoming our Public Relations Spokesperson. Duties include, but are not limited to:
 - Be responsible for arranging publicity for the Corporation's events, through the creation and timely issuance of news releases and through other activities. If you're a Facebook junkie, this part will be easy.
 - Be responsible for the external dissemination of information, whether written or verbal, as directed by the needs of the Corporation. If you're a Facebook junkie, this part will be easy.
 - Keep complete and accurate lists of appropriate media for news releases, along with a complete and accurate list of the other IGRA associations.

Finally, we are looking for a Rodeo Director for 2016. If you are interested in learning more, drop me a line and we'll talk. This is a crucial position that needs to be filled very soon.

Thanks,

Doug Graff NGRA President president@ngra.com

Historian's Update

Yes Virginia, NGRA still has a historian though you haven't heard much from me these past few months. Between flying back and forth from Buffalo, NY to manage family affairs (and yes I was there for the two big blizzards) and working backstage for the now defunct world famous new musical DUCK COMMANDER, it's been all I can do to keep track of which state I am in, other than confusion.

Going through our records in storage and getting them in a more organized and easy to reference state as proven to be a much more complicated job than I had anticipated, but it is coming along and when ready I will approach the Board about having the records digitized for easier access, more damage proofed and giving use more space in our storage unit.

One of the fun things about going through storage areas are the interesting items you come across like the various memorabilia you may find in grandma's attic or at the bottom of that closet you keep promising yourself that you will clean out one of these days. We have beautifully framed citations we received over the years from city, state and various organizations and framed BigHorn Rodeo posters but nothing of a more personal nature. Now I'm not recommending your donating you lucky boot socks from ten years ago, but perhaps there is some item you purchased, was presented to you or even a favorite candid photo that only you have that reminds you of the good times and fellowship you experienced at rodeo or some other NGRA event and would like to share with us. If so, contact me or any NGRA member and let us share your memories.

Thank you,

David Wright Historian history@ngra.com

Talking to Royalty Miss NGRA 1992

In an e-mail Carolyn said

"Hi

It was really lovely to talk to you at Charlie's on Saturday. I hope you had a wonderful time and enjoyed the show.

Thanks you so much for the nice things you said about my fundraising efforts (although it is a team effort) and the newsletter my husband Barry edits for NGRA. We would be really thrilled to have your thoughts on being the first Miss NGRA. Times must have been so different then. Perhaps you could cover the way things started, why you stood, who were your fellow royalty members, what you did in your year and what you have done since. It does not need to be long and does not need to in wonderful prose. It can be edited. And any photos would be a bonus.

And if you were serious about volunteering for Finals let me know.

Take care

Carolyn"

Frank replied

"Hi

Thank you and I would like to volunteer if I can get there. You are a sweet lady!

Kip

But it wasn't just me. They saw all of us had a commitment to NGRA......we wanted it......we needed it and we got it. Bravo to our first team!"

Carolyn

"That is lovely. I shall see it is in the July newsletter.

Just a few points for a real youngster. What was your name as Miss NGRA and what year was it? Who was your first team? And who was Gary? What was his surname?

I'll contact you again nearer the time for finals to find slot for you.

Take care.

Carolyn"

Frank

"I was Miss NGRA 1992 and am Michelle Kristie. That year I was Miss NGRA and Alexis (now Alex) Michaels was my First Runner-up. Mr NGRA was Billy D Smith, First Runner-up George Vierra, Second Runner-up Kirtus Veator. Ms NGRA was Patty Holden. Gary was my other half.....Gary L'Abbe. One of the founding members of NGRA and our first vice president who went on and was President for many years. Don't mean to sound pompous just remembering such happy memories. There are still so many people from back then still members. If you say "How many Brians does it take to make a cup of coffee?" it will bring a smile to those people. And we blew the power out to the hotel. I called downstairs to the office and was told "You people are using too many blow dryers at the same time and that blew the power out. Oh to go back to those days. And to Tony's bathtub filled with ice and liquor yes we had a GAY old time! I was there at the original founding members' official meeting at Backstreet and remember that night so well and went to work the next day....got off work and went to the first NGRA meeting. I walked in and found out Gary was elected Vice President and he told me you got some work in front of you and he was right but I would not trade those times and memories....and yes work......for anything in my life. Thank you for letting me share. Wishing you and your husband peace, happiness and smiles.

Thanks for listening.

My best to you!

Kip"

Carolyn

"Thank you so much for this. Your memories are priceless.

Love

Carolyn"

Fundraising

You will have read about our June events earlier. Looking forward to July we again have two events. The first will celebrate the Red, White and Blue at Charlie's on July 18th. Here that dynamic entertainer Bootsy Carmichael will take the floor to test your patriotism in a light-hearted way. As well as all our usual activities your food provider for this month will be Spud Shots and More. Give them a try

On July 23rd at Flex we play Drag Roulette, hosted by this year's Miss Cow Patty, Ericka G Mathews, ably assisted by that star of stage, screen and fire truck (remember last year's Pride Parade) Miss Vivianne DuMonde. If you think you have the talent to perform to a song chosen by someone else then please contact me.

Thanks to everyone who comes out and supports NGRA.

Carolyn Jones

Fundraising Chair

fundraising@ngra.com

Friends of NGRA

Tokens in support of this enterprise were sold at the Party in the Park on Rodeo Friday and again on the first day of the BigHorn Rodeo. A big thank you to those who purchased tokens and \$320 were raised.



The tokens will be on sale from NGRA members at future major events.

From Your Volunteer Coordinator

Pride

Now we are all recovered from BigHorn the time has come for the Volunteer Team to look forward to its next project with NGRA. On September 18th the annual Pride Parade will take place Downtown and NGRA is planning to enter a float. We have obtained the use of a tractor unit and plan to have a 40' trailer carrying a western themed float. This will be partly a covered wagon and partly a display to be agreed. We held our first Pride Committee Meeting chaired by out vice president, Ken Hruby, on Saturday June 27th and we are now working on further details of the float design. If you are good with these things (or even if you're not but are keen to learn and have fun) the next planning meeting will be held at the Center on Saturday, August 8th at 10:00 am.

We need ideas, workers and probably equipment. Let's make this year's float the biggest, and best, that NGRA has ever had. This means we're looking for volunteers to both build the float and walk in the parade. If you are interested in being involved in any way but can't make the meeting please let me know. The sign up form is on our NGRA website:

http://www.ngra.com/index.php/pride-volunteer-form

Please feel free to contact me or our Vice President, Ken Hruby, at <u>vicepresident@ngra.com</u>.with any questions, offers of help or ideas. We plan to end this venture with a Deconstruction Party on the Sunday after, September 20th.

We are also looking to help out at the Pride Festival. If you are free to help then keep an eye out for further information.

Finals

No sooner will Pride be over but the World Gay Rodeo Finals will be taking place at the South Point Hotel and Casino. Since so many people will be coming to rodeo in our patch we need to make sure we give them a great welcome.

If you want to volunteer for this, here is a link to the form:

http://www.igra-wgrf.com/volunteer.php

I look forward to seeing you all at this great event.

Volunteer Coordinator Carolyn Jones volunteers@bighornrodeo.com

WANTED: One Rodeo Director

BigHorn Rodeo 2015 was just two months ago but it's already time to look ahead to 2016. If you're interested in being the 2016 Rodeo Director, please send an email to boardofdirectors@ngra.com. In your email, please provide your name and a summary of your qualifications. If you think you're interested but have questions, please send an email and we'll get back to you. The deadline is midnight Sun/Mon July 19th. Finally, because the chosen individual will eventually be filling a position on the board of directors, you must be a member of NGRA, in good standing, for at least 180 days prior to taking a seat on the board. All interested people will be asked to attend the NGRA Board Meeting on Monday, July 20th at 6:30 pm, inside The Center.

NGRA will be marching in the Pride Parade

NGRA's Pride Committee has already had its first meeting but it's not too late for you to get involved. Everyone is welcome to attend and help plan the float for this year's Pride Parade. If you are interested in helping or if you just have questions, please contact Ken Hruby at vicepresident@ngra.com.

NGRA 2016 Royalty Competition

This year's Royalty Competition will take place on Saturday, November 28th. As has been the case in previous years, it will be divided into two phases. Phase 1 will take place Saturday morning, at the Center and Phase 2 will take place at Charlie's later in the evening. Anybody interested in competing for NGRA 2016 Royalty is encouraged to contact Ken Hruby at vicepresident@ngra.com. The deadline for officially announcing your intentions is August 31st.

Benefits of being a Member of NGRA



25% off of all regularly priced drinks at Charlie's Las Vegas. Charlie's is offering 25% off, on regularly priced drinks, to all NGRA Members who are wearing their nametag in the bar. This special is 24/7, 365 so be sure to wear your nametag. (Drink specials such as beer bust, happy hour, shot specials, etc. are excluded).



All NGRA Members get 15% off at both Sheplers locations. Remember to bring your membership card to receive the discount.

Look out for the Sheplers advertisement on another page of the Newsletter.

Survey

It is often said that the strength of an organization is the strength and commitment of members. We are sure we have very talented members but we do not always know the nature of those talents. When planning activities such as the Pride parade float or fundraising events the committee members often find themselves asking "Do we have anyone who can.....who knows about......?. Often we on the committees try to do everything ourselves and we can end up taking ages and maybe not doing a 100% job. If only we knew who could give us help and advice.

To help us with this you will soon be receiving an invitation to complete a short survey to tell us about your talents. Please fill it in. We may never bother you or you may be able quickly to sort something out for us that leaves us struggling.

You are our best help and support.

Thank you.

Food at Fundraisers



Ever felt hungry during a NGRA fundraiser?



Food for sale at all our fundraisers.



Every meal bought means a donation to NGRA from the food vendor





Editor's Bits and Pieces

You will have seen the conversation with Miss NGRA 1992. If you have memories you would like to share please get in touch. As Carolyn said it does not need to be long and does not need to in wonderful prose. It can be edited. And any photos would be a bonus. Looking forward to hearing from you.

Barry J Jones Newsletter Editor news@ngra.com

Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in July:

1	Lauren Dean
ı	Ken Hruby
4	Traci Kimberlin
27	Laura Scott

Member of the Month

David Wells

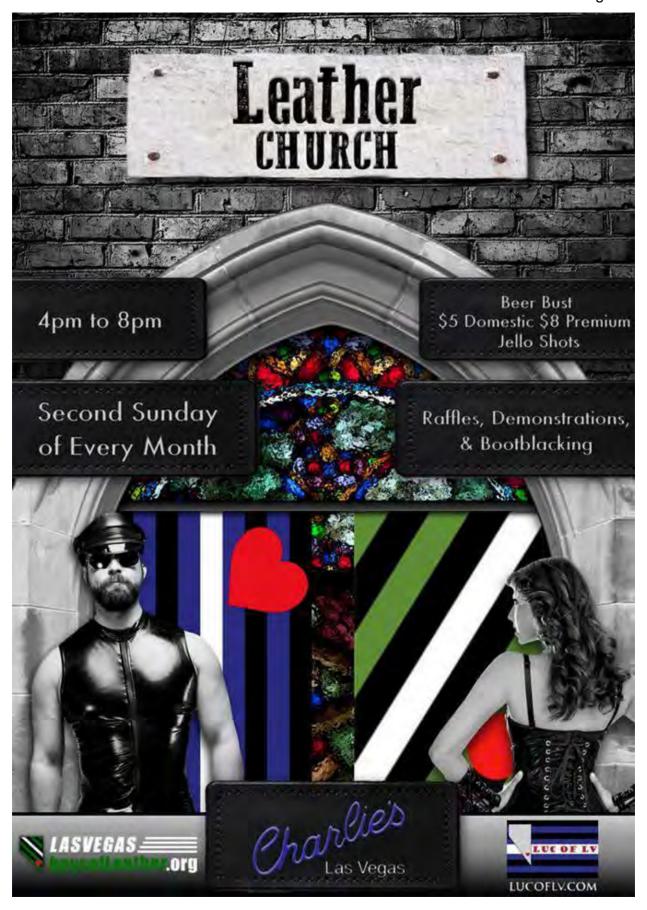
David Wells was nominated as May Member of the Month for taking over Contestant Hospitality on short notice.

Congratulations and thanks to David.



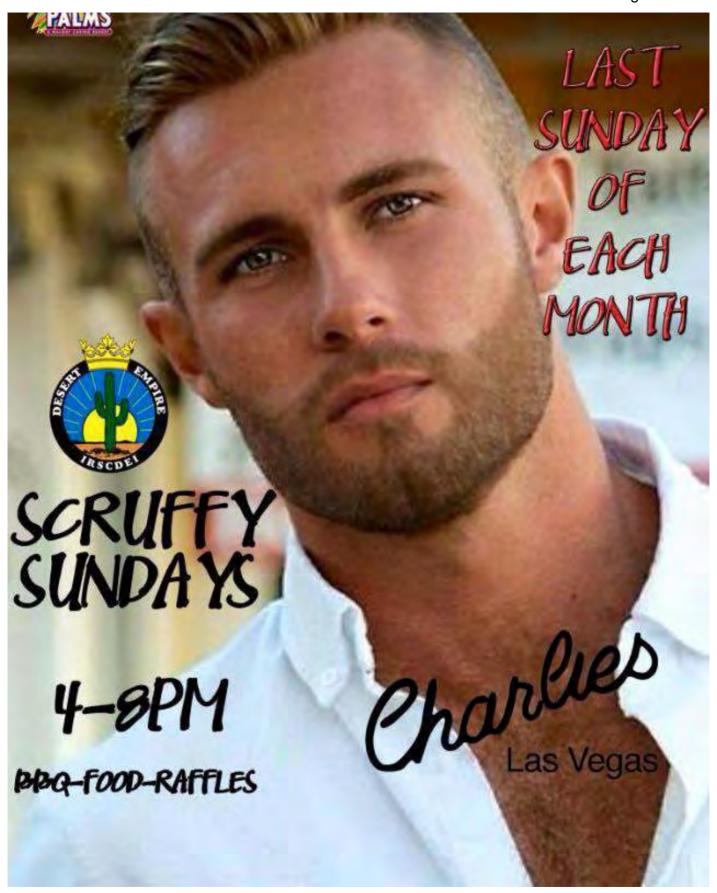












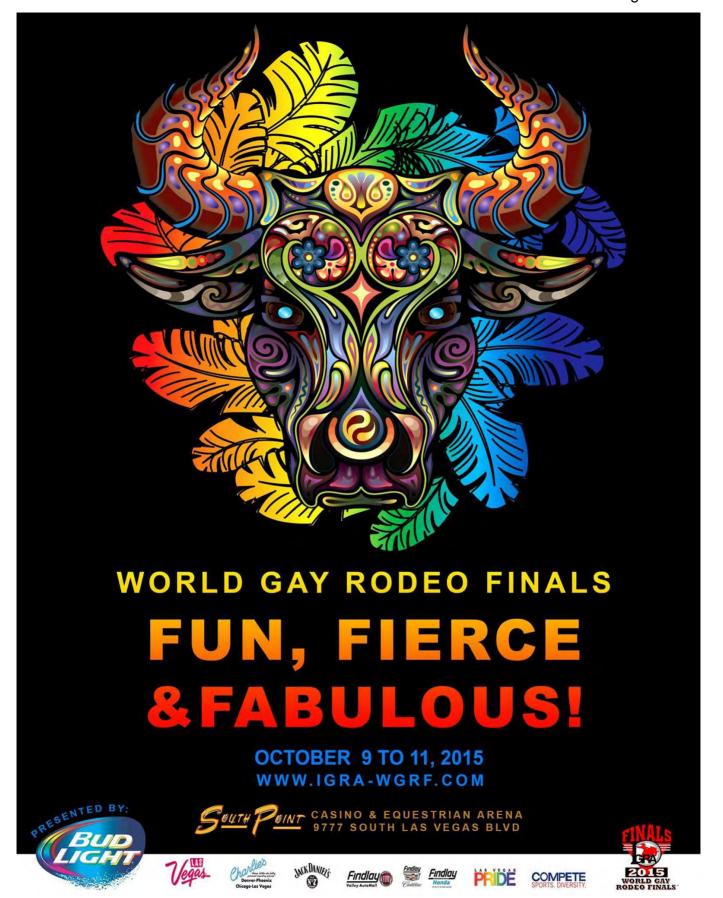












Calendar

July

Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
1	7:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
	<u> </u>	Uniform Bingo	Las Vegas, NV 89169
Thu	6:30 pm	Pre-Meeting Dinner	− Carolyn's Home
2	7:00 pm	Fundraising Committee Meeting	-
Sat		Men of Charlie's	Charlie's,
4	10:30 pm	Man of the Month Contest	5012 South Arville Street,
		Benefits the St Therese Center	Las Vegas, NV 89118
		Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo	Jefferson County Fairgrounds,
10-12		(CGRA)	15200 West 6 th Avenue,
		,	Golden, CO 80401
10.10		Las Vegas Pride	Mt Charlester, Neverde
10-12		Mt Charleston Rainbow Festival	Mt Charleston, Nevada
		2015 A Royal Chocolate Cherub /	Charlie's,
Sat	2:00 pm	Underwear Auction	5012 South Arville Street,
11	2.00 pm	IRSCDE Inc Event	Las Vegas, NV 89118
		INCODE IIIC EVOIR	Charlie's.
Sun	4:00 pm	Leather Church	5012 South Arville Street,
12	1.00 pm	Edution Official	Las Vegas, NV 89118
0-1			Charlie's,
Sat	9.00 pm	Red, White and Blue	5012 South Arville Street,
18	•	·	Las Vegas, NV 89118
Mon		NGRA Board and General	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
20	6:30 pm	Membership Meeting	401 South Maryland Parkway,
20		Membership Meeting	Las Vegas, NV 89101
		Great Northern Shindig	Dead Broke Arena,
24-26		(NSGRA)	5676 170 th Street North,
		(1.00.11)	Hugo, MN 55038
Sat 0.00 mm	D D 1.44	Flex Cocktail Lounge,	
25	9.00 pm	Drag Roulette	4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
			Las Vegas, NV 89102
Sun	1:00 nm	Scruffy Sundays	Charlie's,
26	4:00 pm	IRSCDE Inc Event	5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
		Men of Charlie's	Charlie's,
Fri	9.00 pm	Christmas in July	5012 South Arville Street,
31	a.oo piii	Benefits the St Therese Center	Las Vegas, NV 89118
		Porionia tric Ot Triclese Ocitici	Las vogas, invostio

Calendar (continued)

August

Sat 1	10:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest Benefits the Gay & Lesbian Community Center	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
5	7:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo Big Hair Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sat	10:00 am	Pride Float Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
8	9:00 pm	Hot Rod Rumble	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun 9	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Fri 14		NMGRA Rodeo School	Rodeo de Santa Fe, 3237 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507
14-16		Zia Regional Rodeo (NMGRA)	Rodeo de Santa Fe, 3237 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, NM 87507
Sat 15	9:00 pm	King Midas / Golden Goddess IRSCDE Inc Event	Goodtimes Bar & Nightclub, 1775 East Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89119
Mon 17	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sun 30	4:00 pm	Scruffy Sundays IRSCDE Inc Event	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118

Calendar (continued)

September

Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	_ Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
2	7:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
	·		Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sat	10:20 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest	Charlie's,
5	10:30 pm	Benefits the Sin Sity Sisters	5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
		Deficition the oil oily disters	Russian River Rodeo Grounds.
11-13		Best Buck in the Bay	23450 Moscow Road,
		200, 200, 20,	Duncans Mills, CA 95430
Cot			Charlie's,
Sat 12	9:00 pm	Fiesta Independencia	5012 South Arville Street,
12		•	Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun			Charlie's,
13	4:00 pm	Leather Church	5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Fri	8:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Parade	South 4 th Street,
18	•		Las Vegas, NV 89101
		Las Vegas Pride Festival	500 South Grand Central Pkwy,
Sat		<u> </u>	Las Vegas, NV 89155 Flex Cocktail Lounge,
19		Big, Bold and Beautiful	4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
		IRSCDE Inc Event	Las Vegas, NV 89102
			Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon 21 6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	401 South Maryland Parkway,	
		Las Vegas, NV 89101	
Sat 0.00 mm		Badlands,	
26	9:00 pm	NGRA Event	953 East Sahara Avenue,
20			Las Vegas, NV 89104
Sun	4:00 pm	Scruffy Sundays IRSCDE Inc Event	Charlie's,
27			5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118

director3@ngra.com

director4@ngra.com

NGRA Board of Directors

Effective May 1st, 2015

ngrabod@ngra.com **NGRA Board Doug Graff** president@ngra.com **President** Vice President Ken Hruby vicepresident@ngra.com Secretary Jeffrey Neal secretary@ngra.com treasurer@ngra.com Treasurer David Hering Carolyn Jones director1@ngra.com Director Joseph Gurican director2@ngra.com Director

IGRA Trustee Guy Puglisi trustee@ngra.com

Phil Lombardi

Michael "Dawg" Yarbrough

Director

Director

NGRA 2015 Royalty

Effective April 20th, 2015

NGRA Royalty Team royaltyteam@ngra.com

Miss NGRA Taylor Trash <u>missngra@ngra.com</u>

Mr NGRA Michael "Dawg" Yarbrough <u>mrngra@ngra.com</u>

Other NGRA Contacts

Effective February 18th, 2015

Fundraising Chair	Carolyn Jones	fundraising@ngra.com
Historian	David Wright	history@ngra.com
Public Relations Spokesperson		pr@ngra.com
Membership Secretary	Ken Hruby	membership@ngra.com
Newsletter Editor	Barry Jones	news@ngra.com
Property Manager	Jeffrey Neal	
Rodeo Education	Laura Scott	education@ngra.com
Corporate Sponsorship Representative	Laura Scott	sponsors@ngra.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Carolyn Jones	volunteers@ngra.com
Webmaster	David Hering	webmaster@ngra.com