

August 2015 BigHorn Gazette



Thank you and Best Wishes Doug Graff, our retiring President

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From your New President

The End of an Era - Doug Graff Steps Down



Recently, Doug Graff submitted his resignation as NGRA's President, effective August 1st. Please don't worry, Doug is fine and his health is good. He's just got so many things going on right now, including a job that places a lot of demands on him and his time that, as he put it: "work and travel schedule do not lend themselves to navigating a non-profit organization." Doug has steered NGRA through some very difficult times and we will be sorry to see him leave the helm. Personally, I can honestly say that I wouldn't be as involved in NGRA today, if it wasn't for Doug. Years ago, my boyfriend, at the time, and I met Doug at a pre-Rodeo Party. Within minutes of that meeting, Doug and my boyfriend were two-stepping around the dance floor (I don't two-step and my boyfriend loved to) and Doug was recruiting us for NGRA. Sure I had attended many NGRA Rodeos prior to that year but that was the first time somebody had taken the time to educate me and explain to me what NGRA was all about. The first time somebody told me that NGRA isn't just a once-a-year organization; it's year round, raising money and doing great things for the community. Doug is one of the best ambassadors for NGRA that I know and he's a huge asset - including any future rôle he chooses to serve. NGRA will miss his leadership but, as I said, his health is good so he'll still be around, spreading the word of NGRA, IGRA and Gay Rodeo in general.

Doug, on behalf of the men and woman of NGRA, thank you for your leadership and thank you for everything you've done. We'll miss you at the meetings, but we look forward to drinks at the bar. Again, thank you so very much for everything!!

Ken Hruby NGRA President president@ngra.com

Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo Jefferson County Fairgrounds, Golden, Colorado July 10th to 12th

Traci Kimberlin writes:



Another wonderful RODEO weekend has come to an end.

I got to see so many of my favorite people in the past 4 days.

I want to thank my virgin rodeo dream team Chris & Joey, I love you guys so much! We placed both days!! 4th on Saturday with a 20.08 and 3rd on Sunday with a 15 (something) lol Xoxo we couldn't have made it this far without each other!

Kami, I love you and all of your crazy antics! You are one amazing lady and I can't wait to see you at the next rodeo we meet at!

Congrats to Rob for his epic Rodeo initiation today! What a great display of rodeo directorship, it was an absolute pressure working with you this weekend.

Thank you all for coming together to put these wonderful events together for all of us to enjoy; everyone from the rodeo director(s), arena crew, cute crew, timers, security, secretarial, volunteers, vendors, contestants, family, friends, and fans.

I love you all, thank you so much for absolutely everything! Xoxo

Chuck Webb Award

The award is given to any volunteer, arena crew, or chute member who has demonstrated exceptional participation as a volunteer for the Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo. It is named in honor of CGRA member Chuck Webb who spent many years with chute crews and arena crews setting up patterns and preparing for events at Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo. His tireless dedication and spirit are memorialized in this award.



NGRA is proud that Traci Kimberlin won this prestigious award.

Red, White and Blue Charlie's Saturday, July 18th

NGRA visited Charlie's for its monthly fundraiser which this time was ably hosted by Bootsy Carmichael, (aka David Heckman).



As well as a host of entertainment Bootsy had folk playing that well loved "How quickly can you put on a pair of frozen underpants?" game with the underpants borrowed from out goat dressing wardrobe. Always guaranteed to raise a laugh.



Thank you to all our entertainers and apologies to anyone who missed the camera.





August 2015 Newsletter





Great to see Ric Franklin-Sewell (aka Kimberli Foxx) out on the town again













This time our game of chance was based on various flags with the cards sold by Dawg. No one drew the Stars and Stripes so the major prize, an \$80 token for Tacos and Beer will be carried forward till our August event, Hot Rod Rumble. But we had plenty of prize winners walking out with their spoils.













August 2015 Newsletter

Thanks to Jeffrey Neal for manning the beer bust table and welcoming people as they came in, to Phil, Chad and Brian for selling shots, to Ken Hruby and David Wells for watching over our prizes and handing them to the winners.



We raised an amazing \$588 so thanks to everyone who took part and to all the staff at Charlie's who opened their doors to us.

Ed Hamilton and Dan Oldenburg looked in for a swift drink.











We were thrilled to see our first Miss NGRA, Kip Kipilla out and about and looking great.

Drag Roulette Flex Cocktail Lounge Saturday, July 25th

NGRA returned to Flex after an absence of about 12 months with two hours of Drag Roulette. Hosting this event was Vivianne DuMonde and our current Miss Cow Patty, Ericka G Mathews.



Drag Roulette is where a brave soul volunteers to perform to a number chosen by someone else. If you're lucky you know the song. If you're not lucky......

Being prepared to make fools of themselves, although nobody really did, were Ian Dodge-Wagner, Dawg, Phil Lombardi, Kitty Litter, Ona'stagea and Earl A Coffman (Boy Earl).



The video of Dawg doing a girly song posted on Facebook soon became a page favorite. A great bunch of performers making everyone, even the DJ, crack up laughing.

After a great effort Ian Dodge-Wagner was declared the winner and walked out proudly holding a liter bottle of Bacardi Superior Rum for his efforts.



For a real laugh and a flavor of the night see the video of Dawg posted on the NGRA Facebook page:

https://www.facebook.com/NevadaGayRodeo

The inner man was taken care off by our food truck of the night, Cheryl with Spud Shots and more. See her again at Charlie's in August.

Thanks again to all those who helped including Tod and his staff at Flex. The taking here of \$450 brought the money raised in July to over \$1000







August 2015 Newsletter

Presidential Ramblings

Hot nuff fer ya? :-)

Summer is in full tilt here in Nevada and on the IGRA rodeo circuit. So many exciting things happening on the "Road back to Las Vegas"...for the World Gay Rodeo Finals. Are you ready NGRA for the world of exciting that IGRA is preparing for right here in Las Vegas? I have to admit, I'm a little bit emotional as I write this. We, as an organization, cause, fellowship...whatever you call it...are headed for the big time. We've known it all along and have prepped for it for years. It's just around the corner. All indications are that it will be a big show with a great turn out. I hope you're all telling your friends from all over to get here.

Finally, thank you Ken Hruby for stepping up to run our monthly meetings while I'm off working.

See you all soon.

Doug Graff Retiring NGRA President

From Your Royalty

I want to start this off by saying how proud I am of our community and the people and volunteers in it without each person we and those of other organizations are unable to do what we do for our communities.

It has been a busy last several months for me. Several out of state events and rodeos have been completed we are now gearing up for World Gay Rodeo Finals where Taylor Trash, Miss NGRA 2015, and I will be competing here in Las Vegas for the titles of Miss and Mr International Gay Rodeo Association.

We are also building up to November where we will be adding new members to our extended Royalty family with the NGRA 2016 Royalty Competition being held at Charlie's, Las Vegas.

Again thank you to everyone.

Your 2015 NGRA Royalty

Mr NGRA – Michael "Dawg" Yarbrough mrngra@ngra.com

Fundraising

You will have read about our July events earlier. Many thanks to all who helped make these very enjoyable and profitable evenings. Looking forward to August we have a very different event at Charlies, Hot Rod Rumble. We have been talking to Las Vegas Heat Car Club and they will be providing a number of classic cars on show, one on the dance floor and others outside. So get your 60s on and come and join us. Grease is the word.

As well as all our usual activities your food provider for this month will be Spud Shots and More. Give them a try. I am told the potato skin nachos are fabulous.

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

I know you have heard this before but we need the volunteer team to help out with our next project. 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 President, Ken Hruby, in June and we are 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 meetings will be held at the Center on Saturday, August 8th at 10:00 am, and at Carolyn's home on Sunday, August 16th at 11:00 am, taking in lunch.

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 with any questions or offers of help or ideas. We plan to end this venture with a Deconstruction Party on the Sunday after, September 20th.

NGRA also has an earning opportunity at the Pride Festival on September 19th. We have been asked to man the drink ticket stations. We are also to staff a station selling Coke. To do the latter you will need your health card. Again, if you are interested in these jobs please get in touch with me or use our online form. Working in the Festival jobs will bring NGRA \$10 and hour for your efforts.

Finals

As most of you will know 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.

I know a number of you have already volunteered but if you have not 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.

Carolyn Jones
Volunteer Coordinator
volunteers@bighornrodeo.com



We plan to put a good looking float in the parade and need people to help build it and to walk/ride in the Parade.

We have 2 opportunities for NGRA to earn money at the Festival. NGRA has been asked to man the booths selling drinks tickets and also a booth selling Coke.

To man the Coke booth,

Health and TAM Cards are required.

If you're interested in helping celebrate Las Vegas Pride contact NGRA's Volunteer Coodinator at volunteers@ngra.com

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 Carolyn Jones at volunteers@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 president@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





Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in August:

12	David Murie
13	Curtis Fitzgerald
14	Andrew Goodman
16	Courtney Cole
16	Joe McMullen
17	Garry Douglas
17	Ryan McPherson
17	Kristine Nelson
25	David Wells
26	Brian Rogers

Welcome to the NGRA Corral

Britany Davis Sarah Rohay

Member of the Month

Barry Jones

Barry Jones was nominated as June Member of the Month for his work on the Newsletter.

Congratulations and thanks to Barry.

Editor's Bits and Pieces

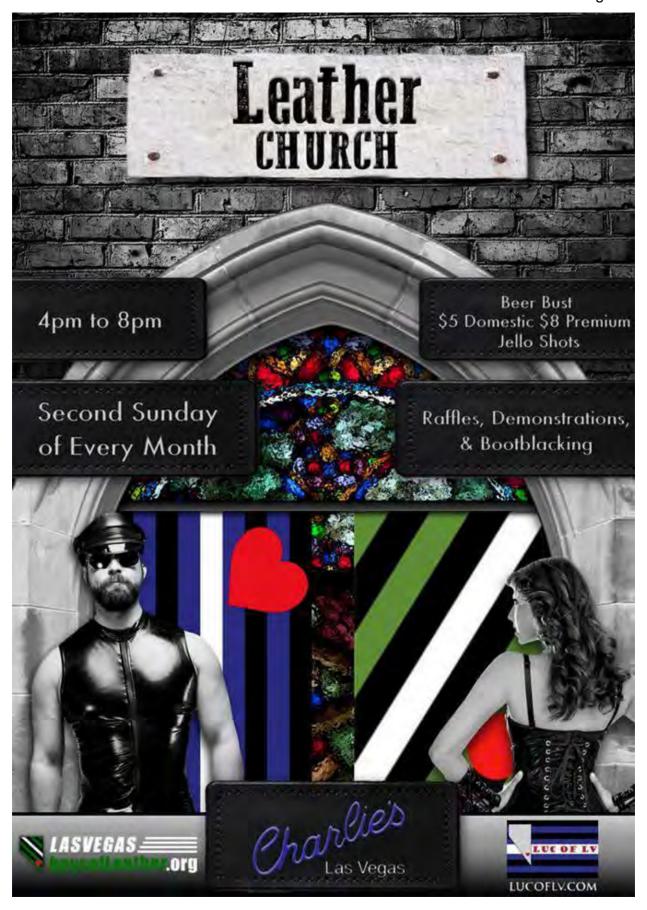
I am flattered to be honored with the award of Member of the Month for my work with the BigHorn Gazette. I would like to thank all the contributors, without whose support, the monthly newsletter would not be possible.

Barry J Jones Newsletter Editor news@ngra.com



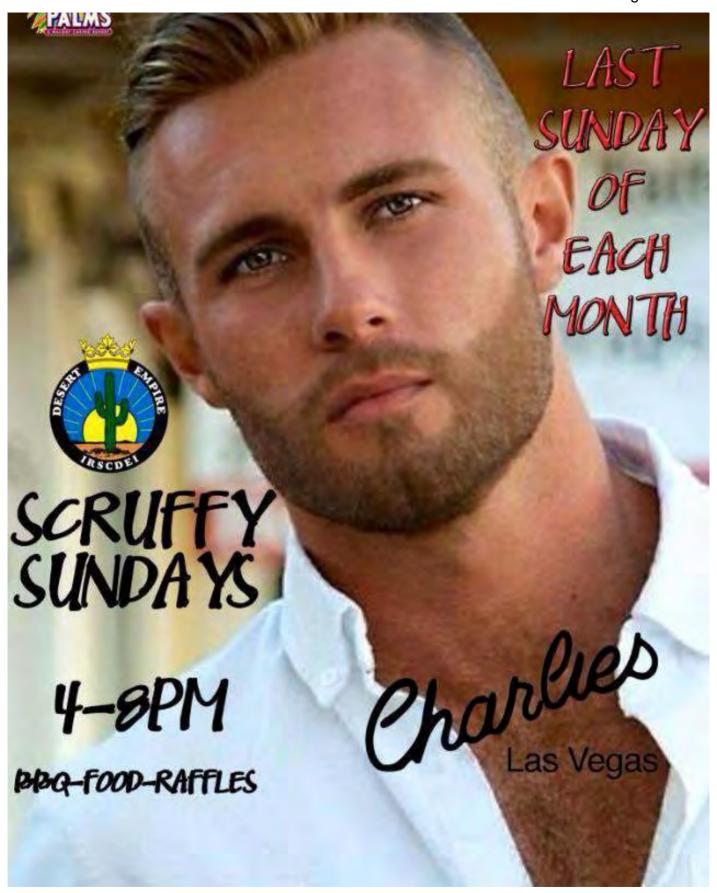




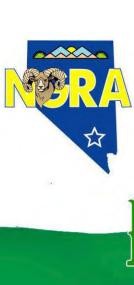












Nevada Gay Rodeo Association

Independencia Saturday September 12th at 9:00 Food Beer Bust

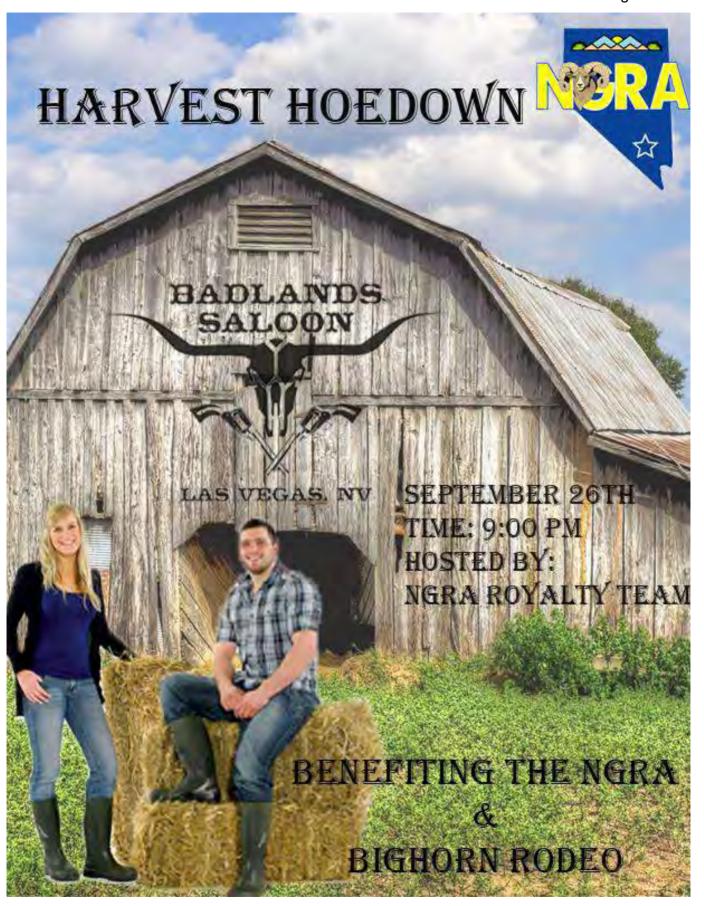
Benefitting NGRA and BigHorn Rodeo



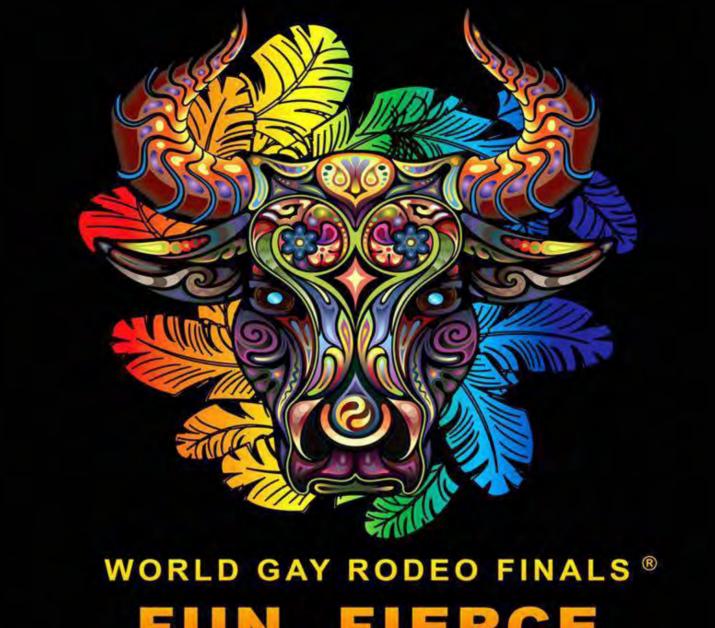












FUN, FIERCE

OCTOBER 9 TO 11, 2015 WWW.IGRA-WGRF.COM





























Calendar

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
Thu 6	6:30 pm	Fundraising Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sat 8	10:00 am	Pride Float Committee Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
	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
Sun 16	11:00 am	Pride Float Committee Meeting	Carolyn's Home
Mon 17	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sat 22	8:00 pm	Preston's Family Affair IGRA Charity Fundraiser	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102
Sun 30	4:00 pm	Scruffy Sundays IRSCDE Inc Event	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118

Calendar (continued)

September

Wed 2	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
	7:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
	7.00 pm	Rainbow Bingo	Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sat 5		Men of Charlie's	Charlie's,
	10:30 pm	Man of the Month Contest	5012 South Arville Street,
		Benefits the Sin Sity Sisters	Las Vegas, NV 89118
		Best Buck in the Bay	Russian River Rodeo Grounds,
11-13			23450 Moscow Road,
			Duncans Mills, CA 95430
Sat			Charlie's,
12	9:00 pm	Fiesta Independencia	5012 South Arville Street,
12	-	•	Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's,
13			5012 South Arville Street,
13			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
16	7:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo Colors of Pride Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
10			Las Vegas, NV 89169
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			Las Vegas, NV 89155
19	9:00 pm	Big, Bold and Beautiful IRSCDE Inc Event	Flex Cocktail Lounge,
13			4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
			Las Vegas, NV 89102
Mon	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
21			401 South Maryland Parkway,
21			Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sat 26	9:00 pm	Harvest Hoedown	Badlands,
			953 East Sahara Avenue,
			Las Vegas, NV 89104
Sun 27	4:00 pm	Scruffy Sundays IRSCDE Inc Event	Charlie's,
			5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118

Calendar (continued)

October

Sat 3	10:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest Benefits NGRA	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
7	7:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
		Superhero Bingo	Las Vegas, NV 89169
8 - 11		IGRA Finals	South Point Casino & Equestrian Arena, 9777 South Las Vegas Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89183
Sun 11	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat 17	9:00 pm	Elm Street	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Mon 19	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sat 24	9.00 pm	Spooktacular	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102
Sun 25	4:00 pm	Scruffy Sundays IRSCDE Inc Event	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118

NGRA Board of Directors

Effective August 1st, 2015

NGRA Board		ngrabod@ngra.com
President	Ken Hruby	president@ngra.com
Vice President		vicepresident@ngra.com
Secretary	Jeffrey Neal	secretary@ngra.com
Treasurer	David Hering	treasurer@ngra.com
Director	Carolyn Jones	director1@ngra.com
Director	Joseph Gurican	director2@ngra.com
Director	Phil Lombardi	director3@ngra.com
Director	Michael "Dawg" Yarbrough	director4@ngra.com
IGRA Trustee	Guy Puglisi	trustee@ngra.com

NGRA 2015 Royalty

Effective April 20th, 2015

NGRA Royalty Team <u>royaltyteam@ngra.com</u>

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