

July 2016 BigHorn Gazette

From your President

NGRA Retreat — Saturday, August 27th, 10:30 am



Please read this article and then email your submissions to <u>NGRA Retreat@cox.net</u>.

It's official. We have come up with a date for the NGRA Retreat. The retreat will take place on Saturday, August 27th, at 10:30 am, inside the "Dropin Room" of The Center. For those of you who aren't aware of the "Drop-in Room", it's immediately behind the Bronze Café and has couches and chairs, for a more relaxed atmosphere.

I still need your ideas, regarding what needs to be discussed. I'm asking for inputs that fit into 1 of 3 categories:

- Things NGRA needs to Start Doing;
- Things NGRA needs to Stop Doing, and
- Things NGRA needs to do differently.

When you submit your replies, please identify which of the three categories, your idea falls into as well as a brief explanation, regarding why you feel the way you do.

Once I get all the topics sent to me, I'll consolidate similar thoughts and will try to put together a few

notes to help us discuss the submissions. No serious submission will be ignored and I will try to consolidate the submissions into topics of discussion, rather than reading individual emails.

Please send all of your topics to <u>NGRA_Retreat@cox.net</u>. I promise you complete anonymity, as I'm the only one who knows the password to this email account. Feel free to submit whatever you'd like, just please keep them serious. Finally, I really hope that everybody reading this will submit their ideas. I understand that not everybody can make the meetings but this is your chance to help make NGRA as great as we all want it to be.

Ken Hruby NGRA President president@ngra.com

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International Gay Rodeo Association

A short time ago the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) received the following statement issued by the Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association (ARGRA):

The Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association (ARGRA) is a Calgary based not-for-profit society that is solely volunteer-driven.

Alberta has suffered a severe economic downturn over the past year which has negatively impacted those sponsorships on which ARGRA relies. Over the past year, ARGRA has done everything that it could to operate in this difficult economic environment; however, it became clear that despite our

best efforts it was necessary to cancel the 2016 Canadian Rockies International Rodeo and Music Festival (2016 CRIR).

Further, as a result of the lack of financial resources, the Alberta Rockies Gay Rodeo Association (ARGRA) has ceased all operation, effective immediately.

ARGRA sincerely apologizes to all those supporters in the community that this decision affects.

The ARGRA Board of Directors

In light of ARGRA's cessation of activities, IGRA perceives this as a statement of their insolvency and an intent to dissolve their corporation, consistent with typical processes followed by other not for profit corporations in Canada and Alberta in similar circumstances.

Such grave news is never welcome, and IGRA regrets the series of events that has led ARGRA to this decision. We regret also the impact this decision will have on their members, the local community, their charity partners, sponsors and business partners, and particularly the fans who have supported them over the years and who were anticipating joining in the rodeo and music festival this summer, now cancelled.

Because ARGRA is an independent entity, IGRA has no direct knowledge of their financial condition or guidance to give to creditors or ticket holders who may be left with little recourse in pursuing claims for compensation. You may wish to explore avenues available through your credit card companies, ticket vendors, and otherwise as provided through Canadian authorities.

The loss of any association is always deeply felt. That is especially true in this case because of the unique flavour our Canadian members bring to our international rodeo circuit, and because the stain of insolvency threatens to blot out the long record of good compiled during ARGRA's 23-year history, a record which includes more than \$250,000 donated to charity.

IGRA and its 20 Member Associations will continue to produce rodeo events, promote the country and western lifestyle, and support our communities through charitable fundraising. We invite all rodeo enthusiasts everywhere to attend an upcoming rodeo or to join an association and become involved. Visit igra.com for a schedule of upcoming rodeos, a listing of local associations, and information on forming an association in your area.

Bruce Gros IGRA President

In response to this, at its June Meeting, your Board moved to offer members of the ARGRA honorary memberships to NGRA for the remainder of the 2016 year.

NGRA 2017 Royalty Competition

This year's Royalty Competition will take place on Saturday, November 26th. As has been the case in previous years, it will be divided into two phases. Phase 1 will take place Saturday morning and Phase 2 will take place at Charlie's later in the evening. Anybody interested in competing for NGRA 2017 Royalty is encouraged to contact Royalty Competition Director, Barry Jones. The deadline for officially announcing your intentions is August 31st.

In addition to the actual contest we plan to make that night at Charlie's a fun event and I am asking for anyone who wishes to entertain or help out in any other way to contact me.

Barry J Jones Royalty Competition Director royaltycompetitiondirector@ngra.com

NGRA will be in the Pride Parade

NGRA's Pride Committee will soon be having its first meeting. 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 Matt Todd at <u>prideparade@ngra.com</u>.

Open Position at NGRA: Public Relations Spokesperson

NGRA is looking for a Public Relations Spokesperson. People interested in promoting NGRA, our events, and our people to the public should contact Ken Hruby at <u>president@ngra.com</u>.

Role of the Public Relations Spokesperson

The Public Relations Spokesperson shall:

- A. be responsible for arranging publicity for the Corporation's events, through the creation and timely issuance of news releases and through other activities;
- B. be responsible for the external dissemination of information, whether written or verbal, as directed by the needs of the Corporation, and
- C. keep complete and accurate lists of appropriate media for news releases, along with a complete and accurate list of the other IGRA associations.

Boots & Briefs Las Vegas Eagle Friday, June 3rd

On June 3 NGRA visited a new venue for us, The Eagle. Here HomoRodeo.com were helping us raise funds. As part of a Las Vegas photo shoot for their 2017 calendar they had brought beefy models in underwear from Macys to grace the bar and to face up to having their underwear removed by the highest bidder in an auction.



David Blackwood (aka Taylor Trash) and Marcus Grissom (aka Kitty Litter) hosted the night and carried out the auctions which became quite animated at timers. And who knows what went on when the winners and their prey vanished behind the stage curtain.

































NGRA gives its heartfelt thanks to HomoRodeo.com for their offer of support and to the manager and staff at The Eagle for opening up their bar as our venue and making us so welcome.

Hee Haw Night Charlie's Saturday, June 11th

Our regular monthly fundraiser at Charlie's.







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From Your Volunteer Coordinator

As I said in my piece last month Las Vegas hosts the IGRA World Finals. Running from October 21 to 23 these will again be held in the South Point Hotel and Casino. More details will be available soon but put these dates in your diary.

If you wish to volunteer for this event, please go to:

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

and fill in the online application form.

Many of you will also know that this is also the Pride weekend. Your Board has decided that NGRA will enter a float for the Pride Parade but will not be volunteering at the Festival. This will leave us all free to give our full support to Finals. If you wish to volunteer to help construct the float, please contact:

volunteers@ngra.com

If you are not a natural DIY person don't worry. We can use all your talents, practical and artistic, to produce a float to surpass last year's wonderful effort. Matt Todd will again be leading the construction effort. (And I shall probably be making chili again.)

Volunteer Coordinator Carolyn Jones volunteers@ngra.com

Letter to the Editor

Second Amendment and Gay Bars By: Kitty Litter

Saturday June 11th I was in Portland Oregon with family and Friends celebrating my 50th Birthday along with a close friend of 30 years also turning 50. We started talking about the old days and which gay bars had the best dance floor, best DJ, sound system and the best deal on a 8 ball - TeHe. Monday you stayed home because of Sunday's Tea Dance at Embers night club. Two for Tuesday's at Scandals on Stark Street Beer was \$1.25 and Vodka \$1.75 Wednesday was bar crawl cause it was hump day and all bars had drink specials. Thursday we spent at the Brigg and Box's a \$1.00 for anything on the shelf you get shit faced and go dancing at City Night Club. Friday Starkey's was known for a great dinner and cocktails, and Saturday Court Shows at the Embers. We never once had to worry about Guns in a night club - not once. Our biggest fear in Portland was the cops and walking home or to your car alone and getting molly whopped. But the 80s was a history changer for the GLBT community be it AIDS or Civil Rights. I can't remember ever having a discussion about the 2nd amendment with any GLBT as a young queer. All I remember about using a gun is (I am going to shoot that bitch in the head if she does not shut the fuck up.)

On Sunday June 12th 10 am Rose Gardens (Washington Park). It was a beautiful morning, I wanted to take some pictures I picked up my phone and started reading the news feed 20 then 39 and 50 DEAD with 53 in hospital from a gunshot wound. Then the sentence (in a Gay Bar in Orlando FL) I had to sit down - over and over in my head IN A GAY BAR. WHY?????? Since I can remember so many of our GLBT community has been hurt or killed from religion which teaches hate. I don't why but I started reading books on the 2nd amendment.

The best indication of what any law, including a Constitutional provision, means, is what the courts say it means. Our federal courts, including the Supreme Court, have spoken plainly and unanimously on the meaning of the Second Amendment. It is astonishing that no-one knows this. Even most books on either side of the issue fail to cover court decisions. The legal meaning of the Second Amendment tends to get lost in the hype. The pro-gun forces especially would like to ignore that there is any contemporary jurisprudence on the topic. Most NRA members probably don't know that the organization always bases its litigation on constitutional grounds such as over breadth and vagueness--It never argues that a gun control law offends the Second Amendment, because it knows that, under the present state of the law, it would lose.

On September 4, the Senate voted to change the language of the **Second Amendment** by removing the **definition** of militia, and striking the conscientious objector clause: A well-regulated militia, being the best security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.

Pro-gun forces certainly believe that 20th century Second Amendment jurisprudence is dead wrong, just as I believe that <u>court decisions upholding the constitutionality of the Communications Act of 1934</u> are dead wrong. What we are both saying is that the courts, in a given instance, wrote the wrong story. We are entitled to our opinions. The perniciousness of the pro-gun forces, particularly the NRA, is not that they disagree with the courts, but that they lie to their members and to the public about what the law says. The success of the NRA and similar organizations in their disinformation campaign is evident in the fact that so many otherwise reasonable citizens believe that the Second Amendment, despite its reference to the militia, guarantees an individual right to keep and bear arms. No-one knows that the highest federal courts in the land have consistently held that the Second Amendment is only a right held by the states against the federal government.

I am not ready to deal with this. I cry every morning driving to work thinking about the 49 who cannot drive to work and 53 wounded souls who will now have that voice in their head. Asking who wants to kill me because I am different. In closing please do not stop living beware what is around you see something say something. Do not let Religion or the Kim Davis of the world take your freedom who how and where to love.

Love Kitty Drink Vodka and Dance

Marcus Grissom

NGRA's Upcoming Trustee Election: Election Chair Needed.

According to our Bylaws, it's time to elect an NGRA Trustee to represent our interests at IGRA. Per Article V, Section III, Paragraph A, of NGRA's Bylaws: "Ballots shall be mailed or posted online in a secure manner every third (3rd) year immediately after the August General Membership Meeting and must be received by the Board of Directors no later than the September General Membership Meeting." This timetable means that we have to start advertising the position, and the election, no later than the end of the July meeting so we have names for the August meeting.

Anybody interested in serving as the Trustee, please hold on for a little while longer and wait for an official announcement sometime after the July meeting.

For now, what I do need is somebody to volunteer as the Election Chair for this election. This election will be relatively simple, since there's only one position up for election but it will be a good experience for anybody that might be interested in volunteering to be the Election Chair for the Annual Board of Director's election later this year, when 5 of the 9 positions will be up for election.

This is a perfect opportunity for somebody who wants to get involved but can't make a lot of the meetings or the fundraisers. If you're interested, please contact me at president@ngra.com.

Ken Hruby NGRA President president@ngra.com

Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in July:

1	Ken Hruby		
4	Traci Kimberlin		
6	Brian Porras		
27	Laura Scott		

Welcome to the NGRA Corral

Larry Grigsby Perry Hicks Deshawn Lewis Trey Shankle Debora Simon

Member of the Month

Chad Hinerman

Chad Hinerman was nominated as May Member of the Month for his support of NGRA fundraising events over the months.

Congratulations and thanks to Chad.

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).



Be PROUD! Show your Spirit -Decorate your favorite hat -Red White and Blue! Most creative hat ! Best use of Red, White and Blue! Funniest hat!

6:00pm Alexis Park- www.lasvegaspride.org

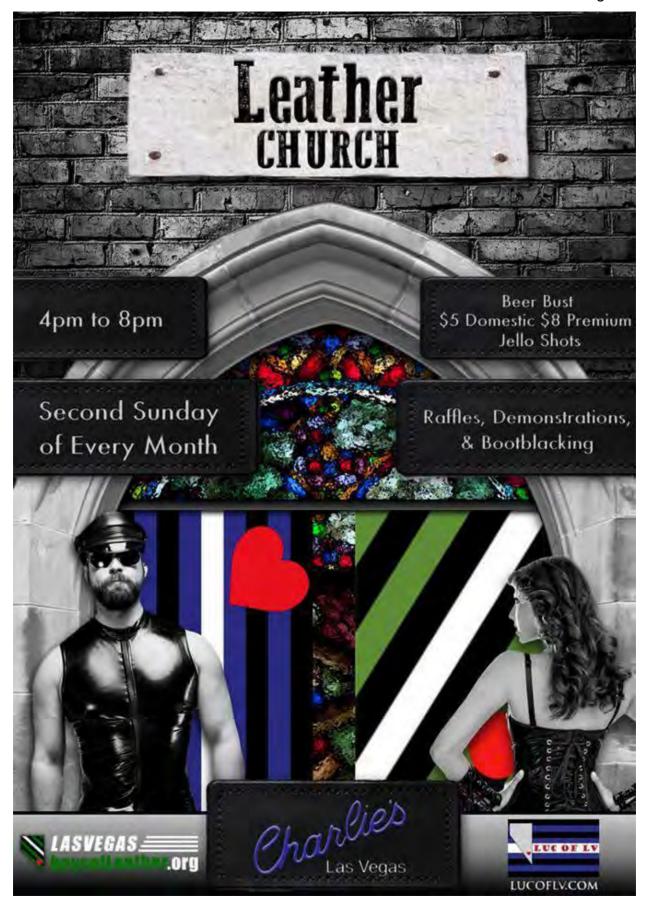
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Las Vegas 5012 Arville St, Ste 4 Las Vegas NV 89118

Proceeds benefit NGRA & BigHorn Rodeo



All proceeds benefit Reign 18 Charities





"Yellow Brick Road"

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Join Us August 3rd

We are celebrating "The Wizard of OZ" dress up as your favorite "OZ"character. Best Costume and Best Group

B





Don't Let Your Meat Loaf & Just Desserts Blue Ribbon Cookoff

Sunday August 7 3pm - 7pm at BADLANDS SALOON



\$5.00 Donation All You Can Eat

It's a blue with the cook off! Whether you ender you tenorite meatloaf or dessert or just enter eating, join us for a tasty ifternoon!

Judging Categories:

Meat Loaf - Biggest Meat, Smallest Meat, Best Tasting, Best Presentation Desserts - Best Tasting, Best Presentation, Sweetest, Peoples Choice





Calendar

July

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Sat 2		Men of Charlie's	Charlie's,
	10:30 pm	Man of the Month Contest	5012 South Arville Street,
		Benefits The St Therese Center	Las Vegas, NV 89118
Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	_ Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
6	6.20 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
0	6:30 pm	Red, White and Blue Bingo	Las Vegas, NV 89169
		Really Mauntain Regional Radaa	Jefferson County Fairgrounds,
8 - 10		Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo	15200 West 6th Avenue
		(CGRA)	Golden CO 80401
			Charlie's,
	9:00 pm	NGRA/USO Show	5012 South Arville Street,
Sat	•		Las Vegas, NV 89118
9			Flex Cocktail Lounge,
	9:00 pm	King & Queen of Spades	4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
		IRSCDE Inc. Event	Las Vegas, NV 89102
			Charlie's,
Sun	4:00 pm	Leather Church	5012 South Arville Street,
10			Las Vegas, NV 89118
			Flex Cocktail Lounge,
Fri	4:30 pm	Happy Hour	4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
15		IRSCDE Inc. Event	Las Vegas, NV 89102
			Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
	6:30 pm	Junior King and Queen Of The	401 South Maryland Parkway,
Sat		Imperial Court	Las Vegas, NV 89101
16			Fun Hog Ranch,
	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	495 East Twain Avenue,
	reree pin		Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sun			
17		Fundraising Meeting	
Mon		NGRA Board and General	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
18	6:30 pm		401 South Maryland Parkway,
10	-	Membership Meeting	Las Vegas, NV 89101
		North Stor Pogional Padea	Dead Broke Arena
29 - 31		North Star Regional Rodeo	5676 170th Street North,
		(NSGRA)	Hugo, MN 55038
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Calendar (continued)

August

Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
3	7.00 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
3	7:00 pm	Yellow Brick Road Bingo	Las Vegas, NV 89169
		Men of Charlie's	Charlie's,
Sat	10:30 pm	Man of the Month Contest	5012 South Arville Street,
6	10.00 pm	Benefits The Gay and Lesbian	Las Vegas, NV 89118
		Community Center	
Sun		Aunt Betty's Don't Let Your Meat	Badlands Saloon,
7	3:00 pm	Loaf & Just Desserts Blue Ribbon	953 East Sahara Avenue #22B,
		Cookoff	Las Vegas, NV 89104
		Zia Regional Rodeo	Rodeo De Santa Fe,
12 - 14		(NMGRA)	3237 Rodeo Road,
			Santa Fe, NM 87502
Fri		Happy Hour	Fun Hog Ranch,
12	4:30 pm	IRSCDE Inc. Event	495 East Twain Avenue,
12			Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sat			Charlie's,
13	9:00 pm	Indoor Rodeo	5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun			Charlie's,
14 4:	4:00 pm	Leather Church	5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Mon		NGRA Board and General	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
15	6:30 pm	Membership Meeting	401 South Maryland Parkway,
			Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sat			Fun Hog Ranch,
20	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	495 East Twain Avenue,
			Las Vegas, NV 89169
			Drop-in Room,
Sat	10:30 am	NGRA Retreat	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
27			401 South Maryland Parkway,
			Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sun		D	Texas Station,
28	Noon	Bowling	2101 Texas Star Lane,
			North Las Vegas, NV 89032

Calendar (continued)

September

2 – 4		Show Me State Rodeo (MGRA)	The Lone Wolf Ranch Arena and Training Center 22801 State Line Road Cleveland, MO 64734
Sat 3	10:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest Benefits The Sin Sity Sisters	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Wed 7	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour" Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort, 375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
9 – 11		Rodeo on the River (GSGRA)	Russian River Rodeo Grounds, 23450 Moscow Road, Duncans Mills, CA 95430
Sat 10	9:00 pm	Country Dance Off	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun 11	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
16 – 18		Sierra Stampede SCCGRA)	Sacramento, CA
Sat 17	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	Fun Hog Ranch, 495 East Twain Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
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	Noon	Carnival in the Park	Rainbow Family Park 7151 West Oakey Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89117
Fri 30	4:30 pm	Happy Hour IRSCDE Inc. Event	Bastille on 3 rd , 1402 South 3 rd Street, Las Vegas, NV 89104

Calendar Looking ahead to key events

October

Sat 1	9:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest Benefits The NGRA	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
21 - 23		World Gay Rodeo Finals	South Point Arena & Equestrian Center, 9777 South Las Vegas Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89183
Fri 21		2016 Pride Parade	4 th Street, Downtown, Las Vegas

November

10 - 13		IGRA Annual Convention	Wyndham - Austin Texas, 3401 Interstate 35 Frontage Road, Austin, TX 78741
Sat 26	9:00 pm	NGRA 2017 Royalty Competition	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118

December

January

Sat 9:00 pm Gravity is a Bitch	Pegasus Lounge, Alexis Park All-Suite Resort, 375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
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NGRA Board of Directors Effective June 20th, 2016

NGRA Board President Vice President Secretary Treasurer IGRA Trustee Director Director Director Fundraising Director

Ken Hruby

Chris Due Jeffrey Neal

David Hering

Guy Puglisi

Carolyn Jones

Barry Jones

Kathy Alday

Marcus Grissom

ngrabod@ngra.com president@ngra.com vicepresident@ngra.com secretary@ngra.com treasurer@ngra.com trustee@ngra.com director1@ngra.com director2@ngra.com director3@ngra.com

NGRA 2016 Royalty Effective November 28th, 2015

NGRA Royalty Team

Ms NGRA 2016

Mr NGRA

Traci Foxx

Phil Lombardi

royaltyteam@ngra.com msngra@ngra.com mrngra@ngra.com

Other NGRA Contacts Effective June 20th, 2016

Historian	David Wright	history@ngra.com
Public Relations Spokesperson		pr@ngra.com
Membership Secretary	Chris Due	membership@ngra.com
Newsletter Editor	Barry Jones	<u>news@ngra.com</u>
Pride Parade Coordinator	Matt Todd	prideparade@ngra.com
Property Manager	Jeffrey Neal	
Rodeo Education	Laura Scott	education@ngra.com
Rodeo Planning	Richard Armstrong	rodeo@ngra.com
Royalty Competition Director	Barry Jones	royaltycompetitiondirector @ngra.com
Corporate Sponsorship Representative		sponsors@ngra.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Carolyn Jones	volunteers@ngra.com
Webmaster	David Hering	webmaster@ngra.com