

November 2016 BigHorn Gazette

World Gay Rodeo Finals Champions



Tandi Remy & Courtney Cole

Item	Page(s)	Item	Page(s)
WGRF Champions	1	Member of the Month	29
From your President	2&3	From Your Volunteer Coordinator	30
Tom Coleman	4	Fundraising	31
From your Vice President	5 - 8	Benefits of being a Member of NGRA	31
NGRA 2017 Royalty Competition	9 & 10	From Your Royalty: Mr NGRA	32 - 40
Men of Charlie's Contest	11 & 12	Flyers	41 - 54
2016 PRIDE Parade	13 - 15	Calendar: November	55 & 56
Announcement of IGRA 2017	16	Calendar: December	57 & 58
Royalty Team	10	Calendar: January	59
IGRA 2016 Royalty Step Down	17	Looking ahead to key events	60
World Gay Rodeo Finals	18 - 27	NGRA Board of Directors	61
LGBTQ Vegas	28	NGRA 2016 Royalty	61
Happy Birthday	29	Other NGRA Contacts	62

Table of Contents

From your President

NGRA is now a 501(c)(3) Organization!!!

On Saturday, the October 22^{nd} , NGRA received some great news. The IRS approved our application to become a 501(c)(3) organization. Anybody who's been with NGRA for some time, can tell you that this has been years in the making. There are many advantages to becoming a 501(c)(3) organization but one of the big ones is that we are now more appealing to other organizations (or people) who want to make donations to us. Prior to being a 501(c)(3), businesses who made donations to NGRA, did it for advertisement purposes and it was considered a marketing investment. Now, those donations are tax deductible, which will open up more doors, and more opportunities for NGRA.

NGRA's Annual Election

NGRA's annual election is almost upon us. This year, the following positions are up for election:

- NGRA Vice President (2-year term, starting January 1st 2017);
- NGRA Treasurer (2-year term, starting January 1st 2017), and
- Three (3) Directors at Large Positions (1-year term, starting January 1st 2017)

The cutoff for announcing your candidacy is Monday, the 21st of November, and the election will begin shortly after the November 22nd meeting.

To be eligible to run for the Vice Presidency or the Treasurer positions, you must have been an NGRA member on, or before, 26th May 2016.

To be eligible to run for one of the three Director at Large positions, you must have been an NGRA member on, or before, 24th August 2016.

If you're interested in running for one of these positions, please send an email to <u>president@ngra.com</u>. In that email, please be sure to indicate which position you're running for and please include a short (couple of paragraphs) biography, that will help the NGRA membership understand your qualifications.

If you aren't quite ready to commit yet but have questions, please contact me at president@ngra.com.

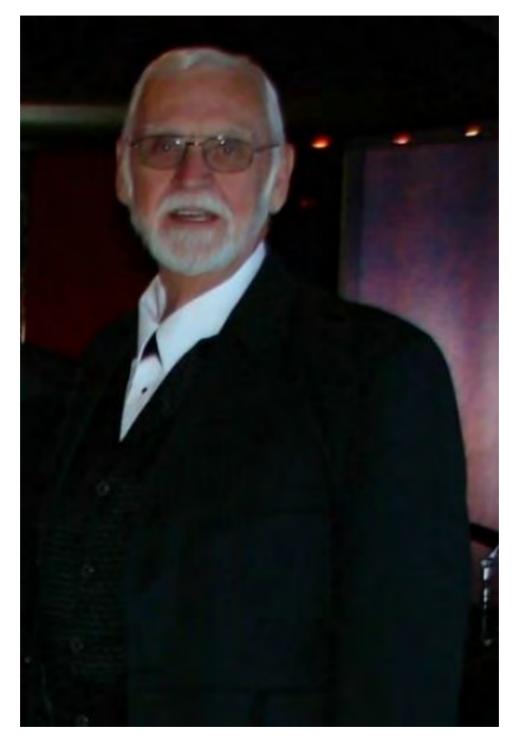
I look forward to hearing from everybody that's interested in helping to shape NGRA's future.

NGRA's Membership Coordinator Position

In our August retreat, the subject of having a "Membership Coordinator" came up. This individual will be tasked with increasing NGRA Membership, which means finding ways to keep current members, renew contact with former members, and get new people to join NGRA. This individual will be asked to think outside of the proverbial box and find ways to increase membership. Perhaps going to local businesses and asking them for membership discounts. I'd say everybody in the meeting agreed that we need incentive for people to join NGRA and right now, unless you want to be on the Board, run for Royalty, or compete in a rodeo, there's no good reason to join — we want to change that. We want your membership to mean as much to you as it does to us (the Board of Directors). If you're interested in serving NGRA, by being our Membership Coordinator, please contact me at president@ngra.com.

Ken Hruby NGRA President president@ngra.com

Tom Coleman



It is with great sadness that NGRA has learned of the death of one of its most respected members, Tom Coleman.

Tom, Mr NGRA 2007, was a staunch supporter of our Association for many years as well as being an active Man of Charlie's. Our condolences go to his husband, Harrison, and all his family. Look for more reminiscences, including those from the celebration of his life on Sunday December 4th at the Spotlight Lounge, in our December edition."

From your Vice President

The 2016 WGRF has come to an end with NGRA being proudly represented in and out of the arena. A huge thank you and congratulations goes out to all the hardworking volunteers who made sure this year's Finals went off without a hitch! Congratulations on a job well done!



IGRA Family #RideForRichard

This was a bittersweet Finals for me personally as well as many on the IGRA rodeo circuit. There was a contestant missing in the arena, and his absence was painfully noticeable. That contestant is NGRA's very first rodeo contestant, Richard Armstrong. This is the first time in many years that Richard was not able to compete at Finals, as he has done so many time in his 25+ year career.

This absence was noticed and felt strongly by NGRA's very own, Laura Scott, the WGRF Rodeo Director for 2016. A huge thank you goes out to Laura, David Smith and Jeffrey Neal, who made sure Richard still made an appearance in the rodeo arena, just on a different type of "horse"! Laura worked with the amazing folks at the South Point Equestrian Center to make sure Richard still made his yearly appearance in the arena. Not a dry eye was left in the arena as Laura, Richard and Rick made their "victory lap" around the arena to a standing ovation for Richard!



Richard, Rick Manucy & Laura on "Gator"

During this year's Grand Entry, all past Final's Champions were honored, and Richard, being a two time IGRA Finals Champion in Men's Flag Racing, was not left out. Jeffrey Burke and myself cannot express our gratitude enough to those in attendance showing their love and support for Richard. Richard was beaming ear to ear! Thank you, Laura, David and Jeffrey for making this Finals special for Richard!



Diamond & Chris

Richard was able to visit with old friends, make new friends and generally enjoy being at the Finals Rodeo. We will continue to #RideForRichard throughout his recovery and pray he will soon be back in the rodeo arena!



Deb Freeman, Diamond & Chris

This year my horse, or as Richard refers to him as "Turd", Diamond On Command, was selected as the Riderless Horse. This is an honor I take with great pride. Diamond was purchased for my late partner Russ Mowrey and was trained by Richard Armstrong. Earlier this year there was a discussion between Richard and myself that maybe the time for Diamond's retirement was getting close. At 19 years old, we want to make sure his health is forefront. Diamond showed us during the Phoenix and Palm Springs rodeos, he's not ready to retire anytime soon, placing in both rodeos with two different riders! After his parade around the arena for the riderless horse ceremony, he was then saddled up for Cynbad who competed and placed in the WGRF Flag Race riding Diamond! I want to send out a Thank You to Jeffrey Neal who selected Diamond as the riderless horse for the 2016 World Gay Rodeo Finals.

Congratulations to the Contestants, Officials, Spectators and Volunteers at the 2016 World Gay Rodeo Finals. You all showed the world how we do rodeo in Nevada! #RideForRichard

Chris Due NGRA Vice President vicepresident@ngra.com

NGRA 2017 Royalty Competition

NGRA is proud to announce that, this year, we have four candidates competing for NGRA Royalty. Kendra Jaye Litter (aka Ken Wells) and Phat Patty (aka Chris Sanders) are competing to be Miss NGRA 2017. Jason Dyer and Brian Porras are competing to be Mr NGRA 2017.

Each contestant had to raise \$250 each, either alone or in conjunction with another contestant. All contestants have now met the required target. Brian Porras has held two fundraisers: "Bear Necessities" and "Bearapalooza", raising the necessary amount for his chosen charity, Soldiers' Angels. Kendra Jaye Litter (aka Ken Wells) held her fundraiser, "Kendra Jaye Litter & Friends: A Benefit Show", raising the necessary amount for her chosen charity, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF). Phat Patty (aka Chris Sanders) and Jason Dyer held their fundraiser: "The 1st Annual MuMu Party", raising the necessary amount for their chosen charity, The Sin Sity Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Phat Patty and Jason Dyer will be holding a further fundraiser, "With Respect, Honor & Dignity" on November 11th, for their chosen charity, again The Sin Sity Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence.

Kendra Jaye Litter will be holding a further fundraiser, "Join Miss Kendra J. Litter" on November 13th for her chosen charity, this time, Heaven Can Wait Animal Society.

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.

As well as the NGRA Royalty Competition, the evening will include a Beer Bust, a Liquor Raffle, a Silent Auction and Treats.

Mark your calendars as we hope to see a lot of supporters to help cheer Kendra Jaye Litter, Phat Patty, Jason Dyer and Brian Porras as they compete for NGRA Royalty 2017.

On behalf of the men and women of NGRA, we wish them the best of luck.

Barry J Jones Royalty Competition Director royaltycompetitiondirector@ngra.com



ŵ

NGRA Royalty Competition 2017

November 26 • 9 PM

Drinks specials • Prizes • Jello shots.



5012 Arville Street • Las Vegas • 89118-1546 • 702-876-1844 • charlieslasvegas.com

November 2016 Newsletter

Men of Charlie's Contest Charlie's Saturday, October 1st

October 1st saw The Men of Charlie's contest happen once again. For those that don't know, the Men of Charlie's program began in December 1985 with the idea of printing a calendar. Originally, each man was chosen by audience applause. In 1987, Charlie's of Phoenix, added the contest, and the program was changed to a community supported fund raising event. In 1993, with the opening of Charlie's Chicago, the tradition was continued and still holds true with the newest bar in Las Vegas.

Each location continues to be committed to raising money for non-profit organizations within their community. They do this through the Man of the Month contest held each month and donating their time to organizations such as rodeo and pride.

Any man over the age of 21 can run for the Man of Charlie's. This tradition now holds over 250 members in the four locations and has given over \$1,000,000 back to the community.

On this occasion the event benefitted NGRA. Three contestants, RJ Frank, Adrian and Raymond were introduced by Sunshine, the local coordinator and vied for the honor of becoming a Man of Charlie's. by collecting money from patrons throughout the night. The contestant collecting the most being made the Man of Charlie's for October 2016.



When the monies were counted, RJ Frank (third from right), an NGRA member, was declared the Man of Charlie's for October 2016 with \$763.25 going to NGRA.

RJ Frank

Born in New York City, then at the age of 12, his family moved to the country of upstate New York amongst the Catskill and Adirondack Mountains. There he was introduced to real farm life, working on a Dairy farm milking cows, tending to and feeding the horses and learning how to ride and barrel race. In his late teens, he spent summers in Saratoga Springs, NY at the well-renown Saratoga Raceway, where his love for horses grew.

In 1999 a job promotion brought him to Florida. In 2004 he purchased a 100-year old house on 24 acres, which he then totally renovated. He opened a small- business called "Shamrock Farms", boarding and pasturing thoroughbreds and quarter horses. After the economy fell in late 2007, he sold the ranch and moved to St Petersburg mid-year 2008.

He was an active member with FGRA, attended every Rodeo in Fort Lauderdale starting with the very first one in 2005 and in 2012 he served on the Rodeo Round Table, and was the Vendor Coordinator. He served on the Executive Board of Director's as Secretary and as Treasurer. He helped with Marketing and Fundraising promoting FGRA.

He was a liaison for FGRA to promote and strengthen a more successful working relationship with the Flamingo Resort. With much success, they increased awareness to the LGBT community for both organizations in the St Petersburg/Tampa area. He served as chair-person for the St Pete Pride Pre Kick-Off Party, a fundraiser to promoted FGRA and Flamingo's Outlaw Country Fridays at the Resort. He designed and constructed a float which comprised Oversized Rodeo Buckles and was part of The Flamingo's line up for the 10th Annual St Pete Pride Parade.

RJ was active within the St Petersburg community, was a member of a LGBT Pride Bowling League, a member of the Tampa Bay Bears Club. He was the co-creator of "Outlaw Friday's" at The Flamingo resort with line dance lessons as well as open dancing on a weekly basis. He was a member of two professional line dance groups one in Albany NY called The Capital Country Kickers, and also The Florida Mavericks in St Petersburg FL. both groups would perform for various audiences raising money for Charity and the LGBT community and he also competed at the International Association of Gay/Lesbian Country Western Dance Clubs as part of a team.

In late 2015 he decided that a new year and a new beginning was needed so in March of 2016 he relocated to Las Vegas Nevada, bought a house in Providence, NV and is a Director in Healthcare Management Food Service, with over 30 years.

He joined NGRA in July 2016, has been an assistant director with the fundraising committee to help with promoting NGRA and raising more awareness and money for Charity.

RJ joins the many NGRA members who are also Men of Charlie's

Thanks to Charlie's and everyone who helped on the night.

2016 PRIDE Parade Downtown, Las Vegas Friday, October 21st



NGRA again entered a float based on Matt Todd's trailer into the Pride Parade. Well done to Matt and all his helpers for their efforts.



A large contingent representing WGRF followed our NGRA float



Following behind the NGRA float, came the Men of Charlies walking group which went on to win the award for the best walking group.



Page 15 of 62



Mr NGRA 2016 and Man of Charlie's, Phil Lombardi, with Mr NGRA 2017 Contestant, Brian Porras, collecting the award in Sunset Park, with the dust of rodeo still on their boots.

Announcement of IGRA 2017 Royalty Team



Miss IGRA - Kelly O'Neil Miss IGRA 1st Runner Up - Nikki Starr Miss IGRA 2nd Runner Up - Yolanda DeHerrera

Mr IGRA - Mark Christiansen Mr IGRA 1st Runner Up - Tennent Emmons Mr IGRA 2nd Runner Up - Rickey Phoummany

Ms IGRA - Allyson Paige Henry

IGRA 2016 Royalty Step Down



Miss IGRA 2016 1st Runner Up, Taylor Trash, and Mr IGRA 2016 2nd Runner Up, Dawg, during their Step Down

World Gay Rodeo Finals South Point Arena & Equestrian Center October 20th to 23rd

The Ladies of NGRA are once again World Champions! by Chris Due

Just like the storm that raged inside of the South Point Equestrian Center in 2015 with Shelby Scott and Stephanie Malone, it continued to rage on well into 2016. Several ladies from NGRA qualified to compete in the 2016 World Gay Rodeo Finals held at the South Point Equestrian Center on October $21^{st} - 23^{rd}$, with two taking home the hardware!

In the Pole Bending competition, there was one lady who lit up the leaderboard early on and kept that lead all the way through Saturdays competition. Tandi Remy and her mare "Skittles" streaked through the arena winning Saturday's go-round. This is something Tandi and "Skittles" would repeat on Sunday. Tandi was named, WGRF Women's Pole Bending Champion for 2016, keeping that buckle with NGRA for another year!



Tandi & Skittles

Barrel Racing was no different. Courtney Cole and her mare "China" made their presence known on Saturday by winning the go-round. With the pressure building on Sunday, Courtney and "China" made an amazing run, but were not able to capture the top spot. Still placing the go-round, Courtney

and "China's" average total on two runs was enough to give her the Finals buckle! Courtney was named WGRF Women's Barrel Racing Champion for 2016!



Courtney & China

NGRA is very proud of all our 2016 WGRF Contestants. A Huge CONGRATULATIONS goes out to Tandi and Courtney on their 2016 World Gay Rodeo Finals Championships!



Tandi with her husband and son



Courtney with some of our IGRA Family

What a Weekend by Jeffrey Neal

October 21st – 23rd was the weekend of the World Gay Rodeo Finals. But more importantly the 30th Finals rodeo that has happened since Gay Rodeo started. And this is the 40th anniversary year of that historic event in Reno, NV back in 1976.

I had the honor and privilege of being a part of this historic event – and helped to coordinate Grand Entry. I am sure your eyes just rolled – but as much as I know about our rodeo, and as many times as I have been involved with Grand Entry, I was moved by the depth and breadth our organization has in the world. The names of thirty years of Champions were read, these are people we have met, and competed beside, laughed with, and built bonds. The champions present came out and stood center stage to show and amazing portrait of diversity and talent achieved through the years.

We honored one of our own, Richard Armstrong, NGRA's first contestant, and a seasoned and accomplished horse competitor – who has done NGRA proud for several decades. Richard, who has been dealing with some severe and life-altering medical issues recently – was given the opportunity to get out of the medical facility – and be with all the friends he has made in the years and years of supporting and participating in Rodeo.

It was touching. It was amazing. It was so gratifying to know that participation can make a difference.

I look back on the past 13 years that I have been a proud and active member of NGRA – what we have accomplished and where we are headed. There is so much to do. And so many views of people that want us to do things better, or to go back to how it was done before. We are heading in a good

direction and this weekend we learned that we have finally achieved our status as a 501c(3) organization. This is huge.

But it does not help if we just let the few that have been 'holding down the fort' continue to burn out on their own. We will never be able to look back to see just how good it is to be a member of such a positive and influential organization at such a critical and motivating time for change.

I encourage all of you, my fellow-members of NGRA, to engage. You don't have to attend all the meetings – but we need to see you at the fundraisers, or helping with the committees, or providing your input via email so the Board can help to forward NGRA to its new role in the community.

I hope you get to read all about the World Gay Rodeo Finals and all the things that happened. And I hope that we see you at the upcoming Royalty Competition Thanksgiving Weekend – and engaging to show our community how amazing NGRA will be because of its proud members.

Jeffrey Neal NGRA Secretary – 2009-2017

NGRA ROCKS WGRF! by Lorry King

Those of you who were fortunate enough to attend the World Gay Rodeo finals at South Point Arena the weekend of October 22nd and 23rd saw many NGRA members working all over the arena. We're proud of our accomplishments and we all contributed to the successful running of Finals.

The Rodeo Secretary was Guy Puglisi. I was one of his Assistants and the other was Ron Trusley from AGRA. We were responsible for the secretarial supplies and forms, registration, ranking and posting of the scores and determining the money and points earned.

The Announcers were Doug Graff and Adam Johnson. They were assisted with the scoring by Bill Trunzo and the music by Marcus Grissom. Doug and Adam kept the patter going, explained the events and introduced each contestant and, in some cases, their horse!

Jeffrey Neal worked with David Smith of GSGRA to coordinate Grand Entry. This was an especially big task this year as all former Finals buckle winners were invited to enter the arena. An especially touching moment was experienced by all when Richard Armstrong entered the arena in a golf cart and was welcomed by his fellow Finals winners. Chris Due used Richard's horse, Diamond, for the Riderless Horse ceremony and brought Diamond over to Richard's side. Not a dry eye in the house!

Many NGRA members volunteered wherever needed. They included Andrew Goodman, Barry and Carolyn Jones, Bill Watkins, Chad Hinerman, David Hering, David Wells, Dawg, Taylor Trash, Traci Foxx, Phil Lombardi, and our Royalty 2017 contestants: Kendra Jaye Litter (aka Ken Wells); Phat Patty (aka Chris Sanders); Brian Porras and Jason Dyer.

And of course, the Queen of us all -- Laura Scott, the WGRF Rodeo Director. She lived and breathed this rodeo for months and did a wonderful job putting all the pieces and people together. Kudos to Laura for an excellent job and a fantastic rodeo! It'll be hard to beat!

Laura's Dream by Laura Scott

As we all know, Finals had many NGRA members lending their talents in the rodeo and the PRIDE Parade. I want to say a huge thank you to all of our volunteers and Contestants for their time and sportsmanship. While we celebrated our accomplishments we also had time to show one of our own our love and support. As many of you know, Richard Armstrong has been battling Cancer but not even that was going to keep him away from finals, cheering on his fellow competitors. There was hardly a dry eye when he made an appearance during Grand Entry, waving to the crowd then being surrounded by 30 years of finals champions. What a beautiful moment that was. I was honored to be sharing the floor with him.

We were also very lucky to have a couple members become finals champions. Congratulations to Tandy Remi and Courtney Cole on their championships in Pole Bending and Barrel Racing. Stephanie Malone got a medal in Barrel Racing on a horse she borrowed, not bad cowgirl.

Just a few of the many NGRA members who contributed that weekend, I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. You all had a part in this girl's dream becoming a reality and I am grateful.

Guy Puglisi Lorry King **Douglas Graff** Adam Johnson Bill Trunzo Marcus Grissom Jeffrey Neal Chris Due Barry & Carolyn Jones Ken and David Wells Jason Dyer & Christopher Sanders **Bill Watkins** Roger Bergmann Andrew Goodman **David Hering** Charli Phillips & Traci Foxx Taylor Trash Michael Yarbrough BBear & CBear Phil Lombardi

Secretary Assistant Secretary Announcer Announcer Announcer Cards Arena DJ Grand Entry **Riderless Horse** Volunteers Volunteers Volunteers Badges/Volunteer Volunteer IGRA Booth IGRA Booth/Web Site Arena Crew Timer Timer Volunteers Volunteer



Doug Graff, Lisa Miller and Adam Johnson



Guy Puglisi and Laura Scott

Page 24 of 62



Stephanie Malone



Joe McMullen, Kirtus Veater, Laura Scott, Bill Dee and Max Wells

Cowgirl Out~

RODEO COLORS by Lorry King

Those of you new to rodeo, and even those who have been to some, but not experts yet, may not know the significance of the different colored shirts worn by the officials. Here is a rundown:

- Black shirts -- worn by the Rodeo Director and his/her Assistants;
- Red shirts -- worn by the Judges;
- Blue shirts -- worn by the Arena Director and his/her Assistant;
- Green shirts -- worn by the Chute Coordinator and his/her Assistant and Chute Crew;
- Purple shirts -- Arena Crew Coordinator and Crew;
- Orange shirts -- Secretary, Scorekeeper and his/her Assistants, and
- Yellow shirts Timers.

Because of the shirt colors, the officials are affectionately called -- the Skittles!

World Gay Rodeo Finals Buckle Winners

All Around				
	Cowboy Cowgirl	David L Candy P		
Bull Riding				
	Cowboy Cowgirl	AJ S Not Won		
Steer Riding				
	Cowboy Cowgirl	Russell S Amanda E		
Chute Dogging				
	Cowboy Cowgirl	Drew O Lisa R		
Calf Roping on Foot				
	Cowboy Cowgirl	Greg B Shelda W		
Mounted Breakaway Roping				
	Cowboy Cowgirl	Justin D Candy P		
Barrel Racing				
	Cowboy Cowgirl	Rick M Courtney Cole		

Pole Bending

		Cowboy Cowgirl	David R Tandi Remy
Flag Race			
		Cowboy Cowgirl	Kevin E Robin C
Team Roping			
	Team		Justin D & Renita E
Steer Decoratin	g		
	Team		Sammy S & Rodeo J
Wild Drag Race			
	Team		Karen B, Phil L & Drew O
Goat Dressing			
	Team		Kevin E & BJ S

Discover events that make it worth getting out in the Summer heat!

LGBTQ+/egas

WWW.LGBTQ.VEGAS is a new community calendar dedicated to letting our local LGBTQ population know exactly what's happening in Las Vegas just for us – from family-friendly fun to fundraisers, social groups to support groups and everything in-between!

Mobile-friendly!

LCBTQ.VEGAS is managed by The Center. Questions? Email events@lgbtq.vegas

November 2016 Newsletter

Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in November:

1	Terry Freeman
1	Lorry King
1	Randy Larsen
3	Mathew Martinez
4	Shaun Franklin-Sewell
4	Gary Segal
7	Chad Hinerman
18	Barry Cluff
20	Benjamin Avant
29	Max Wells

Member of the Month

RJ Frank

RJ Frank was nominated as September Member of the Month for his unwavering support of the Fundraising Committee meetings and events.

Congratulations and thanks to RJ.

From Your Volunteer Coordinator

Well what a busy month October was. I would like to thank all those who supported NGRA in any way over the last weeks.

Firstly, our entry in the Pride Parade. Many of you came out to finish decorating the float, walking in the Parade and taking some of the decorations off afterwards. Well done. It was a great show. But this is the tip of the iceberg, all be it an important one, and I must also thank those who put in effort before and after the float appeared on the street. Those who put their own money into paying for the decorations, who helped build up the superstructure and position the sound system and so on before the parade and who spent time afterwards taking it all apart again. And well done Matt Todd for once more leading this team of people.



Matt, Buzz and Barry taking the last part of the superstructure away to be stored for next year

And then in the same breath Finals. Again great to see so many NGRA people working to make this the success it was. A wonderful weekend. But thanks must go, not just to those volunteering on the competition days but also helping with set up and tear down as well as welcoming contestants on their arrival at South Point. The hidden tasks that make it all happen.

NGRA volunteers are so valued on the circuit that I have been asked specifically if any of you would be able to volunteer to help at the AGRA rodeo in Phoenix on February 17th, 18th and 19th. If anyone plans to go and would be willing to help out, please contact me on <u>volunteers@ngra.com</u>.

Once again thank you all for your support and remember, if all goes well I shall be after you September 2017 to help with BigHorn Rodeo again. Save the dates September 22nd, 23rd and 24th.

Volunteer Coordinator Carolyn Jones volunteers@ngra.com

Fundraising

Join NGRA for Country Line Dancing every Thursday evening at Charlie's Bar. We have line dance lessons, Beer and Soda Bust, Raffles and loads of fun. It is great to see several of the old crowd coming back. See you there!

Thanksgiving is right around the corner; we will be having our "NGRA Gives Thanks" event at FLEX on November 12th, 2016. This will be an amazing event with hosted by the fabulous "KATRINA DAVENPORT". At this event, NGRA will be having a Clothing Donation Drive for Veteran's Village. Please purge your closets of gently used clothing, bedding, shoes, etc. NGRA will also this same night be collecting Food Donations for St. Therese Center HIV Outreach. Together we can help make other people's holiday happier.

Kathy Alday Fundraising Director fundraising@ngra.com

Benefits of being a Member of NGRA

Charlie's Las Vegas

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).

From Your Royalty

More Ramblings, Thoughts and Thank You from the Wolfy Mr NGRA 2016

Well it is October while I am writing this, and November is just a few days away. It has been a whirlwind of a month.



Having the Las Vegas Pride Parade and stopping by at the festival, volunteering and working at World Gay Rodeo Finals, shows and events for NGRA and the Court and planning for Drag Roulette on November 5th. Also this year has flown by personally, I cannot believe I step down from my title year in a few short weeks, and get my place in the history books. So many up and downs and the craziness that ensued, but I am proud of what I have done and accomplished. No one can ever take this experience away from me, and how it affected me.

I have so many people that impacted my year, helped out and some that just kept me sane and going even at the lowest points and when my body just wanted to give up on me. Now comes the point in my brain and the thoughts running in every direction...where to start, who to write something for and what to put down (making sure it is not too sappy). So let me start with the easy ones!



Phil at Pride with: Nikki Star - Miss AGRA 2016 and Miss IGRA 1st Runner Up 2017 and Mr IGRA 2017- Mark Christiansen

Thank you to NGRA, a great organization that accepted this crazy New Yorker from the first minute when I joined over two years ago. Helping me grow as a person and realize that there is so much more to me. A huge Thank You to David H. and Jeffrey. They have always had my back, helped guide me through the tougher times and support and help when I needed it. They knew I was a bit more off beat than others and helped wrangle that part of me in. Thank You to Ken H. for the guidance and always answering questions and emails that were sent at the oddest of times. I am proud to be your Mr.



Taylor Trash, Phil and Dawg at the Gay Pride Parade

Thank you to Taylor Trash. You were an amazing mentor to me. Helping guide me through my first Rodeo alone, and always offering suggestions and help. Making sure, I represented not only NGRA but also myself. For believing in me and supporting my decisions, with input, ideas and things that I needed to remember. And always getting that great selfie moment!

To Ryan (aka A'Lotta), if it wasn't for you, I would have never done this. You gave me a challenge, and I happily accepted it. Worked hard and I hope I made you proud. Thank you for always helping with my shows. You would grab the mic to host, stall or just sing a number to fill in a gap for me, when it was needed. You definitely have become a huge part of my family these past years.

Speaking of family...there are some people that definitely fit into this category. Let me start with Viv. Viv, you have always been there for me...helped co-host my early shows and just letting me vent to you. You are one of the biggest reasons I have this title and sash and one of the reasons I still have it! You have always been an inspiration and making me work to better myself and get to the standards that you saw in me. So Thank You Viv, and I hope I was able to make you proud. To Matthew M., you have always been there also. As a friend, a voice of reason and a helping hand. Someone that could tell I needed to breath and tell me to just stop. To Nikita, my most amazing co-hostess. You are just as crude, crass and sarcastic as I am. You have helped me step up my game, and the standards I hold myself too. You are one of the reasons I have been as successful as I have been. I love you guys so much, and know that you are definitely part of my chosen family.

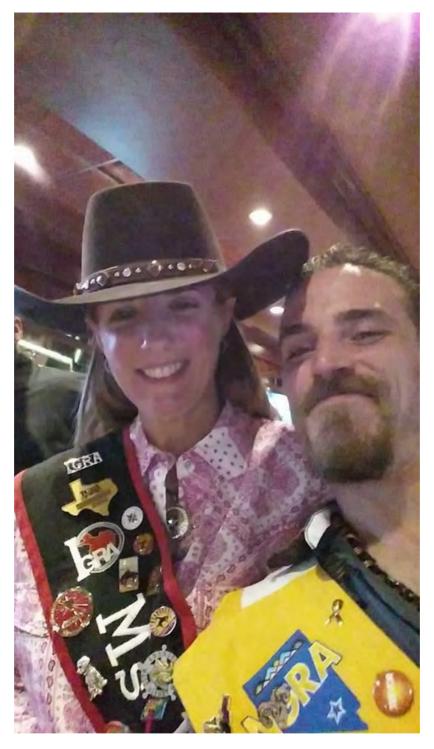
To those who helped during my events...there are so many it would take me hours to list them all. I had so many amazing performers that were willing to step up and perform to help me out. My friends, Yasmina and Nina, who have never performed for a charity event, and coming out to perform original

Belly Dances that they choreographed, and loving every moment they were on stage. To Loni (aka Maverick the Wolf Handler)...if it wasn't for you, I am not sure I would still be able to maintain some sanity during a show. You always kept me calm and were not afraid to slap me if needed to get back to reality. You really are my Wrangler. To Trouble, my most amazing raffle girl, selling me out of tickets and help with prizes. To Neda, you were always willing to step in and show your support. Selling shots, raffles, counting money or other times just getting me to stop and breathe.



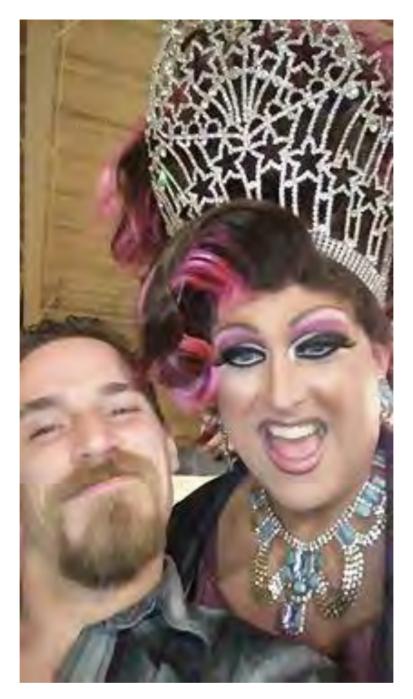
Brenda Lee ICPR 18 and I

To Brenda Lee...I owe my year to you. You have become a huge part of my heart and my partner in crime from the Court. You have always helped me out and supported me in any way possible. If it wasn't for you, I really would not have this still. I will always remember Red Dress and helping you run the show. You are an inspiration, a friend and someone I can always lean on. I am more than proud to call my friend, and know I will always be your Wolfy! 2016 has been our year and we are both going down in history together.



Mary Honeycutt - Ms. IGRA 2016 and Phil

To Mary, Mac and Rusty of The IGRA 2016 Royalty Team. You all have been such an inspiration and amazing role models... and more than that, you guys have been friends and have become my Rodeo Family. You welcomed me from the moment I met you, stood up for me and helped in any way I could ever ask for. You were always there to help and support. When I was going through really tough times, you guys checked up on me and made sure I was okay and taking care of myself. Welcoming me in Texas, the hugs and of course the Whiskey! I will be up on that stage and show you all what I learned and make sure to keep this journey going.



Phil and Empress 18 - Diana Prince

To the Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire, what a year it has been for all of us. To Diana and Matt, the two of you have made a huge impact on my year. Always welcoming me to perform and help out in any way I could. Diana, I love my four years running of Selfies with you and congrats to you both on a great year as the E&E. To KoKo and Mystee, I do not have enough words to say how much you have helped and done for me, with prizes, performances and welcoming me. I love you both, and hope to see you up there as Emperor and Empress. To Boy Earl, you are my brother/grandson/friend/partner in crime. I have learned so much from you, you were always offering the best of advice and constructive criticism. I am glad I could make you proud, and showing me what I can achieve on this path. Thank you all for being my friends and sharing this experience with me.

November 2016 Newsletter



Charli (aka Preston) and Traci at WGRF on a break from the Arena

To Charli/Preston...you...yes you...the one who picked out my clothes for competition, and makes sure I live up to the standards that you set for me and the one who still has to dress me to this day for events. You have always been there for me, as my friend. You let me break down and cry and helped me get back up, to inspire me and remind me why I am doing this. I hope, I have proven to you, the drive and all I have learned. I owe you so much and not sure I can ever pay you back for all you have done.



Phil and Traci from their last event

To Traci, my Sash Wife, my friend and the one who drives me completely and utterly crazy on a regular basis. I would have never survived my entire time in NGRA without you. You helped me from Step 1 on this journey to now. You are my equal and have always been at my side while we do this. Not many can understand the connection we have, and I know it will never stop. I guess that is why we drive each other insane and will for a very long time. So Thank You for being the fire to my gasoline, while we set this world on fire!

To Flex Cocktail Lounge; Regan, Ky and of course Todd. You have given me a space to raise my money, with the technical difficulties and the problems I always seem to cause and just in general me. Regan and Ky, always making sure I had that shot before the show would start for that bit of liquid courage. Making sure all my performers and audience were taken care of and just in general helping me deal.

To CBear, where do I even start? You are the best Handler and "Manager" a Wolfy could ask for. More than that, you are one of my best friends and know I love you. You have been there for me so much, since Day 1. Dealing with everything, understanding and knowing every step was for the better. The late nights, nights running to three events and the times we all just wanted to give up. You have helped keep me sane, on schedule and being able to stay on track. You have been here for me in some of the darkest of times and I could never ask for a better PIC! Thank you for everything...thank you for being you...just thank you!



Brenda Lee, BBear and Phil

To BBear, well damn, I do not even know what to write. If it wasn't for the Bears, I do not think I could do what I did. You are part of my pack, and one of the best friends I have ever had in my life. You have helped me in so many ways, not just with NGRA. You were there during one of the lowest points in my life, and just making sure I didn't get lost. Thank you for all your help and I am, glad you have always been there. This Wolfy owes you so much! Now let's keep the memories going and good luck for your adventures to come. You got this!

To Don, my Pup! I love you more than words can say. You have been there for so many countless conversations, late hours and just letting me vent in every way possible. Supporting me from Texas and being here for me in so many different ways. I know the Rodeo wasn't your thing, but you were there so much for me in Texas and shared the experience with me. Thank you for making my vacation after Rodeo something I will never forget. You came out to support me during competition and made sure I was okay and kept the nerves under control. You really are the more normal one of us two and thank you for that. Luck brought us together years ago, and I am glad you made that trip to Vegas and were willing to take a chance. Ruff Ruff!!!! You know I am still into you, and that won't change anytime soon!

I am starting to get sappy over here, so thank you again to everyone. The people that have come out to support, my performers, those who donated their time, their money and especially my friends! Thank you all again for all the great memories! So if I forgot anyone, I did not mean it!

Phil Lombardi Mr NGRA 2016 mrngra@ngra.com



LINE DANCE ITH NGRA **Every Thursday at 7 PM**

"Get on the floor and dance"

Las Vegas

Line dance and two step all night long. Free lessons courtesy of Charlie's

Cowboy up. Join NGRA in a good old western night with beer bust, games, drink specials and prizes.

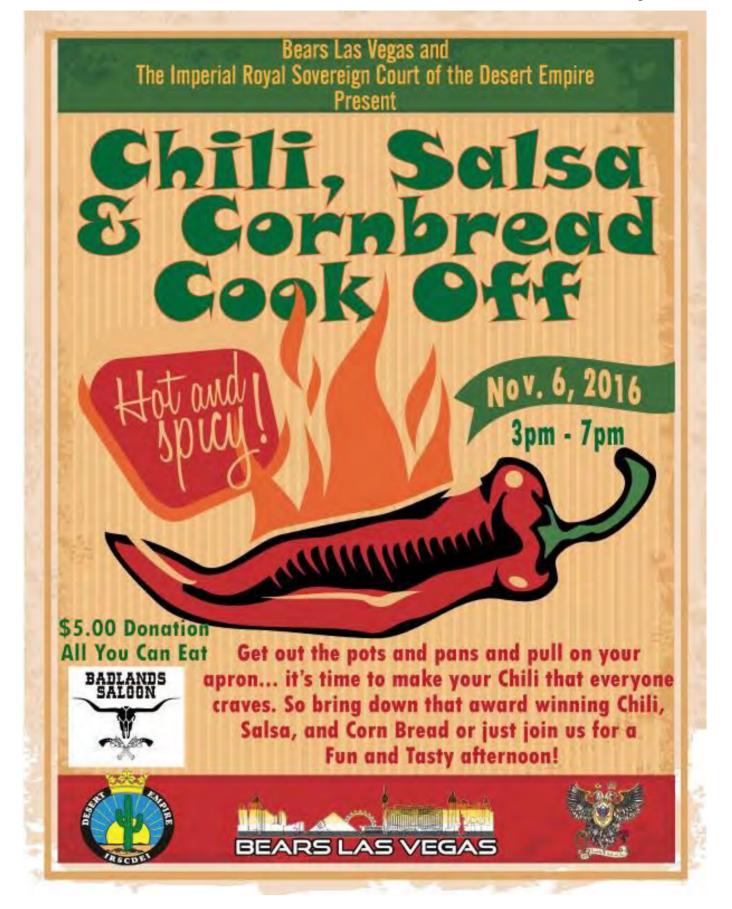
> 5012 Arville Street • Las Vegas • 89118-1546 • 702-876-1844 charlieslasvegas.com **Benefiting NGRA and BigHorn Rodeo**

harlie

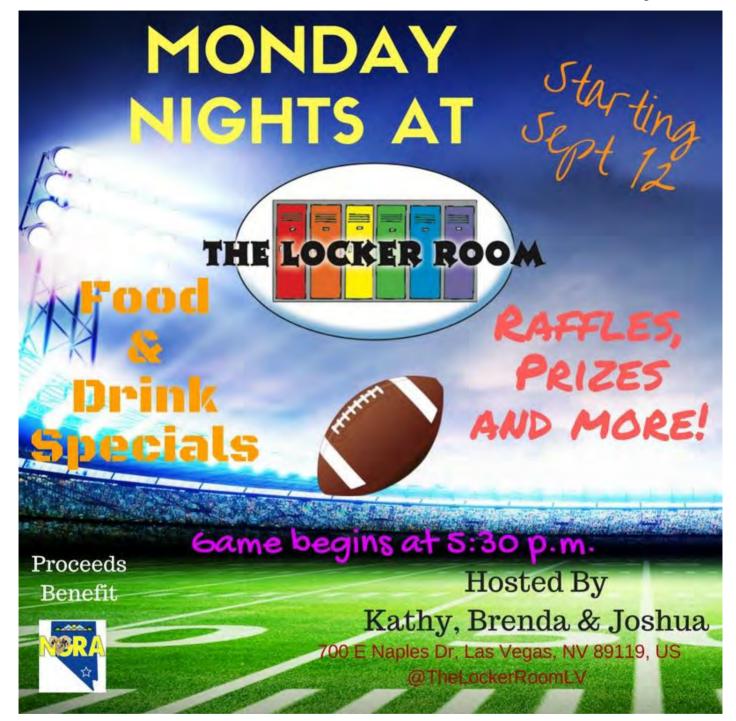
November 2016 Newsletter



Page 44 of 62



Page 45 of 62



November 2016 Newsletter





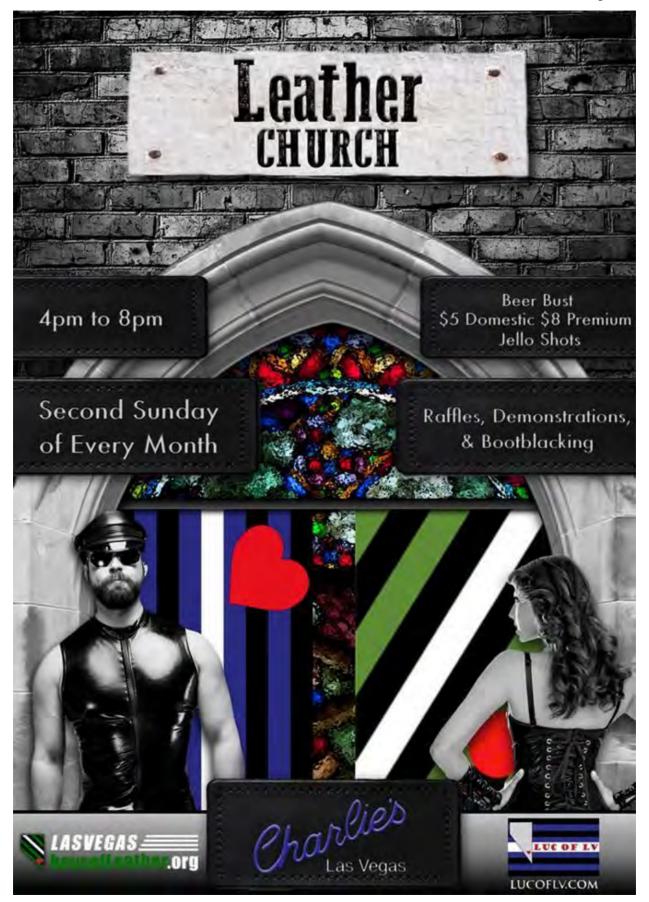
Cocktails start at 8PM Show at 9PM

> Drink Specials Games Prizes

Bring Food Donations for St. Therese Center HIV Outreach

Clothing Donation Drive for Veteran's Village

4371 W Charleston Blvd Las Vegas,NV 702• 878•3355 Proceed benefit NGRA and BigHorn Rodeo



Page 49 of 62



IGRA Convention November 18-20 Austin, Texas Wyndham Garden Hotel

For more information: Visit www.igra.com Or e-mail MaryHoneycutt at: Mhoney2323@yahoo.com





The Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire and 18th Elected Emperor Matthew Cox & 18th Elected Empress Diana Prince

> Invite you to join us in Las Vegas for: Coronation XIX





COUNTRY WINTER WONDERLAND December 10th • 9PM

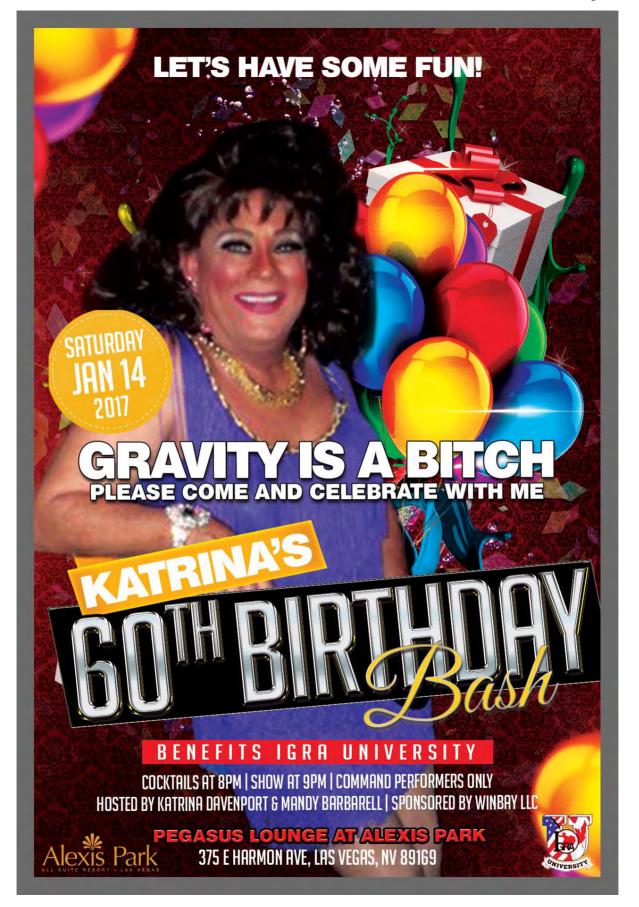
Cocktails start at 8PM show at 9PM Prizes • Games • Special Drinks Hosted by NGRA 2017 Royalty

> Ugly Sweater Contest and Snowball Fight

Bring us a filled stocking with personal care items for Street Teens

4371 W Charleston Blvd Las Vegas, NV 702• 878•3355 Proceeds benefiting NGRA and BigHorn Rodeo

COCKTAIL LOUNGE



Calendar

November

	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
Wed 2	•	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
2	6:30 pm	Mickey & Minnie Bingo	Las Vegas, NV 89169
Wed			Food Court, Orleans Casino,
2	6:30 pm	Fundraising Meeting	4500 West Tropicana Avenue,
-		Las Vegas, NV 89103	
Thu			Charlie's,
3	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat	0.00 pm	NGRA 2016 Royalty Team Presents:	Flex Cocktail Lounge,
5	9:00 pm		4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
		Drag Roulette Men of Charlie's	Las Vegas, NV 89102 Charlie's,
Sat	9:30 pm	Man of the Month Contest	5012 South Arville Street,
5	9.00 pm	Benefits The St Therese Center	Las Vegas, NV 89118
			Badlands Saloon,
Sun	3:00 pm	Chili, Salsa & Cornbread Cook Off	953 East Sahara Avenue, #22B,
6	0.00 pm	IRSCDE Inc. Event	Las Vegas, NV 89104
	5:30 pm	Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room,
Mon			700 East Naples Drive,
7			Las Vegas, NV 89119
Thu			Charlie's,
10	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	5012 South Arville Street,
10			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Fri		Happy Hour	Phoenix Bar & Lounge,
11	4:30 pm	IRSCDE Inc. Event	4213 West Sahara Avenue,
			Las Vegas, NV 89102
Fri	0.00	With Doopoot Honor & Dissitu	The Locker Room,
11	9:00 pm	With Respect, Honor & Dignity	700 East Naples Drive,
			Las Vegas, NV 89119 Flex Cocktail Lounge,
Sat	9:00 pm	NGRA Gives Thanks	4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
12	5.00 pm		Las Vegas, NV 89102
			Charlie's,
Sun	4:00 pm	Leather Church	5012 South Arville Street,
13			Las Vegas, NV 89118
0			The Locker Room,
Sun	5:00 pm	Join Miss Kendra J. Litter	700 East Naples Drive,
13		Candidate for Miss NGRA 2017	Las Vegas, NV 89119
Mon		Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room,
	5:30 pm		700 East Naples Drive,
14			Las Vegas, NV 89119

November (continued)

Thu 17	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
17 - 20		IGRA Annual Convention	Wyndham Garden Hotel 3401 Interstate 35 Frontage Road, Austin, TX 78741
Sat	9:00 pm	KING & QUEEN of the Desert IRSCDE Inc. Event	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
19	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	Fun Hog Ranch, 495 East Twain Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Mon 21	5:30 pm	Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room, 700 East Naples Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119
Tue 22	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Thu 24	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat 26	9:00 pm	NGRA 2017 Royalty Competition	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Mon 28	5:30 pm	Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room, 700 East Naples Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119

Please note the NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting is one day later than usual.

December

Thu 1	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
1 - 4		IRSCDE Event A Masquerade Ball: Over the Rainbow	Gold Coast Hotel & Casino 4000 West Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Sat 3	9:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest Benefits Sin Sity Sisters	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun 4	Noon	Tom Coleman: Celebration of Life	Spotlight Lounge, 975 East Sahara Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104
Mon 5	5:30 pm	Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room, 700 East Naples Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119
Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
7	6:30 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo Nutcracker Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Wed 7	6:30 pm	Fundraising Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Thu 8	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat 10	9:00 pm	Country Winter Wonderland	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102
Sun 11	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Mon 12	5:30 pm	Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room, 700 East Naples Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119
Thu 15	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat 17	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	Fun Hog Ranch, 495 East Twain Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Mon 19	5:30 pm	Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room, 700 East Naples Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119

December (continued)

Mon 19	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Thu 22	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Mon 26	5:30 pm	Kathy, Brenda & Joshua's Football	The Locker Room, 700 East Naples Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89119
Thu 29	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118

January

Wed	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
4	6:30 pm	Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
	0.00 pm		Las Vegas, NV 89169
Wed			Food Court, Orleans Casino,
4	6:30 pm	Fundraising Meeting	4500 West Tropicana Avenue,
			Las Vegas, NV 89103 Charlie's,
Thu	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	5012 South Arville Street,
5		Line Dancing	Las Vegas, NV 89118
0.1		Men of Charlie's	Charlie's,
Sat	9:30 pm	Man of the Month Contest	5012 South Arville Street,
7	·	Benefits	Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sup			Charlie's,
Sun 8	4:00 pm	Leather Church	5012 South Arville Street,
0			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Thu			Charlie's,
12	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118
			Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
12 - 15		IGRA University	375 East Harmon Avenue,
			Las Vegas, NV 89169
Set		Gravity is a Bitch:	Pegasus Lounge, Alexia Bark All Suite Begart
Sat 14	9:00 pm	Katrina Davenport's 60th	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort,
14	_	Birthday Bash	375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
			Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General	401 South Maryland Parkway,
16	oloo piii	Membership Meeting	Las Vegas, NV 89101
- ,			Charlie's,
Thu	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	5012 South Arville Street,
19	•	5	Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat			Fun Hog Ranch,
Sat 21	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	495 East Twain Avenue,
Z I			Las Vegas, NV 89169
Thu			Charlie's,
26	7:00 pm	Line Dancing	5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118

Calendar Looking ahead to key events

September

22 - 24	BigHorn 2017	Horseman's Park, 5800 East Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89122
October		
13 - 15	World Gay Rodeo Finals	Fairgrounds, Albuquerque, NM
November		

16 - 19 IGRA Convention	Location TBD	
-------------------------	--------------	--

NGRA Board of Directors Effective August 15th, 2016

NGRA Board	
President	Ken Hruby
Vice President	Chris Due
Secretary	Jeffrey Neal
Treasurer	David Hering
IGRA Trustee	Guy Puglisi
Director	Carolyn Jones
Director	Barry Jones
Director	
Fundraising Director	Kathy Alday

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 October 17th, 2016

Election Coordinator	Ken Hruby	president@ngra.com
Historian	David Wright	history@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	Chris Due	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	Brenda Lee Luce-Alday	webmaster@ngra.com