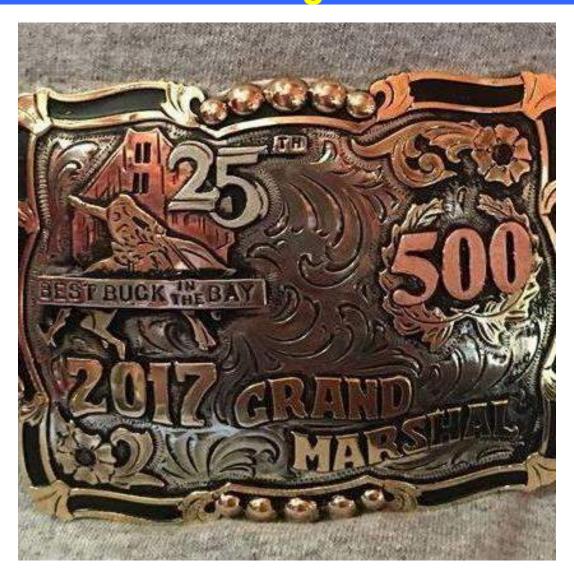


October 2017 BigHorn Gazette



Doug Graff was named as Grand Marshall at the Best Buck in the Bay

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From your President

An Amazing Rodeo

It's done and it was amazing. After a 28-month hiatus (while NGRA worked out a few logistical issues) BigHorn Rodeo returned to Southern Nevada. Our Rodeo Director, Brenda Alday, and her team did a wonderful job reinventing rodeo and making it a great weekend. Their planning, coordinating and marketing was phenomenal and it showed.

I want to personally thank Brenda, and her team for doing such an amazing job with BigHorn Rodeo 2017. You don't put a rodeo together by getting lucky and hoping for the best. It takes hundreds of hours of planning, countless meetings, phone calls, sleepless nights, and a lot of stress but the end result was a great rodeo. Well done to Brenda, Kathy, Jeffrey, and the rest of the RPC Team.

Now we sit back and wait. I certainly expect that BigHorn Rodeo 2017 was profitable but we won't know for a while yet. There are still checks coming in and bills to be paid. We hope that after all the bills are paid, there will be enough money left over to give sizable donations to our two charities — Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth and Windy's Ranch and Rescue.

Next up: BigHorn Rodeo 2018. We'll probably take a few weeks off but not long. As I said earlier, it takes a lot of planning to put on a rodeo so we can't wait until next year to get started. Planning for the 2018 rodeo will begin very soon.

NGRA's Annual Election

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

- NGRA President (2-year term, starting January 1st, 2018) **
- NGRA Secretary (2-year term, starting January 1st, 2018) **
- Three (3) Director at Large Positions (1-year term, starting January 1st, 2018)

**We already know that the current President and current Secretary will not be re-running so these two, vital positions are open and we need people to step up.

The cutoff for announcing your candidacy is noon on Monday, November 20th, and the election will begin shortly after the November 20th meeting.

To be eligible to run for the Presidency or the Secretary positions, you must have been an NGRA member on, or before, May 26th, 2017.

To be eligible to run for one of the three Director at Large positions, you must have been an NGRA member on, or before, 24 August 24th, 2017.

If you're interested in running for one of these positions, please send an email to president@ngra.com. 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.

Ken Hruby NGRA President president@ngra.com

Member of the Year, 2016

Brenda Alday

Brenda Alday was elected as Member of the Year, 2016.

Congratulations and thanks to Brenda.

Chris Due NGRA Vice President vicepresident@ngra.com

Best Buck in the Bay Russian River Rodeo Grounds September 15th – 17th

NGRA showed up loud and proud at the Best Buck in the Bay Rodeo the weekend before BigHorn. We had four Officials -- Doug Graff and John Perez were Announcers, Guy Puglisi was the Rodeo Secretary and Lorry King was his Assistant. John did a great job in keeping the music upbeat and energizing the crowd. Because of a shortage of timers, Lorry timed in addition to her Secretarial duties.



Doug was pleasantly surprised by being named as the Grand Marshal. It is a welldeserved honor. Doug lived in California and was an active member of **GSGRA** before he moved to fabulous Las Vegas. He was their Trustee and the Rodeo Director for many Bay Area Rodeos.

Humbled, amazed. honored...don't even scratch the surface of the emotions I felt this weekend when the Best Buck in the Bay! named as the Grand Marshal for the 500th Gay Rodeo. Thank you so much to the Bay Area Chapter for placing this honor on me. amount of pride I feel for this rodeo and the years of camaraderie stop me in my tracks. I can only hope that the producers know how much this honor means to me.

Thank you!!!

We had one contestant – Matt Fain. Although Matt considers himself a roper and did win a 3rd place on Sunday in Breakaway Roping and a 4th place in Team Roping on Saturday, he also won a 7th place on Saturday and an 8th place on Sunday in Barrels. But the best was yet to come! He entered Goat Dressing for the first time and won 1st place both days, thus ensuring him his first IGRA buckle! Then another surprise! The Bay Area awards a Rookie Buckle to the contestant who is in his/her first year of IGRA competition. Matt was one of three who qualified and since he had the most points, won the Best Buck in the Bay Rodeo Rookie Buckle.



Lorry King, Matt Fain and Guy Puglisi at the Bay Area Rodeo Matt holds his two buckles and four ribbons.



Matt's Rookie Buckle

Best Scores

All Around

Cowboy Cowgirl Greg B Candy P

Bull Riding

Cowboy Cowgirl Chris T

Bareback / Bronc

Cowboy Cowgirl

Steer Riding

Cowboy Cowgirl Chris T

Chute Dogging

Cowboy Cowgirl Sammy S Janet S

Calf Roping on Foot

Cowboy Cowgirl Greg B Bernice R

Mounted Breakaway Roping

Cowboy Cowgirl Greg B Candy P

Barrel Racing

Cowboy Cowgirl Pepe L Kirsten W Pole Bending

Cowboy David L Cowgirl Candy P

Flag Race

Cowboy David L Cowgirl Candy P

Team Roping

Team Greg B & David L

Steer Decorating

Team Luke D & Candy P

Wild Drag Race

Team Chris B, Craig M & Julie C

Goat Dressing

Team Pepe L & Matt F

Contestant in **bold** is an NGRA Member.

BigHorn Rodeo 2017 Horseman's Park September 22nd – 24th



Chris Due won the #Ride for Richard Buckle

Team NGRA Scores Ribbons at BigHorn

Five NGRA contestants won ribbons at Bighorn Rodeo September 23rd – 24th, including two new contestants.

Our Vice President, Chris Due, won 8th place on Saturday in Goat Dressing, 8th place on Sunday in Barrels and 6th place on Sunday in Flags. His Goat Dressing partner was Jordan Mevius, a new contestant, who also won 1st place in Barrels on Saturday.

Britany Davis won 4th place on Saturday in Poles and 6th place on Sunday in Barrels.

Another new contestant, Zeanne Hesterman, won 8th place on Saturday in Poles and 5th place and 3rd place in Barrels.

Matt Fain won 3rd place and 2nd place in Breakaway Roping, putting him in 2nd place for the weekend, as well as 1st place on Saturday in Goat Dressing, and in Team Roping on Sunday, he won 3rd place as Header and 5th place as Heeler.

Best Scores

	DC31 C001C3		
All Around			
	Cowboy Cowgirl	David L Carla B	
Bull Riding			
	Cowboy Cowgirl		
Bareback / Bronc			
	Cowboy Cowgirl		
Steer Riding			
	Cowboy Cowgirl	Wade E	
Chute Dogging			
	Cowboy Cowgirl	Chuck B Janet S	

Calf Roping on Foot

Cowboy Drew O
Cowgirl Kirsten W

Mounted Breakaway Roping

Cowboy Greg B Cowgirl Pam H

Barrel Racing

Cowboy Travis N Cowgirl Rhonda D

Pole Bending

Cowboy David L Cowgirl Renita E

Flag Race

Cowboy Drew O Cowgirl Janet S

Team Roping

Team Carla B & Wade E

Steer Decorating

Team Luke D & Candy P

Wild Drag Race

Team Greg B, David L & Cynbad P

Goat Dressing

Team David M & BJ S



Support Nevada Gay Rodeo Association (NGRA) every time you shop at Smith's.

Signing up is free and easy!

- 1. Go to SmithsFoodandDrug.com/inspire
- Sign into your digital account or choose "Create an Account" and fill in the information.
- Link your Rewards Card to your organization: Enter your organization's number "RN731" or at least 3 letters of your organization's name and click 'Search', select the organization and choose 'Save'.

Then, every time you shop at Smith's with your Rewards Card, they donate 0.5% of your total order to our nonprofit.*

Helpful Information

What nurchases qualify?

Just about everything you purchase during your regular shopping trips! The only exclusions are alcohol, tobacco, postage stamps, Smith's Gift Cards, re-loadable Gift Cards and debit cards, lottery and promotional tickets, Western Union, fuel and sales tax.

Remember, there's no cost to participate in this program, and you'll still earn fuel points on eligible purchases every time you shop.

*0.5% based on eligible purchases.
See Helpful Information for exclusions.



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

LGBTQ*/legas*

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!

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

Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in October:

1	RJ Frank
7	Lance Coss
10	Brenda Alday
15	Christopher Sanders
16	John Gomes
30	Chris Helper

Welcome to the NGRA Corral

Jesus Cano

Member of the Month

Jesus Cano

Jesus Cano was nominated as August Member of the Month for the outstanding job on the upcoming Rodeo Program.

Congratulations and thanks to Jesus.

Trustee's News

We still need one Delegate to represent NGRA at the IGRA Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas on November $10^{th} - 12^{th}$. If you need more information on duties or would like to volunteer, please contact me.

At the September Board of Directors Meeting, the Board voted to apply to IGRA to hold BigHorn Rodeo 2018 on September 21st – 23rd at Horseman's Park. The application will be presented at the IGRA Board of Directors Meeting at Convention.

I'm sorry to report that the Florida Georgia Rodeo Association has dissolved and no longer exists.

Lorry King
Trustee
trustee@ngra.com

From Your Volunteer Coordinator

Well rodeo is over and your next chance to help NGRA is at the Pride Festival. The Festival is again at Sunset Park on October 21st and 22nd. Many thanks to those who have already told me they have volunteered to earn cash for NGRA.

Here is a link to the Pride website where you can volunteer your time.

http://lasvegaspride.org/get-involved/volunteer/

When you have signed up with Pride please let me know and when you have completed your work slot again let me know. This will enable me to ensure that NGRA knows how much you have all earned to support us.

If you have any questions please come back to me at the address below.

Carolyn Jones Volunteer Coordinator volunteers@ngra.com

Director - David Wright

It's BigHorn Rodeo time and this year I was not going to miss it. I love working in the Arena Crew. I've worked it three times before and for me it feels great to be an active part of it as it is very unlikely I will ever be a competitor. I have been working backstage is shows on the Strip and was able afford to take time off to volunteer, but work has become few and far between these past several years. So, when you have a job, you don't take time off because you don't know how long it will last or when another one may be available. Well, now I have a job that I can take time off. I usually take unpaid time off, but have accrued quite a few sick hours and figured, hell, I'll do what I want to do and get paid for it too and put in for sick time for the whole weekend. Then came karma. The night before the rodeo started I cut my hand when a water glass I was washing broke in my hand and required four stitches. Rodeo rules are that if you have a physical impairment, for your own safety, you're not allowed to work in the arena. I volunteered for the Rodeo to work in the Rodeo and be around the competitors, horses and rough stock. The activity, the smells and the danger, the feeling of wide open spaces and being in wild country is invigorating for this city slicker. So, I settled for second best and volunteered to be a runner, which didn't sound all that exciting, but I ended up learning a lot more about rodeo and being amongst (there's an old word you don't hear much anymore) a different group of people who make rodeo possible – the time keepers and announcer.

So now I have the best seat in the house, even though there wasn't a chair for me, in the announcer's booth. I expected to find a somber group of timekeepers studiously hovering over their stop watches keeping track of time measured in one hundredths of a second and meticulously recording them on their time sheets, and an announcer too busy trying to keep track of what was going on in the arena and looking up data to keep the audience informed about the contestants, rules of rodeo and the timings of a contestants' performance. Instead I found myself surrounded by the three stooges times two who were still partying from last night. And yet with all this fun and falderal the jobs were getting done and accurately. It was great. While working the arena crew I learned about the physical layout of the arena for each event which had to be measured out and executed to assure the safety of the contestants and animals, and make sure that each contestant operated on a level playing field. Now I'm learning more about the contestants themselves.

There are so many aspects to a rodeo. The physical requirements of space and time. The legal requirements of rules and regulations. Sometimes we get so caught up in them so that we forget about the human aspect of it, but only for a moment. Because this is rodeo. What other sport can you think of where the contestants root for each other? Share in each other's pain and disappointment and glory in their success. But it's not just the contestants. Although they're not allowed to show it or let it affect their judgment, the officials and crews also moan if a contestant knocks over a pole, gasps if a horse or rider is suddenly in harm's way and celebrates the successful completion of an event. Where else can you find that?

It is a truly unique sport that we are able to present to the world. Long Live Rodeo.

David C Wright
Director
director1@ngra.com

Historian's Update

You just can't go back. This rapidly approaching septuagenarian learned this when he tried to go back to his college for something he felt he had lost there after failing his first year. I was in the Navy then and back then you had to travel in uniform, so when I appeared on campus in uniform I stuck out like a sore thumb. I found my classmates from the year before and tried to get back that feeling of belonging there. It didn't work. That time had passed and we were not in the same world anymore nor in the same time. And I learned then that you just can't go back.

This thought came to me while at this year's BigHorn Rodeo, where I had volunteered as a runner. I was trying to get from the announcer's booth to the secretary's office with the timing sheets of the last event, but my way was barred by a bull which was being kept in the alley while its fellow bulls were doing their thing in the arena. This was done so that the wrangler could take them all at once to their holding pen. But this fella didn't want to wait, he wanted to go 'home' now and frantically searched to find a way to do it. So, I was willing not to share his space with him and waited too. While waiting I studied him closely to learn how a bull behaves in such a situation. Then Bruno, I sort of bonded with him and gave him that name, was having a super angst attack and was willing to do anything to get home. I was shocked when this big ass bull got down on his front knees, stuck his snout under the bottom rail of the gate and tried to crawl under it. Hell, I couldn't crawl under that narrow opening, yet Bruno must have remembered being successfully doing this when he was a calf and was trying to do it now. He couldn't figure out why this wasn't working. Sorry Red, I later learned his name was Red, but you just can't go back.

I have very few regrets in my life feeling that I had made the best decisions I could with the information and experiences that I had accrued. (There I go again using words that few people use anymore. But you must admit it sounds very erudite.)

I had that feeling again this weekend when I went to a bar that during its first few years I had great times and great friends. But the bar had changed in a number of ways over the years as had I. Now there was a new innovation planted in the center of what was a large and beautiful dance floor. I was upset. This isn't the way it was. And I admitted to myself that this is now and not then. Things have changed and will continue to change.

There are many people in our country who want to go back to the way it was. Like, when it was populated only by true Americans. That started when the Native Americans didn't want white people in their land. It didn't work then and it won't work now. We can't go back. Things have changed. The gays are not going back into the closet. Women are not going back to being confined in the home. Blacks are not going back to being second class citizens. It just isn't going to happen.

Going back is a "was". They call it History. We need to engage those who think that way and show them that it does not have the answers to our problems today. And the first step is for each one of us to acknowledge it in our own private lives. If something happened yesterday that displeased us, rehashing it today is not solving it. But working to prevent it from happening again will.

David C Wright
Historian and Story Teller
history@ngra.com



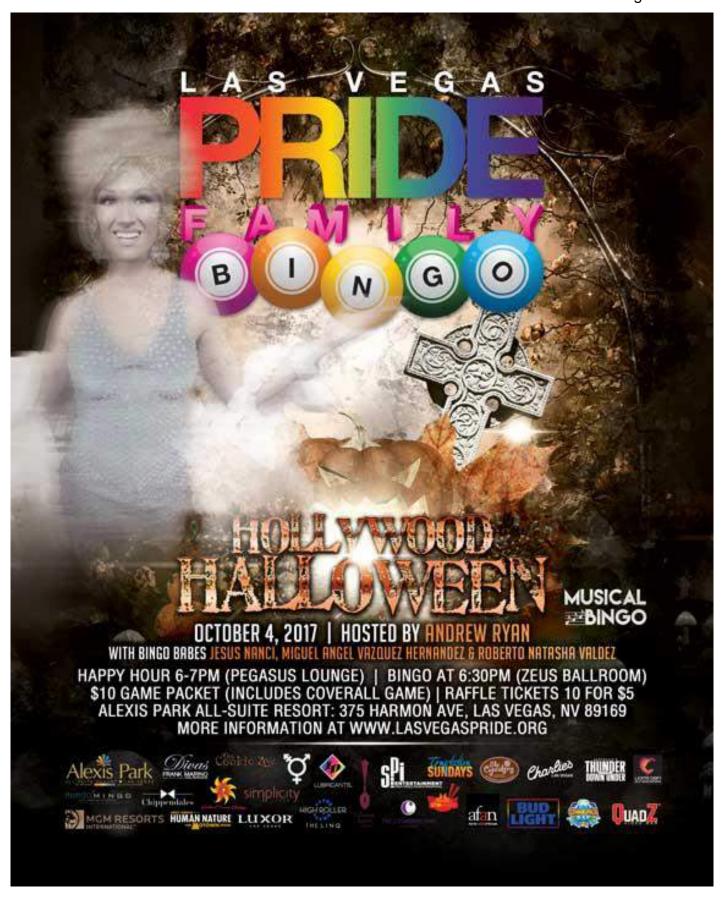
Benefits of being a Member of NGRA



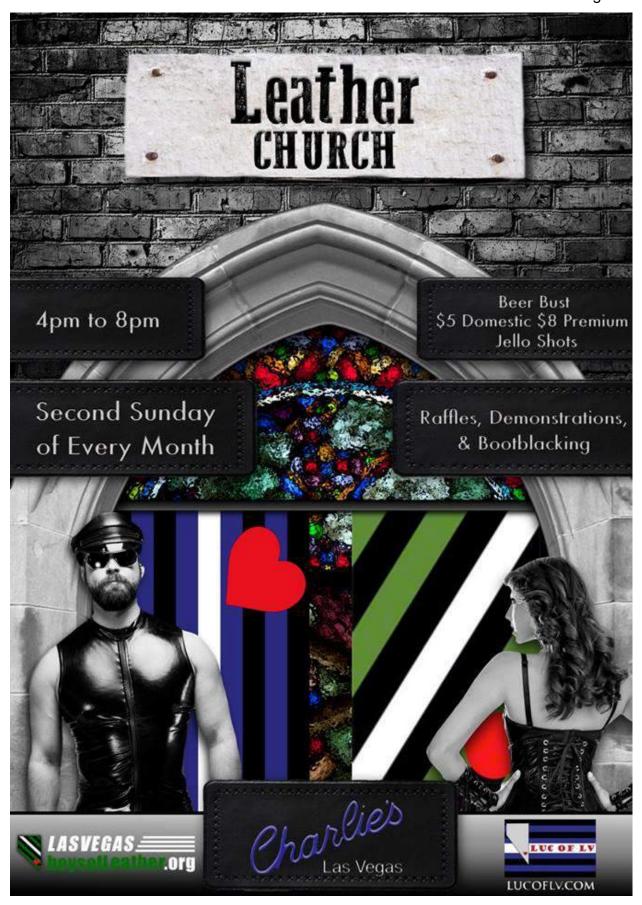
25% off all regularly priced drinks at Charlie's Las Vegas. Charlie's is offering 25% off, on regularly priced drinks, to all NGRA Members who are wearing their nametag in the bar. This special is 24/7, 365 so be sure to wear your nametag. (Drink specials such as beer bust, happy hour, shot specials,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



NGRA Members get 10% off on Full Price Items.





















Calendar

October

	6:00 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour"	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort.
Wed		Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo	375 East Harmon Avenue,
4 6:30 pm		Hollywood Halloween Musical Bingo	Las Vegas, NV 89169
		ындо	Food Court, Orleans Casino,
Thu 5	7:00 pm	Fundraising Meeting	4500 West Tropicana Avenue,
<u> </u>			Las Vegas, NV 89103
Sat		Men of Charlie's	Charlie's,
7	9:30 pm	Man of the Month Contest	5012 South Arville Street,
-		Benefits The NGRA	Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun	4.00	Leader Olevel	Charlie's,
8	4:00 pm	Leather Church	5012 South Arville Street,
			Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat	0.00 pm	Magguerodo Pall	Flex Cocktail Lounge,
14	14 9:00 pm	Masquerade Ball	4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102
			Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General	401 South Maryland Parkway,
16	o.oo piii	Membership Meeting	Las Vegas, NV 89101
			Expo NM Indoor Horse Arena
20 – 22		World Gay Rodeo Finals	300 San Pedro Drive NE,
			Albuquerque, NM 87108
Fri			South 4th Street & East Bridger
20	8:00 pm	Pride Parade	Avenue
20			Las Vegas, NV 89101
			Sunset Park
21 & 22		Pride Festival	2601 East Sunset Road
			Las Vegas, NV 89120
Sat	40.00	0: 1 1 0: 1 1: 11	Fun Hog Ranch,
21	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	495 East Twain Avenue,
			Las Vegas, NV 89169

Calendar (continued)

November

Thu 2	7:00 pm	Fundraising Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Sat 4	9:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest Benefits The Saint Therese Center HIV Outreach	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
9 – 12		IGRA Convention	Holiday Inn Airport Conference/Hotel, 3201 Bankhead Drive, Little Rock, AR 72206
Sat 11	9:00 pm	Armed Forces Salute	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102
Sat 11		Men of Charlie's Bar Crawl	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sun	3:00 pm	Chili/Salsa/Corn Bread Competition IRSCDE Inc Event	Badlands Saloon, 953 East Sahara Avenue #22B, Las Vegas, NV 89104
12 4:00 pm	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat 18	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	Fun Hog Ranch, 495 East Twain Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Mon 20	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sat 25	9:00 pm	Royalty Competition	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118

Calendar (continued)

December

Sat 2	9:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest Benefits The Sin Sity Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Thu 7	7:00 pm	Fundraising Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Sat 9	9:00 pm	Not So Silent Night	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102
Sat 9		Coronation XX: Big Trouble in Little Vegas IRSCDE Inc Event	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort, 375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sun 10	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat 16	9:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Year Contest Benefits The Sin Sity Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, the NGRA – Nevada Gay Rodeo Association, The Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada and The Saint Therese Center HIV Outreach	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Sat 16	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	Fun Hog Ranch, 495 East Twain Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Mon 18	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101

Calendar Looking ahead to key events

January 2018

12 – 14	IGRA University	Oklahoma Citv. OK

October 2018

25 – 28 World Gay R	Rodeo Finals Scottsda	e, AZ
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NGRA Board of Directors

Effective September 18th, 2017

NGRA Board ngrabod@ngra.com

President Ken Hruby <u>president@ngra.com</u>

Vice President Chris Due <u>vicepresident@ngra.com</u>

Secretary Jeffrey Neal <u>secretary@ngra.com</u>

Treasurer David Hering treasurer@ngra.com

IGRA Trustee Lorry King <u>trustee@ngra.com</u>

Director David Wright <u>director1@ngra.com</u>

Director Doug Graff <u>director2@ngra.com</u>

Director Kathy Alday <u>director3@ngra.com</u>

Fundraising Director Chris Sanders <u>fundraising@ngra.com</u>

NGRA 2017 Royalty

Effective May 5th, 2017

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

Miss NGRA Phat Patty <u>missngra2017@ngra.com</u>

Mr NGRA Brian Porras <u>mrngra2017@ngra.com</u>

Mr NGRA 1st Runner Up Jason Dyer

Committee Chairs Effective August 21st, 2017

Historian	David Wright	history@ngra.com
Membership	Chris Due	membership@ngra.com
Newsletter Editor	Barry Jones	news@ngra.com
PR / Marketing Director	Open Seat	pr@ngra.com
Rodeo Director	Brenda Lee Luce-Alday	rodeodirector@ngra.com
Royalty Competition Director	Doug Graff	rcrdir@ngra.com
Sponsorship	Stewart Black	sponsors@ngra.com
Volunteers	Carolyn Jones	volunteers@ngra.com
Webmaster	David Hering	webmaster@ngra.com