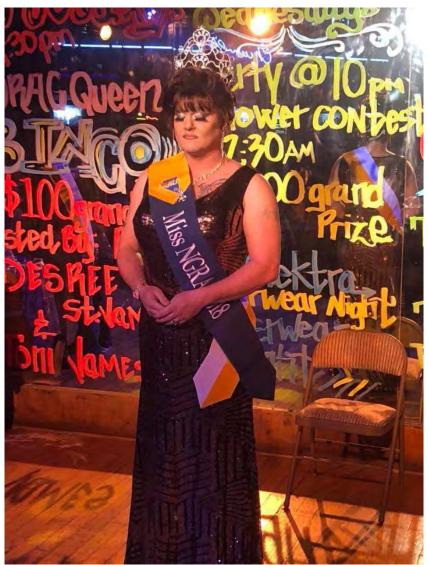


December 2017 BigHorn Gazette



Miss NGRA 2018 - Christina Wayves

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From your President

Thank you, NGRA

My term as the President of NGRA is about up and I'd like to thank everybody that made the last 29 months so wonderful.

When I first became President, I had two goals for NGRA:

- 1) Get approved as a 501(c)(3) Organization and
- 2) Bring rodeo back to NGRA.

I'm leaving this post, feeling very fulfilled because both goals have been met. I'm not taking credit for either of those things happening; however, I was blessed to be on the Board during such a crucial time in NGRA's history. The 501(c)(3) status had eluded NGRA for quite some time so it was a huge victory for the entire organization. As far as BigHorn Rodeo goes, we only skipped one year but that was enough. I had plenty of people, within IGRA, telling me we had to be careful. The more years you go without a rodeo, the harder it is to bring it back. Not only did we bring rodeo back in 2017, we were able to give \$10,000 to local charities. Like I said, I was blessed to be on the Board during such a crucial time in NGRA's history. Over the last 29 months, I've worked with some amazing people within NGRA, IGRA and other Las Vegas-based gay organizations. It's been a pleasure to represent NGRA. Thank you to everybody who helped make it such a memorable experience.

Ken Hruby NGRA President president@ngra.com

An Important Announcement about the World Gay Rodeo Finals® 2018

Dear IGRA Members,

As you know, IGRA chose Scottsdale, AZ and the West World Arena as the venue for *World Gay Rodeo Finals*® 2018. However, after a review of the contract, the related finances and budget, and, some misinformation about the potential City of Scottsdale grants funding process, the Board convened a special meeting and discussed the financial realities, pros and cons of the Scottsdale choice based on the updated information. The budget and contract for West World did not contain sufficient clarity for the IGRA BOD to confidently recommend signature of the contract by the president at this time. Alternates were thoroughly discussed and, due to a sense of urgency to initiate a financially viable plan for a well-organized WGRF 2018, it was decided, by a *unanimous vote* to relocate WGRF 2018 to Denton, Texas where IGRA has full control over all the revenue producing elements needed to make a financially successful event.

The Board fully recognizes the potential impact to contestants, who were hoping and expecting to travel to Scottsdale for WGRF 2018. However the best interests of the organization was the driving force for the decision.

The Board of Directors is asking for your understanding and support of this decision, your participation in the WGRF 2018 and we hope to stage a fun and profitable event. Please speak with your Trustee if you have questions, or email me directly.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, Candy Pratt IGRA President IgraCandy@yahoo.com

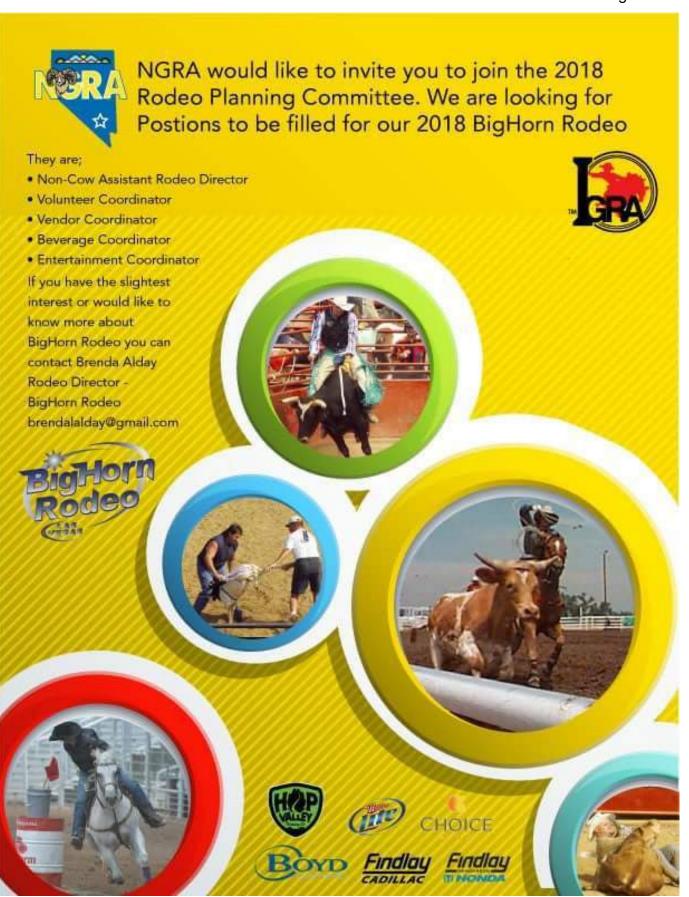




Presentation of Checks to Nevada Partnership for Homeless Youth and Windy's Ranch & Rescue

Brenda Alday Rodeo Director rodeodirector@ngra.com







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.



Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in December:

8	Joshua Gunter
11	Michael Quagrello
18	Jim Kinney
21	Carolyn Jones
26	Kelly Jones
27	Douglas Graff

Member of the Month

Matt Fain

Matt Fain was nominated as October Member of the Month for being NGRA's only contestant for Finals.

Congratulations and thanks to Matt.

From Your Volunteer Coordinator

In many ways 2017 has been a year of mixed fortunes for us all in NGRA. It was a pleasure to see BigHorn Rodeo return to profit and for NGRA to hand money to its beneficiaries. On the other hand, we were saddened by the passing of those who had been dedicated supporters of gay rodeo.

For Las Vegas itself it was a traumatic year from which it will recover.

Let us all hope that we can take the best of 2017 and build on this in 2018 to make it a happy, peaceful and successful year for us all.

I wish you all a peaceful and happy end to the year and may your God go with you into the new.

Carolyn Jones Volunteer Coordinator volunteers@ngra.com

Trustee's News

On October 31st, a special meeting of the Board of Directors of IGRA was held via conference call. The IGRA President, Bruce Gros, was removed from office for cause and the Trustee Chair, Candy Pratt of the Red River Rodeo Association, was appointed to fill out his term of office, which ends December 31st, 2018. Candy did a masterful job of chairing the IGRA Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas on November 9th - 12th, with very little notice.

NGRA had a full delegation at the Convention: Lorry King; Jeffrey Neal; Guy Puglisi; Roger Bergman; Laura Scott and Julian Jagush. Between us, we attended almost all committee meetings on Friday and Jeffrey, Guy and I attended all the Board and Trustee meetings on Thursday and Sunday.



NGRA's Delegates to Convention:

Guy Puglisi, Julian Jagush, Laura Scott, Jeffrey Neal, Lorry King and Roger Bergman

The new IGRA Executive Board was elected:

President – Candy Pratt, RRRA, incumbent

Vice President - Mary Honeycutt, TGRA

Treasurer - David Hill, CGRA, incumbent

Secretary – Ron Trusley, AGRA

Trustee Chair - Chuck Browning, SGRA

Division I Vice Chair - Steve Guidry, GSGRA

Division III Vice Chair - Sammy Simpkin, RRRA

Division IV Chair - Amy Griffin, ILGRA

IGRA University in its present form was cancelled. It will continue via YouTube, at rodeo schools and other avenues to get out needed information and skills. The first BOD meeting of 2018 was moved to the Phoenix rodeo, February 16th 2018.

Some items that came out of Convention:

- 1. During Grand Entry the Canadian flag and anthem are no longer mandatory.
- 2. Contestant entry fees have increased to \$30 but the extra \$5 will go back into the day money won by contestants.
- 3. 2018 Finals in Scottsdale, Arizona is being looked at. The arena contract is very expensive, and we may move to another location.
- 4. I appealed our fine for improper size of the steers at our rodeo and won. We will be refunded the amount we paid!
- 5. 2018 Convention will be in Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 6. There is currently a rule for rough stock riders that they cannot roll up their sleeves. Instead of a DQ, the rule was changed to a \$5 fine.
- 7. When a contestant files a Rodeo Review (protest), he/she must now pay a \$40 deposit. If the review is won by the contestant, he/she gets the \$40 back but if lost, the money goes to Finals payout.



Benjamin Avant, NGRA member and IGRA Parliamentarian



Laura and Lorry on the Trolley Tour in Little Rock

Lorry King Trustee trustee@ngra.com

NGRA's Annual Election

Please vote! Hopefully, by the time this newsletter is published, you've all voted; however, if there are any stragglers, please take the time to help mold NGRA's future. 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)

The election is happening right now and will continue until 11:59 pm on Saturday, December 16th. The President and Secretary positions have one candidate each and for the three Director positions, we only have two individuals running; however, please don't think that means the outcome is automatic. Each of the candidates needs to receive more than half of the registered votes to win. The results of the election will be announced at the next monthly meeting, Monday, December 18th. After the election, there will still be at least one Director Position to be filled as well as a Fundraising Director position, both of which will be appointed by the Board so it's not too late to get involved. If you haven't already done so, please Vote!!

Ken Hruby NGRA President president@ngra.com

Candidate for President

Kathy Alday

The LGBT community here in Las Vegas has become my home and my family since 1998. I am a current 2017 NGRA Board Member. I have been part of the organization in many different capacities, the Assistant Rodeo Director for BigHorn Rodeo 2017, Fundraising Coordinator 2016, and Vendor Coordinator for 3 BigHorn Rodeos.

I have a passion for NGRA, this is a fantastic organization. I will continue to grow our NGRA family, to share our western lifestyle, friendship and camaraderie with the community. I will lead NGRA with dignity and respect, bring experience from leadership roles, building teamwork, communication, ability to bring our sister organizations closer and action to move forward.

I would greatly appreciate your vote for President of Nevada Day Rodeo Association.

Candidate for Secretary

Chris Sanders

Hey all! I am Chris Sanders but most of you know me as Phat Patty! I am/was Miss NGRA 2017 and am Miss IGRA 2018 2nd Runner Up! This past year I was Fundraising director and got to learn the intricacies of the NGRA Board and feel I would excel at the position of Secretary! I know it is a 2-year term and am able and willing to dedicate these next two years to NGRA as well as the board of directors. In college I was on the student senate and was secretary for them, I have been on the board of directors for the Imperial Court as their publicity chair and their Coronation chairperson, so I have a wide range of experience when it comes to charitable organizations. I currently work on a specialized team at Tesla dealing with one off issues and escalations so I am use to being very detail orientated. I hope to receive your vote and know that you will not regret it!

Candidates for Director

David Wells

I am David Wells. I have been an NGRA member since 2009. Since that time I have been active with fundraising and The BigHorn Rodeo. I would like to be on the Board of Directors because I want to be more involved with moving the organization forward. I believe being more active—being on the board of directors—will allow me to help the organization grow by allowing me the opportunity to participate in more activities—beyond the monthly fundraisers and the annual rodeo.

David Wright

I am interested in continuing to serve on the Board Of Directors for the NGRA in the office of Director.

I became a member of the NGRA in June of 2007. Although not very active during my first several years due to my working hours and dividing my time between Las Vegas and Flagstaff, AZ. I did attend as many of the functions as I could. By 2012 I became more active by attend Board and General membership meetings and has served on the Arena Crew for 2 Bighorn Rodeos and a Roadrunner Rodeo for AGRA and several other volunteer positions at the Bighorn Rodeos.

I volunteered as Historian in 2014 and began organizing and inventorying our records that were in storage and since that time have completed getting digital representations of all of our BIGHORN RODEO posters and on now working on accumulating photos of our Royalty Teams since our inception. I have worked on the Fundraising Committee for 2 years and been active at the fundraising events.

I was the Dresser for Tom Coleman and Justin Meadows when they successfully ran for Mr NGRA and for Tom Coleman for his bid as Mr. IGRA. Since 2014 I have been present at the majority of the Board and General Membership meetings and in July 2017 invited to finish the term as Director of one of our members. I have endeavored to be fair and evenhanded in decisions that affect individual members and have only the desire to see the NGRA become stronger and more successful in the years to come.



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.

Fundraising

Hello NGRA Members and Friends.

It has been an amazing honor and privilege serving as your Fundraising Director for this year. We have had a lot of fun and raised a lot money. We still have one more to go at Flex. On December 9th we present A Not So Silent Night. At Charlie's on December 15th we are joining forces with the Las Vegas Vaqueros for their annual Christmas/award celebration. Hope to see you all out for both of our last fundraisers for the year.

BIG CHANGE ALERT!!!!

NGRA will still be partnering with Flex for the 2018 year. However, NGRA will be MOVING TO THE 4th SATURDAYS!!! We as a Committee felt it was in NGRA's best interest to move to the 4th Saturdays at Flex to help maximize our audience.

We are also going to be at QuadZ in 2018. We have partnered with QuadZ for Cowboy Bingo four times during the year. Those dates are February 28th, May 30th, August 29th, and November 14th. QuadZ will have a beer bust for \$8 dollars. We will be providing bingo cards, raffle prizes and bingo prizes. Be on the look-out for more information on those in the near future.

Our first three events at Flex for 2018 are:

January 27th – NGRA Snow Day in the Country. You can purchase bags of "Snowballs" to throw at the entertainers during their number for \$5.00.

February 24th – A Night of Country Duets – Drag Roulette Edition. The performers won't know who their partner or song is. You can bypass the song by paying \$5.

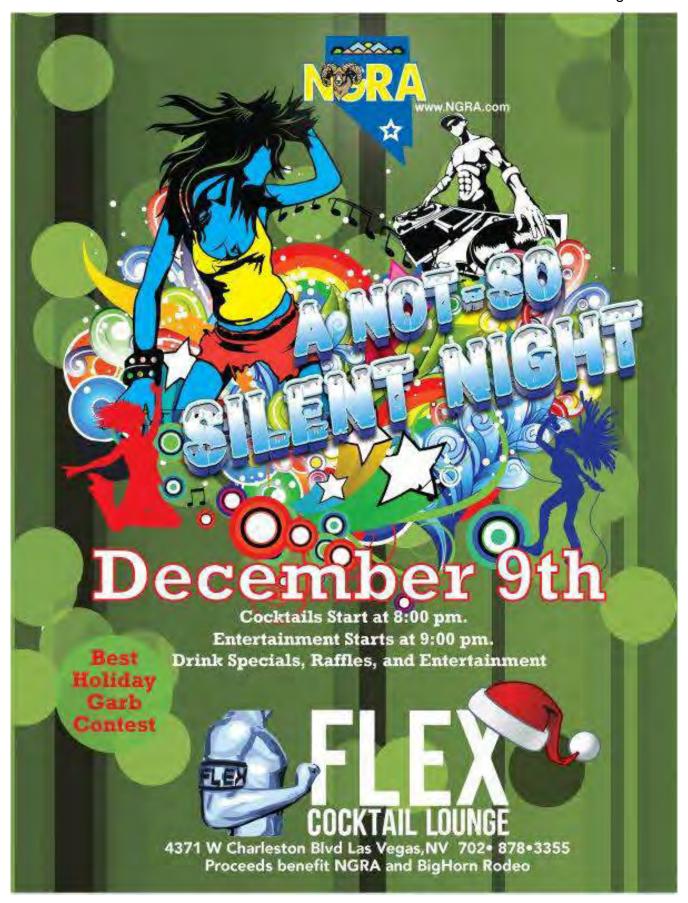
March 24th – The Gong Show. Entry into the talent portion is \$5 and the Winner will walk away with a fabulous prize!

I will not be continuing as Fundraising Director for 2018 as I will need to focus on my duties as Miss International Gay Rodeo Association 2018 2nd Runner Up. However, I will still be at most, if not all, the fundraiser doing what I do best, having fun and helping to raise money for a fantastic organization. If you are interested in becoming the next Fundraising Director for NGRA please reach out to the President!

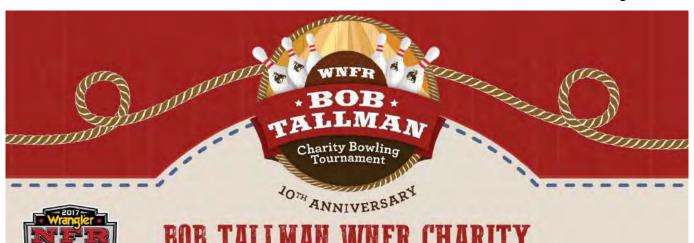
Submitted respectfully, Chris Sanders Fundraising Director fundraising@ngra.com













BOB TALLMAN WNFR

Sunday, December 10 - 10:30am to 2:00pm Gold Coast Hotel & Casino · Las Vegas, NV

Let the good times roll

EARLY-BIRD

Teams of four may sign up for \$145 BEFORE Friday, November 17. Prices go up to \$160 a team after November 17.

May register for a \$40 donation BEFORE November 17 or \$50 after this date.

EVENT SPONSORS:





BOYD













For a \$325 donation, receive one four-person team plus one celebrity bowler, corporate logo on a lane banner, promotional material in goodie bags, a free t-shirt and lunch for each player.

Party in the Fast Lane with **BOB TALLMAN**

The voice of professional rodeo and bowl with stars from WNFR!

Spare time to celebrate

our 10-YEAR BOWLING BASH with lots of surprises!







REGISTER:

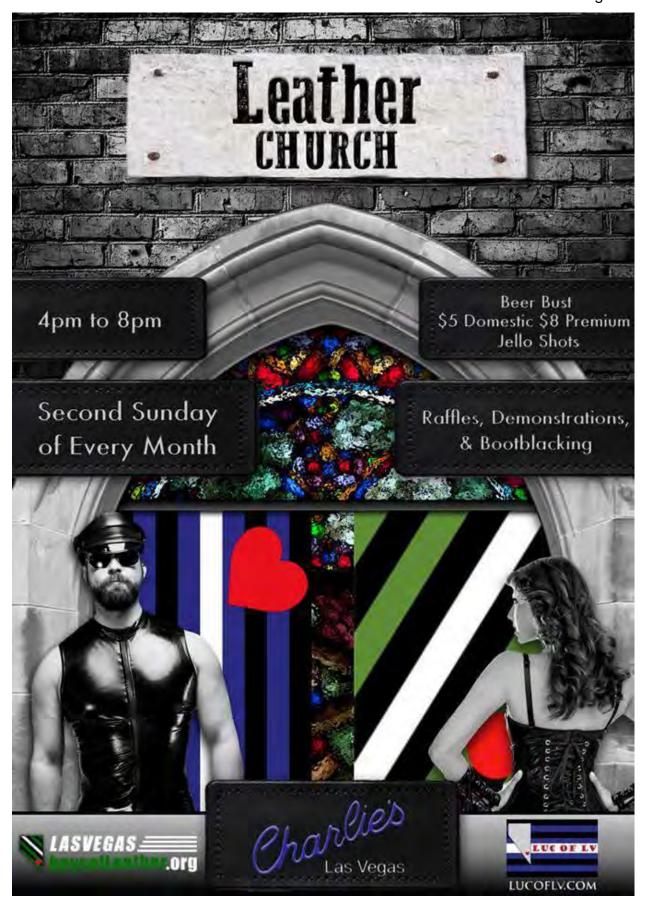
VISIT: http://www.speedwaycharities.org/lasvegas

CALL: 702-632-8242



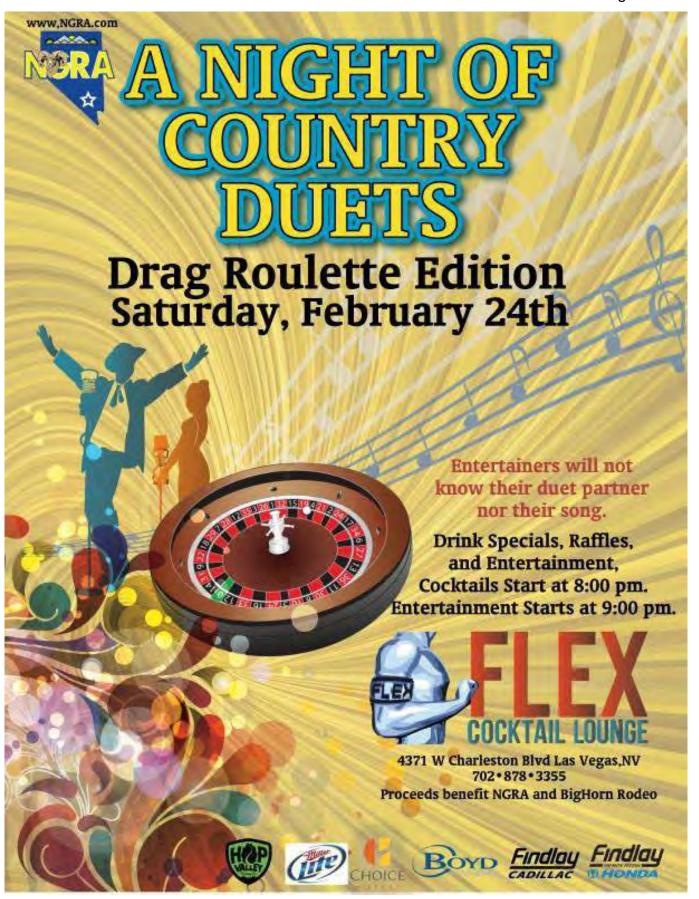














Calendar

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
Wed 6	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Las Vegas Pride "Happy Hour" Las Vegas Pride Family Bingo Onesie Holiday Bingo	Alexis Park All-Suite Resort, 375 East Harmon Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Thu 7	7:00 pm	Fundraising Meeting	Chris Sander's Residence
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	10:30 am	The Bob Tallman WNFR Charity Bowling Tournament	Gold Coast Hotel & Casino, 4000 West Flamingo Road, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Sun 10	4:00 pm	IGRA Social Event at NFR	Bahama Breeze Island Grille, 375 Hughes Center Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89109
Sun 10	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Wed 13	7:00 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Fri 15		NGRA joins forces with the Las Vegas Vaqueros for their annual Christmas/award celebration	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

Calendar (continued)

December (continued)

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

Events in **bold** are NGRA sponsored events, events involving NGRA Members, or events for which NGRA is a beneficiary.

Calendar (continued)

January

Thu 4	7:00 pm	Fundraising Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Sat 6	9:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Wed 10	7:00 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
12 – 14		Rodeo & Royalty Retreat	Various Venues
12 – 14		IGRA University Cancelled	Oklahoma City, OK
Sun 14	4:00 pm	Leather Church	Charlie's, 5012 South Arville Street, Las Vegas, NV 89118
Mon 15	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Sat 20	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	Fun Hog Ranch, 495 East Twain Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sat 27	9:00 pm	Snow Day in the Country	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102

Calendar (continued)

February

Thu 1	7:00 pm	Fundraising Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
Sat 3	9:30 pm	Men of Charlie's Man of the Month Contest	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
Mon 19	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center, 401 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89101
Wed 14	7:00 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee Meeting	Food Court, Orleans Casino, 4500 West Tropicana Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89103
16 – 18		Arizona Gay Rodeo	Corona Ranch, 7611 South 29 th Avenue, Laveen, AZ 85339
Sat 17	10:00 pm	Sister's Oink Night	Fun Hog Ranch, 495 East Twain Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89169
Sat 24	9:00 am	1 st Annual BigHorn Rodeo 5D Barrel Race	Henderson Saddle Association, 6490 Wiesner Way, Henderson, NV 89011
	9:00 pm	A Night of Country Duets – Drag Roulette Edition	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89102
Wed 28		Cowboy Bingo	QuadZ Video Bar, 4640 Paradise Rd, Las Vegas, NV 89169

Calendar Looking ahead to key events

March 2018

Sat 24	9:00 pm	The Gong Show	Flex Cocktail Lounge, 4371 West Charleston Boulevard,
			Las Vegas, NV 89102

Events in **bold** are NGRA sponsored events, events involving NGRA Members, or events for which NGRA is a beneficiary.

October 2018

25 – 28	World Gay Rodeo Finals	Denton, Texas	
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Note the change of venue for World Gay Rodeo Finals.

NGRA Board of Directors

Effective September 18th, 2017

NGRA Board	ngrabod@ngra.com
	1.5 1.6.1.5 5 6. 5 1.1.5 1.6.1.5 5 1.1.5

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 director1@ngra.com

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 2018 Royalty

Effective November 25th, 2017

NGRA Royalty Team royaltyteam@ngra.com

Miss NGRA Christina Wayves <u>missngra2018@ngra.com</u>

history@ngra.com

Committee Chairs Effective October 16th, 2017

	J	
Membership	Chris Due	membership@ngra.com
Newsletter Editor	Barry Jones	news@ngra.com

PR / Marketing Director Open Seat <u>pr@ngra.com</u>

David Wright

Historian

Rodeo Director Brenda Alday <u>rodeodirector@ngra.com</u>

Royalty Competition
Director

Doug Graff

rcrdir@ngra.com

Sponsorship Stewart Black <u>sponsors@ngra.com</u>

Volunteers Carolyn Jones <u>volunteers@ngra.com</u>

Webmaster David Hering <u>webmaster@ngra.com</u>