



**Coming soon
to an Arena
Near You**

HOOFPRINTS

Volume 3 Number 6

November - December 2003

Annual Elections! It's already time to elect a new board of directors. Nominations for officers open 30 days before the annual election on December 14, 2003. Nominations can be forwarded to the president or secretary at president@ccgra.com or secretary@ccgra.com. The annual meeting and election is scheduled for Sunday, December 14, 2003 at 2pm. The meeting and elections are hosted at the home of member, Barry Blum: **8003 Firestone Way, Antelope, CA.** *Directions!! I-80 East to Elkhorn Boulevard exit, turn left over the freeway and follow Elkhorn Blvd. to Don Julio Blvd., turn right and go north on Don Julio Blvd. After crossing Antelope Road, turn right at the next street – Poker Lane, then left at the 4th street, Firestone Way. Look for 8003 on the left after the 3-way stop.*

Immediately following the Annual Meeting and Elections, let's celebrate the holidays with our members and friends. Last year's Christmas gathering was fun and this year's is sure to be just as fun and exciting.



From Left to Right – Billy Hughes, Mike Silva, Sammy Van Galder, Les Risinger, Bryan Harris, Gary Eddy, Jeff Hollis
Not pictured: Mark Marshall

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Hoof Prints is a bi-monthly publication of the Capital Crossroads Gay Rodeo Association, Inc. of Sacramento, California and surrounding areas. The CCGRA is a 501(c)4 California Non-Profit charitable organization dedicated to the promotion and preservation of western lifestyles in the GLBT Community. Views and opinions expressed in this publication are the sole effort of the contributors and do not necessarily represent endorsement by the CCGRA. Appearance or participation in this publication does not always indicate an individual's sexual preference.

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November 2003

- 11 Veteran's Day
- 11 2004 Sierra Stampede Production Meeting
- 13 Executive Board Meeting
- 15 CCGRA fundraiser at FACES – 8PM
- 16 Membership Meeting – Lambda Center 1PM
- 27 Thanksgiving Day

December 2003

- 9 2004 Sierra Stampede Production Meeting
- 11 Executive Board Meeting
- 12 HSRA Fundraiser – 1099 Club, Reno, NV
- 14 CCGRA Annual Elections & Christmas Party – 2PM
- 20 CCGRA fundraiser at FACES – 8PM
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

January 2004

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
- 16-18 Road Runner Regional Rodeo – Phoenix, AZ
- 19 Martin Luther King Holiday
- 24 CCGRA fundraiser at FACES – 8PM

February 2004

- 13 Queen of Heart's Ball – Sonora, CA (hosted by Out in the Mother Lode)
- 13-15 IGRA University – St. Louis, MO
- 16 President's Day
- 21 CCGRA fundraiser at FACES
- 28-29 Same Sex Dance Camp 359-5229

March 2004

- 5-7 Cowtown Town Rodeo – Fort Worth, TX
- 20 CCGRA fundraiser
- 27 Stockton Coronation

SIERRA STAMPEDE RODEO 2003

August came and went so quickly and many of the supporters and sponsors of the rodeo have not received enough recognition. Our unsanctioned rodeo brought visitors and contestants from Canada, Arizona, Idaho, Oregon, Nevada as well as Good ol' California. If you see someone on the following list of sponsors and contributors that you know, please take a moment to thank them for participating and supporting Sacramento and CCGRA.

Corporate Sponsors

Markstein Beverage &
Bud Light

FACES & Club 21

The Depot

Starbucks Coffee

Analysense, Inc.

Valley Rainbow Pages

ID Lubricants

Sierra Stampede Buckles

All Around Men

Analysense, Inc.

All Around Women

Club 21

Bull Riding

RTM Collectables

& Gary Eddy

Steer Riding

Dr. Richard Johnson, Ph.D.

& Jeannie Alvis

Bronc Riding

The Depot

Chute Dogging

The Bolt

& Janet and Lori

Goat Dressing

The Cadillac Lounge

Steer Decoration

GEM Auto Wash

Wild Drag Race

FACES

Barrel Racing

Mike Silva

& Rolling Hills Realty

Pole Bending

Chris Rose

& Billy Hughes

Flag Race

PCBP/Alcal-Arcade

Calf Roping on Foot

Sacramento Valley Leathermen

& John Terry

Mounted Breakaway Roping

Diamond D Computers to Crafts

& Dilley Properties

Remembering...

CCGRA has lost two members and friends.

Todd Cantu can be remember most by his outgoing and always happy personality. Todd enriched everyone he encountered with witty humor and a big smile. Todd will be missed by the many family and friends that gathered in remembrance and celebration of life.

Lucas O'Killia was a fairly new member of CCGRA, having moved to Northern California at the beginning of this year. He brought with him a historical and very educational past.

Most followers of IGRA rodeo history know the story of Phil Ragsdale and the start of the Reno Gay Rodeos. History recognizes the founder/father of Gay Rodeo, and Lucas provided us with some of the history behind the history.

Lucas was one of the few individuals that helped in the planning and production of the first gay rodeo in Reno. On the day before the first rodeo, some of the stock had not arrived and they were told the stock would

not be available. Lucas loaded up his own horses and bucked them out as broncs. Lucas proudly displayed several of his trophy buckles won at the Reno Gay Rodeos. It is truly a piece of history.

Lucas also lived in the Bay Area many years ago and was a part of GSGRA and BAC. Lucas moved to Idaho and was one of the founding members of IDGRA before moving back to Northern California this year.

Lucas suffered head injuries when he was thrown from his horse into a metal fence. He was taken to a Roseville hospital where he was in a coma for two weeks. He developed pneumonia and passed away on Saturday, November 18, 2003.

A moment of silence was observed at both October and November membership meetings observing the passing of these two members. They have blessed our organization and their memory will remain in our hearts forever.

From the President –

Looking back over the year, 2003 was a monumental year for CCGRA. A lot of very good things happened for the organization, as well as some bad. As they say, only the tough will survive, and CCGRA has survived the good and bad and continues to be an exceptional organization in the GLBTI community. (Will someone please tell me what the “I” is for!)

The cowboy/cowgirl auction was very successful and is sure to be another fun fundraiser next year. Credits go to Shayne Garrison for putting together the event, and Mike Silva for helping out with last minute details. That is what Cooperation is all about. Barn Dance grows every year and much kudos to Jeff Barr and Bruce Balderson in all the planning for this major event.

A new activity was introduced this year with a fireworks stand during the fourth of July.



Congratulations to Gary Eddy in leading this successful fundraising activity. I know it is planned again for 2004 and will be even more successful.

Sierra Stampede Rodeo 2003 got a slow start, but with the help of ALL the members that could volunteer time – and all the community support, CCGRA once again proved that an unsanctioned rodeo is possible.

Halloween was successful and helped us out in the financial mishap that has laid a bump in the organization’s path.

Summing up the rest of the year’s good’s and bad’s, CCGRA was acknowledged by the Lambda

Com-munity Center as the “Backbone” of the community. Our membership continues to grow and surprisingly attract new members beyond the Sacramento Area. This is a very exciting fact and gives credit to the organization as an outstanding and long lasting group with goals and a

surviving purpose that is worthy of being a member.

CCGRA has also lost some very dear friends and has also been a victim of misconduct and deception. The year was proving to be one of the best ever, so why did this happen and ruin such a good year?

I asked myself that question many times and have grilled myself for allowing it to happen. After beating my head against the wall and slipping into a brief depression, I stood back up and started looking forward; not in a “What in the world are we going to do” way, but at what goals the association maintains and how to stay on track and make the membership and association stronger and better.

As it is nearing election time, I have also declined nomination for president. I have been Commander in Chief for two years and I know that the success of any organization relies in its members. It is time to pass the gavel on to someone that will accept the position with new and fresh ideas and leadership. And, as a reminder, I am not going to disappear. My first family is rodeo and my passion for them and the sport cannot be driven from me.

So, back to the goals – plain and simple, preserve our western lifestyle. I sometimes have to remind myself, but find that I must also remind our members that this organization is no longer just about “rodeo”. Rodeo is what brings us together and gives us a common bond, but over the last two years, I have seen CCGRA become important to the community. That is the one main goal that I would strive as a member to uphold. Other great things will happen and that ever-sought after recognition to IGRA will happen in time.

I wish to thank my Vice President, Mike Silva, for his organization and motivation that kept me focused on the association throughout this year.

I’d also like to extend a very necessary thank you to DL Shields for stepping into a mess and helping to sort it out and make some sense of our loss.

I also would like to extend congratulations to next year’s executive board and wish them success in continuing the growth of CCGRA.