



THE BARBED WIRE



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April 2006 Edition

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JOIN US UNDER THE LIGHTS


Wow time flies when you are having fun! It is hard to believe that it will soon be time for the Heartland Rodeo at Sarpy County Fairgrounds in Springfield Nebraska on May 20 & 21. It is going to be an event you won't want to miss! The rodeo starts at 4 PM on Saturday and will be followed by a fantastic concert featuring Nashville recording artists Steff Mahan and Tamara Marks! The best part is that your ticket to the rodeo gets you into the concert for free. Plus if you can't make it to the rodeo you can see this great show for a mere \$10 at the door. As if the rodeo wasn't entertaining enough, there is going to be a great evening of music as well! Then we are going to let you sleep in on Sunday before we start the rodeo at 12 PM. It is going to be a great time!

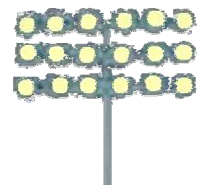
Leading up to the rodeo, HGRA will be hosting a couple of events to support the rodeo and our charity partners of Child Saving Institute, Youth Emergency Services and MCC Accessibility Fund. On April 8th we will have a yard sale at MCC in Omaha from 8 AM – 4 PM. If you are in the midst of your spring cleaning, we would love donations to the cause. Please

drop off your items at the MCC Church between 6:30 AM-7:30 AM on Saturday April 8th. The other big event in April will be our Crowns & Spurs event at DC's Saloon on April 15th from 8 PM – 11 PM. We will have a line up of our usual great talent as well as some out of town performers. It will be a great evening of music and dancing that you won't want to miss.

Our next meetings will be May 13th at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds in Springfield. If you need directions please go to our website. It is not too late to join HGRA or volunteer to make this a great rodeo season. Please contact me at president06@hgra.net if you have any questions.

I look forward to seeing you at our events and most definitely at the Heartland Rodeo May 20-21, 2006 at Sarpy County Fairgrounds, Springfield Nebraska.

Come join us under the lights!
Kathy 
HGRA President



Next General and Rodeo Meeting

May 13th at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds in Springfield from 3pm – 4:30 pm.



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HEARTLAND RODEO ROUND-UP

HEARTLAND RODEO – UNDER THE LIGHTS!

The Heartland Rodeo is going back to Springfield and will be taking place on Saturday Night and Sunday afternoon! Saturday's performances will start between 4-5pm on Saturday and noon on Sunday. Upcoming announcements about other special attractions will be forthcoming. Keep checking our website at www.hgra.net or the Barbed Wire for more information.

Net proceeds from the Heartland Rodeo will benefit MCC, Youth Emergency Services, and Child Saving Institute. HGRA has donated over \$70,000 to Omaha Charities since 2000.

BUY YOUR RODEO TICKETS ONLINE

Make plans now to attend the Heartland Rodeo May 20-21 in Springfield NE which is located 10 minutes from downtown Omaha. Tickets can be purchased using PayPal or your credit card on our website at www.hgra.net.

AWARDS DINNER

Plans for the Heartland Rodeo are in full swing! We are proud to announce that Greg Brand, Mr. LongArm, Casteel Venture Group of Omaha, and Bud Light have joined our International Sponsor, Hero Unit Productions and Logo as major sponsors of the Heartland Rodeo. After the Sunday performances end on Sunday, we will be offering dinner for \$15.00 at the fairgrounds. If you are interested in getting tickets for the dinner please contact information06@hgra.net or call 402-541-2203 We look forward to seeing everyone on May 20-21 at the Heartland Rodeo in Springfield NE.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

It takes a tremendous amount of people to put on an event like the Heartland Rodeo and we greatly appreciate those who volunteer. Anyone interested in volunteering during rodeo weekend should contact our volunteer coordinator at volunteer06@hgra.net

LOOKING FOR VENDORS

Vendor space is available for Heartland Rodeo for a fee of \$75.00 for a single booth and \$25.00 for Non-Profit Organizations. Please contact vendor06@hgra.net

HEARTLAND RODEO CONCERT

Saturday following the rodeo, we will be hosting a concert at the rodeo grounds featuring Nashville artist Steff Mahan and her band. For more information go to www.hgra.net or call 402-541-2203

2006 ROYALTY REPORT

March was a busy month for the royalty team with three successful events.

On St. Patrick's Day we hosted Green beer and Grub at Connections. We partied like the Irish and with a good turnout we sold out of Kathy's Irish Stew and Corn Beef and Cabbage. We all had a great time and raised money for the 8th Heartland Rodeo. Miss Leona's jell-o shots were the biggest hit of the evening! On the 24th of March we supported Mackie at her Friends and Royalty show at the Panic in Lincoln. Once again we had a successful show and good turn out. We were honored to be part of Mackie's final performance before she retired from the stage. Mackie, thank you for your hard work, dedication and great teamwork over the last 6 years. Saturday March 25 the same performers put on a show at Connections. The donations received were given to the Cindy Fox benefit. We had a great opportunity to support someone in our community who is dealing with major illness. We also were able to promote the rodeo. We received a lot of positive feed back that night and we hope everyone we talked to will come to the Rodeo. Your Royalty team did not stop there. On Sunday May 26, Mr. Gay Pride had a Return to the Country show at the Max. Pete, Kathy and I performed to help the Pride organization and promote the Rodeo. Our upcoming events in April will be the Garage Sale held at MCC Church on Saturday the 8th 8 AM – 4PM and a Crown and Spurs show to be held at D.Cs on the 15th with performers from HGRA, our community and out of state plus some great raffles. We look forward to seeing you all there

Ms HGRA Terri



Tom Mahony Pride Prom

For Immediate Release



Proud Horizons, Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network-Omaha (GLSEN-Omaha) and the metropolitan Omaha Gay Straight Alliances eagerly announce the Tom Mahony Pride Prom 2006 for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth and their straight allies aged 14-23 will be held Saturday, May 20 from 7-11 PM at Cary Hall in First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass, Omaha, NE. The dance, very similar to last year's, which 111 youth attended, will have a DJ, photographer, uniformed security officers and plenty of refreshments. The theme selected for this year's dance is Masquerade. Admission is \$5.00 per person, payable at the door.

Beginning this year we are dedicating our annual prom to Tom Mahony. In the mid 1990's the Omaha School Board was reviewing the student code of conduct. Tom Mahony and his wife stood with their gay son as he spoke to the school board regarding harassment he received in a gym class. Following this presentation the school board, in a nearly unanimous vote, added sexual orientation to the district's student harassment policy. Tom Mahony passed away last year. In recognition of this family's courage, the prom organizers chose to honor Tom. Dave England from Proud Horizons said, "In supporting their son, Tom and his wife were saying their son deserved the same protection from harassment as other students. It is always important for us to remember our heritage. Today's students need to know that the protection afforded them resulted from the Mahony family's action."

Proud Horizons is a youth support group for LGBT youth and their allies. Sponsored by Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Omaha Chapter, Proud Horizons provides a safe space for youth to discuss life's issues with their peers and to create a social network.

April 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 April Fools 
2 	3	4	5	6	7	8 HGRA Garage Sale at MCC Church 819 S 22nd St. Omaha NE 8am - 4pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Crowns & Spurs DC's Omaha NE
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

RODEO EVENTS

This month we are featuring 3 more events that you will see at the Heartland Rodeo. Unlike the previous events that we've covered, these will require a horse. These are known as the speed events: barrels, flags, and poles. These 3 events pit horse and rider against the clock. Negotiating the prescribed pattern is a test of the rider's skill and the horse's agility. Some of these events look easy, but try them at 30 miles per hour. Cowboy hat, boots, long sleeve shirt and jeans are required for all these events. Have fun and I hope to see you on the rodeo circuit.

Barrel Racing ~ Speed Event

Contestants vie for the fastest time in running a triangular, cloverleaf pattern around 3 barrels. The horse and rider are allowed a running start; time begins and ends as they cross a visible starting line. Knocking over a barrel results in a five second penalty. If the contestant goes off the prescribed course, they are disqualified. Fastest time wins.

Pole Bending ~ Speed Event

In this event, horse and rider compete for the fastest time, weaving a linear pattern through six equally spaced poles placed 21 feet apart. This event is more challenging for the horse, which is required to change leads as it weaves through the poles. As in barrel racing, a 5 second penalty is assessed for knocking down a pole, and a disqualification results from breaking the pattern. A winning time in pole bending is usually between 21.0-23.0 seconds.

Flag Racing ~ Speed Event

Flag racing is set on a simple, triangular course anchored by two barrels and a pole. Atop each barrel is a bucket filled with pellets and one of them displaying a flag. The rider must bring the horse as close to the barrel as possible, pick up the flag from the first bucket, race around the end pole to the second barrel and attempt to stick the flag in the second bucket. Penalty points are assessed if the bucket, barrel, or end pole are knocked over. A rider is disqualified if the second bucket or barrel is knocked over. It may look easy, but speeds in this event can reach 30 miles per hour!



Barrel Racing



Pole Bending



Flag Racing

TEAM HEARTLAND TRAVELS TO TEXAS

Members of the Heartland Gay Rodeo competed in Texas in early March. Even though we only had 4 members competing, we placed 5th out of 16 teams.

These are the final results:

Teeny C. won the buckle in chute dogging, 3rd over all in wild drag, 4th overall in goat dressing and 3rd runner-up to all around cowgirl

Roger P placed 8th in 2nd go of steer deco

Tim K 6th overall in calf roping, 5th in 1st go of flag racing, 4th overall in steer deco, 4th in 1st go of goat dressing.

Rich P. 3rd in 3rd go of calf roping, 4th overall in steer deco, 4th in 1st go of goat dressing.

The next rodeo of the 2006 IGRA rodeo season will be the Sunshine Stampede in Ft Lauderdale FL on April 7-9. For more information go to: <http://www.fgra.org>.

Remember to mark your calendars for the 8th Heartland Rodeo on May 20-21 in Springfield NE. For more information go to www.hgra.net. Hope to see you out on the circuit

Next General and Rodeo Meeting

The May meeting will be on the 13th at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds in Springfield from 3pm – 4:30 pm.

Rodeo Tickets are available at the Reading Grounds 3928 Farnam St. Omaha



the Reading Grounds
Brewing Attitudes...

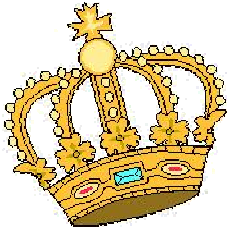
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HGRA Present



CROWNS

&

SPURS



April 15th 8-11pm

DC's Saloon

For an evening of entertainment by
some of your favorite performers

Tamara ~ Mackie ~ Matt

Miss IGRA 2004 Mandy Barbarell

Paco ~ Brandon ~ Pete

Terri ~ Kathy ~ Rick

and more

Steff Mahan



IN CONCERT

Nashville recording artist

Steff Mahan will be accompanied by her band

Tommy Keenum

Leigh Maples

Tom Butler

Nancy Gardner

Local recording artist

Tamara Marks will open the evening with songs from her newly released CD.

May 20

9:30pm

Sarpy County Fairgrounds Springfield NE

Tickets are available by calling 402-541-2203 or can be charged thru PayPal or credit card by going to www.hgra.net and accessing the concert information.

**CASTEEL VENTURE GROUP
PRESENTS**

8th Heartland Rodeo



**SARPY COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
SPRINGFIELD NE**

**SATURDAY MAY 20 4:00 PM
SUNDAY MAY 21 NOON**

Casteel Venture Group



PLEASE NOTE SATURDAY START TIME 4PM

TICKETS

\$10.00 ADVANCED

\$12.00 DAY OF RODEO

CHILD UNDER 12 FREE

**TICKETS CAN BE CHARGED BY
USING PAYPAL AT HGRA.NET OR BY
CALLING 402-541-2203**

CONCERT

NASHVILLE RECORDING ARTIST

STEFF MAHAN AND HER BAND

SATURDAY AFTER THE RODEO

FREE WITH RODEO TICKET

ALL OTHERS \$10.00