



# THE BARBED WIRE



For Information Contact HGRA PO BOX 3354 OMAHA NE 68103-0354 402-541- 2203 Information06@hgra.net

[WWW.HGRA.NET](http://WWW.HGRA.NET)

May 2006 Edition

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## It's Rodeo Time!

I hope you have marked on your calendars to be at Sarpy County Fairgrounds in Springfield on May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. It is going to be a fun filled and exciting weekend of rodeo competition and great entertainment. The Rodeo starts Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM followed by a concert at the fairgrounds featuring Nashville recording artist Steff Mahan and her band. As well that night, our Tamara Marks will be opening the show with selections from her upcoming CD. Your rodeo ticket gets you into the concert for free or \$10 at the door. On Sunday, the rodeo will start at 12:00 PM and should run to approximately 5:00 PM. Proceeds from this year's rodeo will go to Child Saving Institute, Youth Emergency Services and Metropolitan Community Church Ark of Accessibility.

A lot of planning and hard work goes into putting on a great rodeo and I would like to thank all the committee members and volunteers for everything they do. There would not be a rodeo without you.

I would also like to thank Casteel Ventures, Mr. LongArm, Bud Light, Hero Unit Productions and our other sponsors for their support of this year's rodeo. I would also like to thank the vendors and advertisers for their support and participation. Y'all help greatly in making the rodeo a great all around entertaining event.

And last but not least, all the rodeo competitors, IGRA officials and spectators. This rodeo is for you. We hope you have a safe and great time here at the Heartland Rodeo. May you see old friends, meet new ones and make wonderful memories from this year's rodeo.

Let's Rodeo

Kathy 

HGRA President

## Next General and Rodeo Meeting

May 13<sup>th</sup> at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds in Springfield from 2:30pm – 4:30 pm.



## 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 4pm on Saturday and noon on Sunday. Upcoming announcements about other special attractions will be forthcoming. Keep checking our website at [www.hgra.net](http://www.hgra.net) or the Barbed Wire for more information. The net proceeds from the Heartland Rodeo will benefit MCC, Youth Emergency Services, and Child Saving Institute. HGRA has donated over \$80,000 to Omaha Charities since 2000.

#### 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 roast beef dinner for \$12.00 at the fairgrounds. If you are interested in getting tickets for the dinner please contact [information06@hgra.net](mailto: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 week-end should contact our volunteer coordinator at [volunteers06@hgra.net](mailto:volunteers06@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](mailto:vendor06@hgra.net)

#### SILENT AUCTION ITEMS

We will have some one-of-a-kind items on our silent auction table. Here are some of the items we will be offering;

- Brokeback Mountain books and a DVD Autographed by author Annie Proulx
- Autographed Season 1 box set L Word
- Autographed boots and CD by Wanda Jackson the queen of Rock-a-Billy
- The complete set of DVD's for the 2005 IGRA Rodeo Season
- A 45 record autographed by Kenny Rogers

Tree Adventure Package – 1 night stay at Lied Lodge, breakfast for 2 and 2 passes to the Tree adventure at Arbor Day Farms

Don't miss out on this great opportunity.



# GET READY FOR THE HEARTLAND RODEO

The Heartland Rodeo presented by Casteel Venture Group will be held May 20-21 at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds in Springfield NE. More than 70 contestants from throughout the United States and Canada are scheduled to compete; several International Champions among them.

What makes this rodeo different from other rodeos is that contestants do not compete on the professional circuits. They are men and women from all across the country who will compete in any or all rodeo events. Another important difference is that the goal of the rodeo is to raise money for charity. Since 2000, HGRA has donated over \$80,000 to local charities. Our charity partners for 2006 are: Youth Emergency Services, Child Saving Institute and MCC Arch of Accessibility .



This year's rodeo will begin at 4pm on Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup> and immediately following the rodeo Nashville recording artist Steff Mahan and her band will be in concert. Local recording artist Tamara Marks will also entertain and sing a few songs from her upcoming CD release. The concert is free with your rodeo ticket. If you just want to come



to the concert, tickets are \$10 at the gate. On Sunday the rodeo will begin at noon and after the rodeo we will wrap it up with the awards ceremony at 7:00pm at the fairgrounds.

In addition to the rodeo we will have vendors selling a variety of items. We also have a silent auction booth that has some incredible items including autographed books and a DVD from Annie Proulx (author of Brokeback Mountain ), autographed 45 from Kenny Rogers, autographed season 1 of the L Word, and many other one of a kind items.

Tickets for the rodeo are \$10.00 in advance and \$12.00 at the gate. Children 12 and under are admitted free. Tickets can be charged through Paypal or credit card by going to [www.hgra.net](http://www.hgra.net) or by calling the rodeo hotline at 402-541-2203.

Mark your calendars now to join in the fun and celebration.  
Come on out and **LETS RODEO!**

## Spurs to the Horse

With the rodeo fast approaching we have kept our spurs a kicking on the fundraising trail. We started the month on April 8<sup>th</sup> with a yard sale at MCC. Everyone cleaned out their closets and garages to help us raise over \$400 for the rodeo! It's true what they say, some people's trash can be other's treasures.

On April 15<sup>th</sup>, Tamara and Bryn hosted the Crowns & Spurs show at DC's Saloon. The night was a success with wonderful performers, great raffle prizes and Miss Leona's jell-o shots (always a big hit). A special thanks to MGRA performers, Mandy and Aillisa from Kansas City who came up to help us out.

Also this month HGRA Royalty and members will be making appearances at MCC fundraisers. As well Ms HGRA and our Prez will be attending a GLBT Nebraska conference at the beginning of May. And of course at the Rodeo please be sure to look for your Royalty team and say a big howdy. We look forward to seeing y'all out and about, especially at the Rodeo.

If you think this Royalty thing looks interesting, and fun, you might want to try it out. Please let us know at [VicePres06@hgra.net](mailto:VicePres06@hgra.net). We are always looking for a few good cowboys, cowgirls and queens to represent HGRA.

Ms HGRA  
Terri



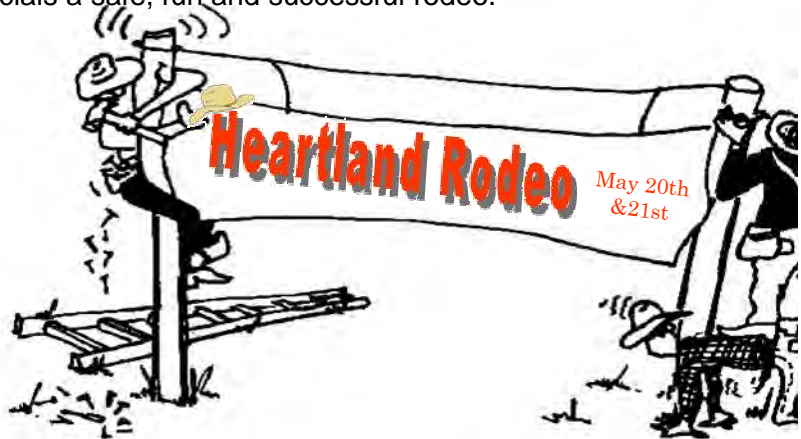
## Are you ready to Rodeo?

We are ready to rodeo here in the Heartland. May 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, the Sarpy County Fairgrounds will come alive with rodeo excitement and musical entertainment. Your calendars should be marked to be at the fairgrounds for the start at 4 PM on Saturday and noon on Sunday. We have contestants coming from all over the United States and Canada to compete. There will be plenty of excitement, beer, good food, vendor shopping and fun! If you want to help out there is still time to volunteer at [volunteers06@hgra.net](mailto:volunteers06@hgra.net)

We are sure that this year's rodeo is going to be great! We want to thank everyone from volunteers, sponsors, committee members, advertisers, vendors and entertainers for their help putting on this year's rodeo. We can't do it without you. Our charity partners CSI, YES and MCC appreciate all your efforts to support them.

We wish all the competitors and IGRA officials a safe, fun and successful rodeo.

Rodeo On!  
Terri & Kathy  
2006 Heartland Rodeo Directors



## ROUGH STOCK RIDING EVENTS

This month we are featuring more events that you will see at the Heartland Rodeo. This month we will cover rough stock events - bull, steer, and bronc riding. All these events require a timed ride of 6 seconds. 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.

### Steer Riding

This is a good beginner's event, but not as easy as it looks. The rider has a "bull rope" wound around the steer just behind the front legs and then around his or her hand; no knots allowed. This is called the rigging. This hand hold and the riders legs, locked like scissors on the steer, are all the rider has to count on to stay on the steer. A rider who is able to spur, or move their legs back and forth on the steer's sides, will receive a higher score.

### Bull Riding

The ultimate event of the rodeo, Bull Riding is an advanced version of Steer Riding, but with a one-half ton more beef to contend with and the added danger that many bulls turn back on the rider and attempt to get even for having their routine disrupted. Guaranteed, once you are on the bull and the gate opens, few riders ever leave this event without being slammed to the ground and scurrying for cover, as the Bull Fighter moves in to save the cowboy or cowgirl.

### Bronc Riding

A specially designed collection of leather and cinches used for this event is called a "bareback riggin." Compared to the bull rope, this one is really tied on to the animal and has a built-in hand hold. Another difference is that the rider must start the ride with both of his or her feet extended forward over the horse's shoulders and on the first leap out of the chute, "rake" backwards toward the horse's rump. If the rider misses this, called "marking out", it does not matter how great the rest of the ride is, he or she will receive a DQ. If the rider is lucky enough to make the 6 seconds, he or she may be plucked to safety as the two "pick-up men" move in and attempt to rescue the rider from his or her bucking mount. Contestants may elect to ride two-handed from start to finish, but will also receive a lower score.



Bull Riding



Bronc Riding



Steer Riding



## RODEO RESULTS—FT. LAUDERDALE

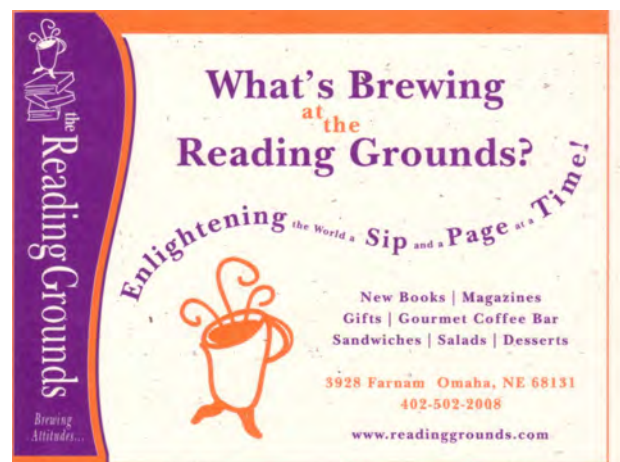
Ft Lauderdale hosted it's inaugural rodeo and it was a huge success! Over 5000 spectators filled the stands and saw some great rodeo action. Teeny C teamed up with Shorty from MGRA and won the goat dressing buckle. Teeny was also 4th runner-up in the All Around Heartland was also represented by arena director Kim Dawson and scorekeeper Tamara Marks. I was told to put this on my rodeo schedule for 2007, it's not one you will want to miss next year. There was also action outside the arena when Teeny arrived she took the turn too fast and scattered the protesters. She was met by a police officer who asked her if her actions were intentional and she replied "Oh no officer, we were just in a hurry to make our event!" When you see Teeny, ask her for details. The next few weeks are busy with rodeos in Little Rock and San Diego on April 29-30 and St Louis on May 6-7. For more information about these rodeos go to [www.igra.com](http://www.igra.com).

### Heartland Rodeo Announces Grand Marshal

The Heartland Rodeo is proud to announce that Bryn Geerdes will serve as the 2006 rodeo Grand Marshal. Bryn has been involved with HGRA since 1997 and has served as President, Trustee, and has chaired most of the committees involved in rodeo production. Over the past 5 years, Bryn has been responsible for sponsorships, buckle sales, and program advertising sales and has raised almost \$100,000 to help finance the rodeos. She is passionate about her responsibilities because she knows how much the donations help the charity partners. Geerdes says "it's all about helping - some of the kids we've helped had lost all hope and had experienced a lot of sadness. Our donations have allowed these same kids to see hope and joy and I've seen it in their eyes. This is what it's all about."

### CROWNS AND SPURS

Thanks to all the entertainers and members who helped make our Crowns and Spurs a great success. A special thanks to Mandy and Aillisa for coming up from Kansas City. It was great to see so many of our entertainers in their new faces and of course the familiar faces as well. A big thanks to Leona's who was serving her fabulous jell-o shots. Thanks to Chuck and the staff at DC's for hosting our event.



Rodeo tickets are available at the Reading Grounds

# Steff Mahan Tamara Marks



Nashville recording artist  
Steff Mahan will be  
accompanied by her band  
Tommy Keenum ~ Leigh Maples  
Tom Butler ~ Nancy Gardner

IN CONCERT



Local recording artist  
Tamara Marks will open the  
evening with songs from  
her upcoming CD release

## May 20th 9:30PM

AFTER THE RODEO

# 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](http://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**