



December 2013 BigHorn Gazette

2014 Royalty

Wow, what a wild ride the last three months have been for all of us! We, as the 2014 Royalty Team, are so proud to have been chosen to represent NGRA for the next year. We would like to thank the 2013 Royalty Team for all of its advice and guidance. Katrina Davenport and Chris Due--from the bottom of our hearts--Thank You! Thank you to our dressers, Kimberli Foxx, Michael-Dawg Yarbrough, and Laura Scott. You spent the entire day getting us dressed and calming our nerves. Thank you to all the judges for taking the time out of your busy lives to be there and to David Blackwood for planning and coordinating the amazing Royalty Competition. Thank you to Charlie's Las Vegas for hosting and sponsoring the event, you have always supported NGRA and we are excited to continue to work with you. And of course we are so grateful to our spouses, partners, and significant others for putting up with all the craziness and long hours apart as we prepared ourselves. Unfortunately there are too many people to thank individually, so from all of us on the 2014 Royalty Team THANK YOU!



We were very proud to raise \$1,881.67 during our candidacy for our two amazing charities: L.E.A.N. and Bighorn Rodeo. We presented a check for \$1,000 to Karin Larrick of L.E.A.N. and a check for \$881.67 to Rodeo Director, Jeffrey Neal and his two Rodeo Assistants, Matt Cox and Ken Hruby of BigHorn Rodeo.

Our team has some fantastic events planned for next year and we hope to see everyone in attendance, because without the amazing support of the Las Vegas community, we could not do this. Our first event as the 2014 Royalty Team is December 14, 2013, for "Dance Your Pants Off: A Salute to National Finals Rodeo" at Charlie's Las Vegas at 9 pm. Come on out, get your boot scootin' on, and have some fun with us.

Your 2014 Royalty Team:

Mr. NGRA 2014 - Brent Rosinski;
Mr. NGRA 2014 1st Runner-Up - Jason Metzger;
Miss NGRA 2014 - A'Lotta Trash, and
MsTer NGRA 2014 - Preston.

Royalty Contestant Meet and Greet

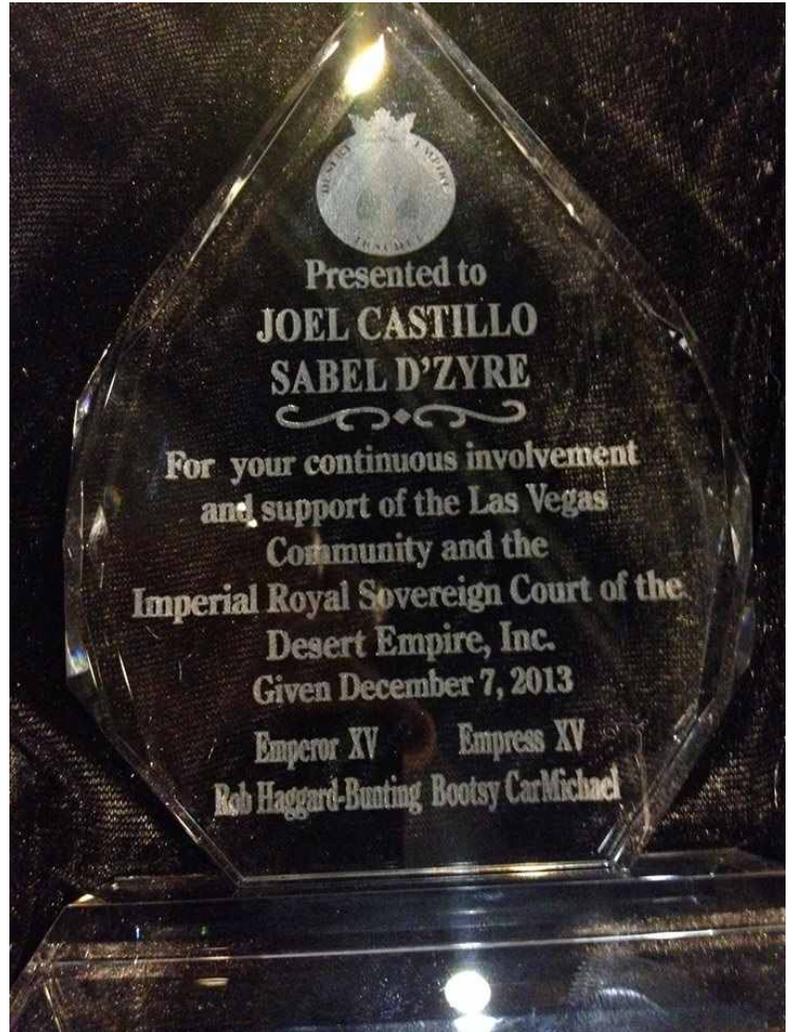
So I received this message from our President: "Barry. In case Ken didn't pass this along, here's a great pic of a few NGRA members at the Flex contestant Meet and Greet." So, taking this as a euphemism for "Barry, include this picture else you're fired", here it is. Seriously (if that's a word in the NGRA vocabulary), if you would like a picture included in the Newsletter, please send it to me, news@ngra.com.



Brent Rosinski, Miss Frankie, Ken Wells & Doug Graff

Congratulation to a Great Member of NGRA and the Community

On December 3 the service to the community given by our retiring Miss IGRA, former Miss NGRA and our former newsletter editor Joel Castillo, aka Sabel D'Zyre, was recognised. He was presented with the Crystal Award for continuous involvement in and support of the Las Vegas Community by the Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire (IRSCDE).



After the presentation Joel said "I was truly humbled and taken aback by receiving this award tonight (since I won't be able to attend actual Coronation this weekend). Thank you, Empress [Bootsy CarMichael](#) & Emperor [Robert Haggard](#) & IRSCDEI. I keep admiring it."

Sabel said "Truly touched. Truly humbled. Thank you, IRSCDE. Wow the Crystal Award. I'm without words."

Presidents Note

Happy Holidays everyone!



I can't believe it's already December.

November was a busy month for NGRA. We attended convention and bid to host IGRA Convention 2015. Ultimately, IGRA decided to "go east" in 2015. We're happy to support FGRA as they host us in the Sunshine State.

Our delegates to Convention represented us well. I was proud to be a part of one of the largest contingents in attendance. We need to start planning now for the big 30th Annual IGRA Convention to be held in 2014 in Denver, CO.

This past weekend was so much fun. Congratulations to our new Royalty Team. Please know I and the rest of the membership are here to support you in the year ahead. Remember to ask!

NFR starts this week here in Vegas. Remember the clubs and streets will be full of visiting Gay Rodeo friendly fans.

If you're out and about, say hello to the new faces in our regular haunts.

Hopefully you'll all be spending more time during the holidays with your friends and family (however you define family).

Enjoy the season!

Douglas Graff
NGRA President
president@ngra.com

PS. We'll hit the ground running in 2014 with Big Horn Rodeo 2014 production. Have you volunteered for a committee yet?

IGRA Annual Convention 2013 San Diego, California November 14 - 17

How We Judge Others Is How We Judge Ourselves

“If we learn to open our hearts, anyone, including the people who drive us crazy, can be our teacher.” ~Pema Chodron

What an honor it was to attend the IGRA Convention in San Diego this year as a delegate.

I learned many things during my visit. The first--never disappear without telling someone where you are going. The second--to be more respectful of others. Our members are extremely important to us—ALL OF THEM. We are a Team. There is no / in team.

According to a report provided during the IGRA Convention, our overall membership has decreased. We need to look at the reasons why and make changes fast! One of those reasons, I believe, is our attitude towards others.

Here are a few suggestions that I will be practicing and hope you will too:

1. When you catch yourself having a defining thought about someone, step back and ask, “What do I really know about this person?”;
2. When you hear yourself criticizing someone to others, stop and take a moment to come up with one thing you like about that person. Then praise them, out loud, for that quality, and
3. When you find yourself in one of those incessant loop thought patterns of judgment about someone else’s behaviors, ask the hard question: Do I myself exhibit this same behavior or attitude that I judge in this person?

We all joined this organization for similar reasons and a common goal—for the love of the western lifestyle, for the love of rodeo, and to raise money for local charities. Let’s try to be more respectful of others.

Rather than unconsciously delighting in the ego gratification of judging others, let your reactions and judgments help you achieve greater self-understanding—and accordingly, greater happiness and success.

When you use your judgment of others as a mirror to show you the workings of your own mind, every person’s reflection can become a valuable gift, making each person you encounter a teacher and a blessing.

Respectfully,

Brent Rosinski
Public Relations Director, NGRA
Mr. NGRA 2014

To know is to lead and to lead is to learn to listen

As a first time attendee of the IGRA Convention I wanted to share my experience with the NGRA Team. The reason for this is simple, to know is to lead and to lead is to learn to listen.

Having never been to one of these events, it was amazing to see the camaraderie and respect that the attendees have for each other. As well as the fluid and open information sharing between various committees and their members. I learned a couple of valuable lessons that I think our organization can implement and utilize. For instance, developing a standardized resource for data bases to be shared as well as the power of the various social media outlets when used properly.

I look forward, as I am certain all the attendees are, to be able to begin to use our new skill sets effectively for NGRA as well as the good of the IGRA as well. Thank you again. I had a blast.

Michael *Dawg* Yarbrough

From Your Volunteer Coordinator

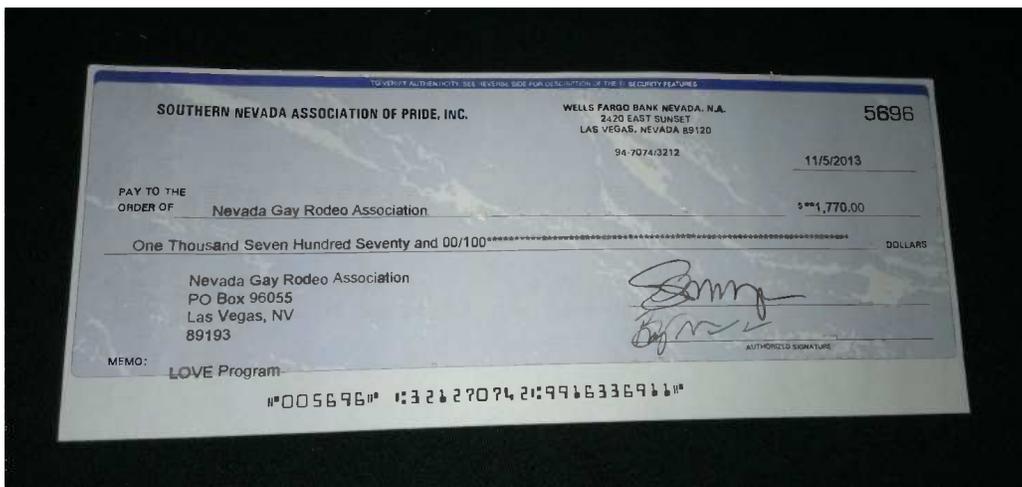
In the October newsletter I thanked all those who manned the ticket booth and the front entrance at Pride for their hard work.

On November 6, those efforts were rewarded when we saw the hard evidence of our success. The hugely popular Pride Bingo held at Circus Circus on the first Wednesday of each month was also the venue for the presentation of checks from the Pride Love Program.



NGRA was represented by our Treasurer, David Hering, our Rodeo Director, Jeffrey Neal, and our Public Relations Director, Brent Rosinski, who was also one of our candidates for the 2014 NGRA

Royalty Team, and became Mr. NGRA 2014. They were presented with a check for \$1770 by Norma Llyaman who was hosting the Bingo session with her usual charm and elegance.



Brent Rosinski said “We can’t thank Pride enough for compensating us so generously for our volunteer efforts. It is actions like this that allow us to continue our good work throughout the community.”

Our President commented “Carolyn and David, please take a moment and be proud of your work at the Front Gate and the Ticket Booth! Thank You!!!”

Brent went on to cap this already successful night for NGRA by walking away with a stunning prize!



Don't forget contact me on volunteers@NGRA.com for anything to do with volunteering for NGRA.

Volunteer Coordinator, Carolyn Jones

Ken & David Wells

Our honourable Historian Ken Wells made his own piece of news when he took a time-out from Convention in San Diego to marry fellow member David Blunk. We Members of NGRA would like to wish Ken and David Wells a long and happy life together.



Word has it that there were no tin cans tied to the back of the SUV. I would have thought someone could have managed a few Bud Light empties.





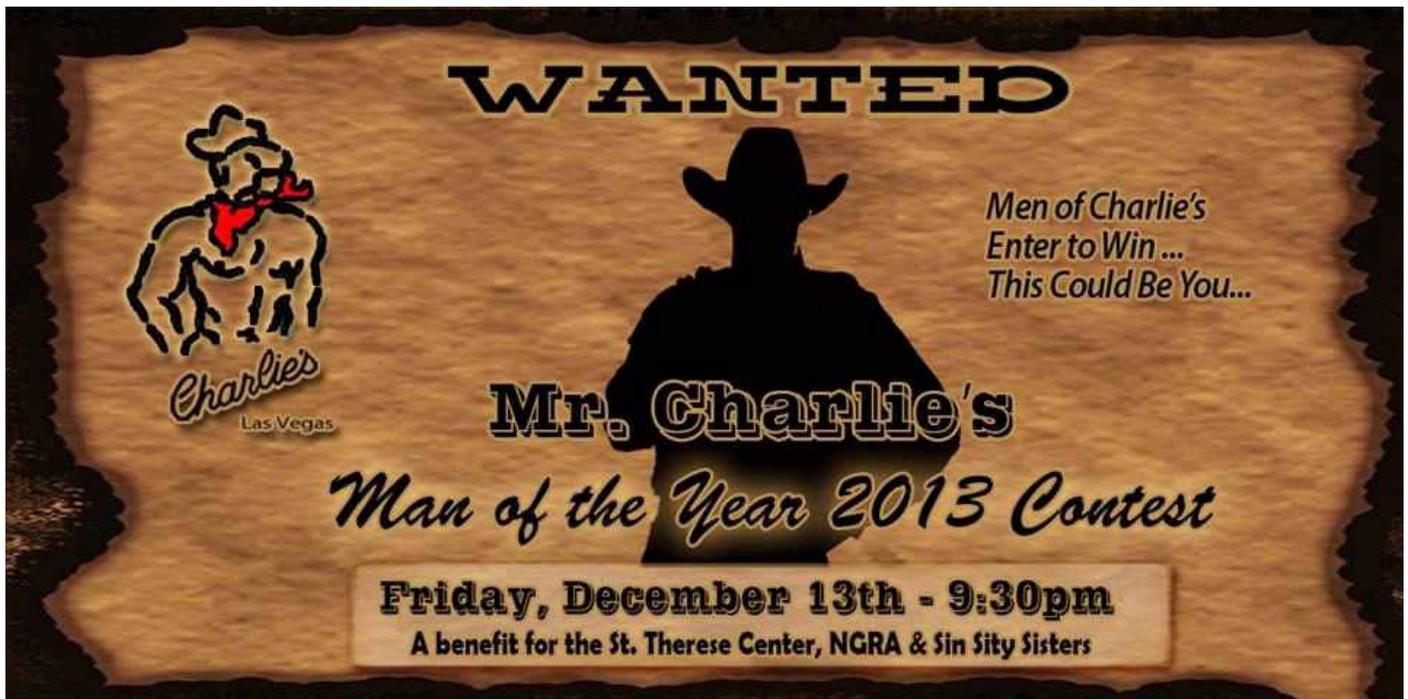
Photographers

WANTED

Seeking photographers to capture live events for NGRA at local bars, casinos, rodeos, and fundraising events. Digital camera required.

Email Brent Rosinski: pr@ngra.com

Editor's Bits and Pieces



Join me and other MOCs to support the runners for the prestigious title of "Man of the Year".

Happy Birthday

To those Members with birthdays in December:

11	Alex Michaels
12	Chris Reynolds
17	Ramon Linan
18	James Kinney
21	Carolyn Jones
27	Douglas Graff
28	Jeff Bunting-Haggard

Welcome to the NGRA Corral

Jacqueline Martin
Janessa Martin

Fundraising

The holiday season is officially here. I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and didn't get too stuffed. The close of November saw our 2014 Royalty Competition crown/sash a brand new Team. A big congratulations to Brent, Jason, A'Lotta and Preston. This month we have two fundraisers, both at Charlie's Las Vegas. The first is our Saturday night event on December 14. In honor of National Finals Rodeo (NFR), our theme is "Dance Your Pants Off". We will be having our beer/soda bust, holiday themed jello shots, Candy Cane-o-grams, Auctioning off a pair of tickets to the new Celine Dion produced show, "Veronic Voices". We will also be taking a break from doing a drag show and really giving the floor to you guys to dance the night away on the closing night of NFR. So, come out and enjoy a fun night with NGRA and Meet the Members of the 2014 Royalty Team before the snow arrives on the 15th.

Our next event is Monday Night Football, hosted by Family Home Apparel, on December 23. If you enjoy watching the game on big screen TVs with friends, and raising some money while having fun, then come on over to Charlie's. Kick-off is 5:30. There will be beer specials, football squares, and food.

Some events to look for in the future:

Saturday, January 11 – Cowboys in Wonderland – A Twisted Fairytale Night;
Tuesday, January 14 – Family Feud NGRA versus Charlie's Softball Team, and
Saturday, January 25 – City Slickers and Country Kickers at The Garage.

Until next month,

Wishing Everyone a Very Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

Chris Reynolds
Fundraising Chair 2013-2014
Mr NGRA 2011



DANCE YOUR PANTS OFF



Saturday December 14

Nevada Gay Rodeo Association Salutes NFR

Come and meet
the new NGRA
Royalty Team
for 2014

Charlie's
Las Vegas

Show at 10 PM
Raffle Prizes
Beer Bust
Jello Shots



Benefiting NGRA and Bighorn Rodeo



Greetings from the Rodeo Director

Things are still moving forward but with all the activity of the holiday and the Royalty Competition – our focus has been elsewhere. But RPC continues to move forward. We had a great presentation from L.E.A.N. at last month's meeting and we are going to hear from The Sin City Sisters and Opportunity Village this month. Artwork will be available soon and we are gearing up to be promoting

our Rodeo at IGRA University in January, and Phoenix Rodeo in February.

Thanks to Jackie and Vanessa for stepping in to be Ticket Coordinators for the RPC. And we are looking forward to Will Douglass being with us again as our Entertainment Coordinator at the Grounds.

The vendor forms will be made available soon – and Carolyn has been doing a great job of meeting new volunteers and keeping everyone informed.

It takes a village to make the Rodeo happen. Keep up the good work everyone. We have exciting things happening.

RPC meets on the 2nd Monday of the month at The Center, 401 S. Maryland Parkway.

Looking forward to seeing you there.

Jeffrey Neal, Rodeo Director
RodeoDirector@NGRA.com

Member of the Month

Brent Rosinski

Brent Rosinski was nominated as November Member of the Month for his outstanding work with our Social Media and Marketing presence. People are getting timely updates and, in some cases, real-time notification of what is going on thanks to his efforts. The Board recognizes him for his outstanding accomplishments in this area of our organization. Congratulations Brent.

FAMILY APPAREL & CHARLIE'S PRESENTS

23RD DECEMBER

Vet's

WATCH

MONDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL

SQUARES JELL-O SHOTS

RAFFLES

FALCONS 5PM 49ERS

GET IN THE GAME AND COME TO
WATCH THE GAME AT CHARLIE'S LAS VEGAS

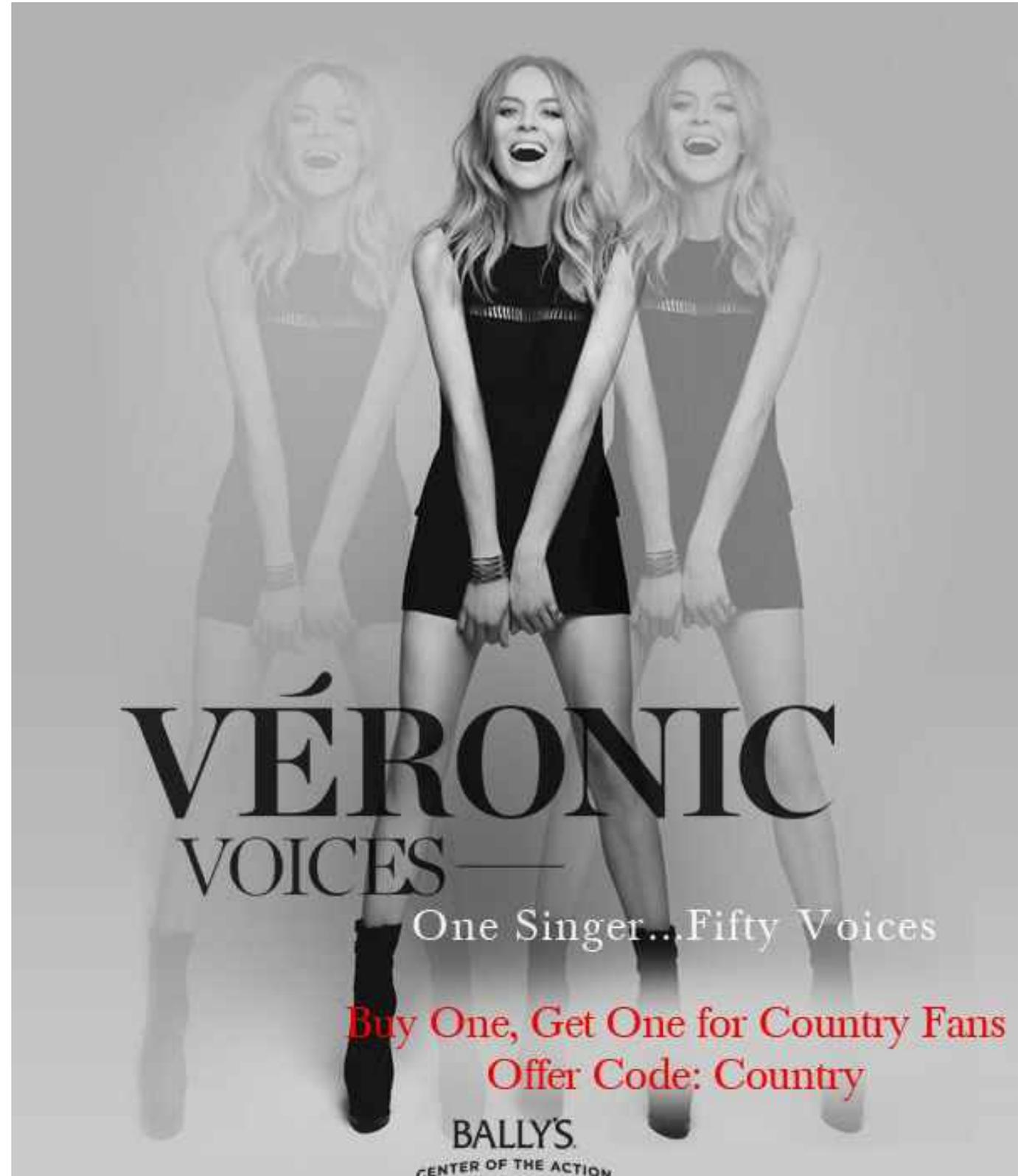
TO IMPROVE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING THE GRAND SUPERBOWL PRIZE,
COME OFTEN, AND SAVE YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS FROM EACH VISIT.

PROCEEDS BENEFIT NEVADA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

FAMILY APPAREL

Charlie's

The poster features a dark blue background with stadium lights and silhouettes of football players. At the bottom, a blue helmet with 'FAMILY APPAREL' and a red helmet with 'Charlie's' are flanking a football on a green field.



VERONIC VOICES

One Singer...Fifty Voices

Buy One, Get One for Country Fans
Offer Code: Country

BALLY'S
CENTER OF THE ACTION.
LAS VEGAS

ticketmaster
855-234-7469

VERONICVOICES.COM

BALLYSLASVEGAS.COM



***Expires 12/31/2013 Subject to Availability**

VÉRONIC VOICES —

One Singer... Fifty Voices. *VÉRONIC Voices* will transport you and your imagination to another dimension of extraordinary entertainment as talented vocal-impressionist/entertainer Véronic pays tribute to the most popular female recording artists in the world, singing their songs in their voices.

Whether she's performing as Celine or Lady Gaga, Barbra Streisand or Rihanna, Tina Turner or Katy Perry, Reba McEntire, Dolly Parton or Taylor Swift, Véronic's amazing repertoire of voices will take you on a jaw-dropping, captivating entertainment journey like no other.

Thursday 9:30pm

Friday 7:00pm

Saturday 7:00pm

Redeemable online at veronicvoices.com using offer code **COUNTRY** or at the Bally's box office with this voucher.

*Must redeem at least one hour prior to show time. Subject to availability, for a limited time. No substitutions, cash equivalent or transfers are permitted. Not for resale.

ticketmaster[®]
855-234-7469

VERONICVOICES.COM

BALLYSLASVEGAS.COM



Calendar

December

Mon 9	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Fri 13	9:30 pm	Mr Charlie's Man of the Year 2013 Contest – A Benefit for the St Therese Center, NGRA and The Sin Sity Sisters	Charlie's
Sat 14	9:00 pm	Salute to NFR-Dance Your Pants Off	Charlie's
Mon 16	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Thurs 19	6:30 pm	NGRA Fundraising Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Mon 23	5:00 pm	Monday Night Football	Charlie's

January

Sat 11	9:00 pm	Cowboys in Wonderland - A Twisted Fairytale Night	Charlie's
Mon 13	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Tues 14	9:30 pm	Family Feud - NGRA versus Charlie's Softball Team	Charlie's
17-19		IGRA University 2014	Crowne Plaza St. Louis Downtown 200 N Fourth St, St. Louis, MO 63102
Mon 20	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sat 25	5:00 pm	City Slickers and Country Kickers	The Garage

February

Mon 10	6:30 pm	Rodeo Planning Committee	Gay & Lesbian Community Center,
Mon 17	6:30 pm	NGRA Board and General Membership Meeting	Gay & Lesbian Community Center
Sat 22	8:00 pm	Red Dress 2014; Red Light District Rumba!	World Market Center, 495 South Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, NV 89106

NGRA Board of Directors

President	Doug Graff	president@ngra.com
Vice President	David Blackwood	vicepresident@ngra.com
Secretary	Jeffrey Neal	secretary@ngra
Treasurer	David Hering	treasurer@ngra.com
Director	Bill Trunzo	Director1@ngra.com
Director	Joel Castillo	Director2@ngra.com
Director	Chris Reynolds	Director3@ngra.com
Director	Brent Rosinski	Director4@ngra.com
Trustee	Guy Puglisi	trustee@ngra.com

NGRA 2014 Royalty

Mr NGRA	Brent Rosinski	mrngra@ngra.com
Mr NGRA, 1 st Runner Up	Jason Metzger	
Miss NGRA	A'Lotta Trash	missngra@ngra.com
MsTer NGRA	Preston	

Other NGRA Contacts

Fundraising Director	Chris Reynolds	fundraising@ngra.com
Historian	Ken Wells	history@ngra.com
Membership Secretary		membership@ngra.com
Merchandising	Kathy Alday	kathy@familyapparellasvegas.com
Newsletter Editor	Barry Jones	news@ngra.com
Public Relations Director	Brent Rosinski	pr@ngra.com
Volunteer Coordinator	Carolyn Jones	volunteers@ngra.com
Webmaster	Darren Wernette	webmaster@ngra.com