

# Dear Members.

we hope you all are fine and you had a great Christmas time and the New Year started well for you! We wish you the very best for 2002.

Well all of you who have been to the convention hopefully had a good time partying. For those of you who were not able to make it, here are the results from the election held at our anual convention and this is your new Board of Directors for the 2002 season:

President: John Renner Brian Nelson Vice President: 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Andy Böhringer Sqt. of Arms Marco Breitenbach Bull Riding Director: James Cole Bareback Riding Director: (Revote, due to sudden deployment) Saddle Bronc Riding Director: **Justin Jones** Calf Roping Director: Bob Thompson Team Roping Director: Thomas Messing Barrel Race Director: Samantha Jünger Rescue Race Director: Antonia Apfelbeck Lars Bethke WHR Director: Secretary (voted in by Board): Andi Geyer Kim Bethke Treasurer (voted in by Board):

The new elected Board has already started their duties and here are the latest news for you:

#### **General Membership Meeting (GMM)**

Come on out and enjoy the day with us at our annual GMM. It will be held March 2, 2002 at the Honky Tonk Bar in Frankfurt. The Honky Tonk is a nice Country & Western Bar and offered to host us for this event. As every year the attmittance to the club during the GMM is for free. Doors open at 12.30 p. m. and we start selling Membership Cards at 1 p. m. Furthermore you will get the latest news concerning rulechanges, the rodeo schedule. Clinics will be put on and the event directors will inform you about news, etc. in the single events.

For all our chapters: we offer you some space to put up chapter tables and give you the opportunity to present you chapters. So if you like take the chance, set up - so new members find their way easy to their nearest chapter.

# **Prices for Membership Cards**

The prices for the Membership Cards raised this season (\$ 10/card). Certainly we are very sorry about this but having steady prices for the past five years we were not able to hold the prices for this year due to higher expenses overall (awards, convention, finals jackets, inflation in the past years). Here are the new prices:

Participant-Membership: \$ 70 Non-Participant-Membership: \$ 60 Dependent Membership: \$ 45 If you like you can download the ERCA membership application from the website: www.angelfire.com/country/ercarodeo/

#### Rodeo Schedule

You are probably waiting on it - here is the current Rodeo schedule. As of now, we do not have quite as much dates so far as in the past two years. But, as you can imagine, due to the situation in the world after the terror attacks on September 11, 2001 the situation also has massive impact on Rodeo USA and the ERCA. Certainly Rodeo USA and the ERCA are not happy about it, but Rodeo USA is trying hard to catch up with the previous year and tries even harder to find locations for possible Rodeo's. Here is what we have so far (including Bullrider's Only).

April 27-28, 2002 Schweinfurt May 4-5, 2002 Böblingen Brunssum, Holland May 11-12, 2002 May 18-20, 2002 Pullman City 2, Hasselfelde June 1-2, 2002 Frankfurt, Air Field June 7, 2002 Frankfurt, Air Field (One at show 7 p. m.) June 89, 2002 Frankfurt, Air Field June 29-30, 2002 Stuttgart, Robinson Barracks July 45, 2002 Stuttgart, Robinson Barracks (one show per day, 7 p. m.) July 67, 2002 ????? Stuttgart, Robinson Barracks

????? Berlin ????? Berlin ????? Berlin

August 24-25, 2002 Bullrider's Only - Pullman City 1, Eging

August 31-September 1, 02 Darmstadt September 7-8, 2002 Darmstadt September 21-22, 2002 Tübingen

September 28-29, 2002 Bullrider's Only – Pullman City 2,

Hasselfelde

October 5-6, 2002 FINALS, Pullman City 1, Eging am See ! 31.12.2002 + 01.01.2003 ! New Year's Rodeo Special, Kreuth bei

Amberg (Ostbayernhalle)

Please keep checking back concerning dates on our webpage. Rodeo USA is in negotiations with a lot more places, such as Kaiserslautern, Mannheim, Bad Aibling, Pfullendorf, etc.

#### Roperama

Most of you already know it. The Roperama! What a nice and fun event for Roper's. The Roperama is not an ERCA event. Pullman City puts them on and Detlef Jeschke manages them. The Roperama's offer nice competition, good pay off and nice awards. If you are interested, find the dates below and if you need further details, please feel free to contact Detlef Jeschke, Mobil Phone: 0171-3330984 or email: DJDeddy@aol.com.

March 30 – April 1, 2002 Roperama, Pullman City 1, Eging am See May 11-12, 2002 Roperama, Pullman City 2, Hasselfelde

Info ERCA: www.angelfire.com/country/ercarodeo/



September 28-29, 2002 October 26-27, 2002 Roperama, Pullman City 2, Hasselfelde Roperama, Pullman City 1, Eging am See

## Most recruited award:

As every year we do award something to the chapter and individual recruiting the most new members for the ERCA. This year the chapter will receive \$ 300 and the individual will be awarded a nice buckle. We hope this motivates you and your efforts will be as strong as in the past years for the ERCA. Consider, if every one of us would only recruit one new member to the ERCA how huge the ERCA would grow all of a sudden. So let's all try our best:)

To give you all another opportunity to increase your activities concerning recruiting new members, here is a deal we offer you. If you place an add in your community papers, etc. concerning our upcoming General Membership Meeting (add see below or contact Andi Geyer, Phone: 07153/58414) and you bring us the paper with the add in it, the ERCA will award you 5 bonus points towards your most recruiting points for the season 2002 for each publication. Doesn't that sound good! Well we hope it motivates you. One thing though: Please do not just publicate anything, Only the add in this newsletter can be used. You can download it also from our webpage or by contacting our secretary. Please understand that we won't allow to have just any information out there concerning the ERCA. Thank you!

# Awards 2002

The Board has already discussed this subject. Like last year they will shoot for buckles being awarded to our top 4 competitors in each event and of course trophy saddles to our European Rodeo Champions/event and of course the male and female All Arounds. The Board will try their best so the ERCA can afford this. You can help by attending the rodeos, competing and as mentioned by recruiting new members.

# Information flow

As you all have probably mentioned we have increased our efforts concerning our web presents in the past year. Mike Anders always volunteered to help update our webpage in the past and he is doing a great job. We really thank you for all his efforts, even though it was tough for him, due to his deployment to Saudi Arabia in the past year. Thank you Mike for everything!

Due to the fact that almost all of you have access to the internet and information published through the internet is the most efficient and effective information the Board has decided to improve these activities even more and installed the position of a "Public Relations Officer" to the ERCA to guarantee an even more professional appearance in the internet and most important to organize a better and quicker information flow towards all our members. The Board hired Monika Lange for this upcoming season. She is an IT Specialist and will do everything concerning the audio visual aids (webpage, emails, etc.).

The Board has furthermore signed a contract for a new web-domain and Monika has already started to set up the new webpage. As our PRO and our secretary work on it the new webpage will come up as "under construction" but keep checking back, we hope we can go online right around the GMM with some information. As you hopefully understand it will then grow, due to the fact that it will take some effort. Here is the new domain: <a href="www.ercarodeo.com">www.ercarodeo.com</a>. Certainly our old web address is still out there and you can certainly get all the information over: <a href="www.angelfire.com/country/ercarodeo/">www.angelfire.com/country/ercarodeo/</a>.

This will help us that you all are informed quicker. The publication of newsletters will be more likely just 2 for the year. One at the beginning of our season and one at the end. This is also due to the fact that by the time you get the newsletter most of the information is obsolete. Certainly if there is something important we will still shoot out a Newsletter. As in the past all information is available on the webpage and furthermore information will get passed out at all the General Membership Meetings held at the rodeos and information is always posted in the tack tent at each rodeo. And of course: you can always contact us.

# **ERCA Merchandising items for you**

In the past two years we have received feedback from some of you that you are interested in purchasing vests, caps with the ERCA logo on it. Well we have worked on it and we can offer you a couple of ERCA merchandise items. These items can only be bought by ERCA members. There is absolutely no exception possible to this, due to the fact that "Usareur" regulates this issue very strictly. Furthermore these items can not be bought by a ERCA member and then be resold. Sorry ! (In case this happens further actions will be taken by the ERCA against the member doing so). We hope you understand this, but we certainly think so. Here is our offer:

# ERCA Baseball Cap:

Cap: creme, brim: dark brown Stitching / front middle: ERCA Logo Stiching / back middle: Member 2002

Price: \$ 15

ERCA Vest:

Colour: dark brown

Stitching / front right: small ERCA Logo, year underneath

Stitching / back: Large ERCA Logo

Price: \$80

Samples will hopefully be available at the GMM, so you can see details and everything. We do have cut off dates for those items. The cut off dates are:

- General Membership Meeting, March 2, 2002
- After the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rodeo of this season (In case items do sell good, another date might be added)

Info ERCA: www.angelfire.com/country/ercarodeo/



Cut Off dates mean that by the mentioned dates your purchase of items will be ordered the next day/following monday. Furthermore the ERCA does not sell these items anymore after these dates. You can pick up your order then when delivered. So if you like, purchase your ERCA merchandising item right at the GMM or latest by the 2<sup>rd</sup> Rodeo of this upcoming season.

## Add for GMM:



# Directions to the GMM, Honky Tonk Bar, Frankfurt/Main

# USING Autobahn A 5

(...coming from Mannheim, Darmstadt or for example Giessen)

Take Autobahn A 5 towards Frankfurt/Main until you reach exit "WESTKREUZ Frankfurt (Messe)". Take that exit, get on A 648 and go towards "Zentrum Frankfurt" (Downtown Frankfurt). Go straight on the street "Theodor-Heuss-Allee", you will pass the "Messe-Area". Follow the signs saying "HAUPTBAHNHOF" on street B 44. Park at the Hauptbahnhof – Parking Garage NORD. Bring your "Parking ticket" to the GMM because you will get a special price for parking.

## USING Autobahn A 3

(...coming from Würzburg, Aschaffenburg or direction Cologne)

Take Autobahn A 3 until you reach the exit FRANKFURT SÜD. Take that exit and head on B 43/44 towards Frankfurt. Stay on B 44 towards HAUPTBAHNHOF. Follow the signs saying "HAUPTBAHNHOF" on



street B 44. Park at the Hauptbahnhof – Parking Garage NORD. Bring your "Parking ticket" to the GMM because you will get a special price for parking.

Drive safe !!!

This is it for now, we are looking forward to see you all soon.

If you have questions, you can contact us at any time. Keep checking back on our websites: <a href="www.angelfire.com/country/ercarodeo/">www.angelfire.com/country/ercarodeo/</a> or coming soon: <a href="www.ercarodeo.com">www.ercarodeo.com</a>.

On the backside also find an flyer, if you can copy it and stick it somewhere where you think people read it, like for example at the Gym, Pizza Place,.....

Take care and see you all soon,

John Renner, ERCA President Andi Geyer ERCA Secretary

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