

**2008-2009 NEBRASKA RODEO QUEENS**

**\*\*Miss Rodeo Nebraska 2008**  
KRISTEN SCHOTT  
**\*\*Miss Teen Rodeo NE 2008**  
KRISTINKOHMETSCHER  
**\*\*Miss Rodeo Nebraska 2009**  
AMY AMACK  
**\*\*NE High School Rodeo Queen**  
SHALEY MILLSAP  
**Cleanwater Rodeo Queen**  
JENNI LAFLAN  
**\*Miss Days of '56 Rodeo Queen**  
ERIKA MCARTHY  
**\*Old West Trail Rodeo Queen**  
ERIKA BACKES  
**Old West Trail Rodeo Princess**  
TASHALA STORBACK  
**Old West Trail Jr Rodeo Queen**  
ABBY DYER  
**Sutherland Jr Rodeo Queen**  
STEPHANIE ROGERS  
**Southwest NE Rodeo Queen**  
SAMANTHA SHEARER  
**Southwest NE Rodeo Princess**  
KRISTINKOHMETSCHER  
**Miss Burwell Rodeo Queen**  
ALISON LAFLAN  
**Cheyenne County Fair & Rodeo Queen**  
DANIELLE JONES  
**Cheyenne County Fair & Rodeo Lady-in-Waiting**  
WHITNEY MILLER  
**\*Miss Buffalo Cnty Rodeo Queen**  
AVERI MELCHER  
**Miss Rodeo Nuckolls County**  
JAYCEE JACOBITZ

**Fumas County Rodeo Queen**  
JULIA KLINKEBIEL  
**Miss Sheridan County Fair & Rodeo Queen**  
TAYA MARIE LEMBKE  
**Sheridan Cnty Rodeo Princess**  
CHARMAYNE STRONG  
**Sheridan Cnty Rodeo Jr Princess**  
EVA OLIVER  
**Ogallala Roundup Rodeo Queen**  
DAKOTA CLOUGH  
**Ogallala Rndup Rodeo Princess**  
KARLIE OSBORNE  
**Elwood Rodeo Queen**  
MATISYN HUMPHREY  
**Miss Rodeo Cherry County**  
KARI QUALLEY  
**Logan County Rodeo Queen**  
SAMANTHA MOUSEL  
**Logan County Rodeo Princess**  
MORGAN YENDRA  
**\*Oregon Trail Rodeo Queen**  
TESSA WRIGHT  
**\*Miss Rodeo Ak-Sar-Ben**  
HOLLY SOUCIE  
**Garden County Fair & Rodeo Queen**  
SHAVIN BARNHEART  
**Garden County Fair & Rodeo Princess**  
TILEEN SULLIVAN  
**Webster County Rodeo Queen**  
  
**Wilsonville Rodeo Queen**

\* denotes PRCA Rodeo Queen  
\*\*denotes State Queen

Visit our website at [www.missrodeonebraska.org](http://www.missrodeonebraska.org)

**2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

December—Date and Time on Website  
MRNA Executive Meeting

January 10th—Chadron Student Center  
MRNA General Meeting 3:00 p.m. MST

January 18th—LaQuinta Inn and Suites  
MRNA General Meeting 3:00 p.m.

March 7th-8th—North Platte, NE  
MRNA Queen Clinic

March 8th—North Platte, NE  
Lil' Cowgirls Clinic

April 1st—Pageant Applications due  
MRN 2010 and MTRN 2009

May—Miss Teen Rodeo NE Contestants  
Possible Preliminary Contest

June 14th-17th—North Platte, NE  
MRN 2010 and MTRN 2009 Pageants

**CONGRATULATIONS!!**  
Kingslee Mae Osborne was born Aug. 23 to Justin & Alison (Meyer) Osborne MRN 1998.

Landon Edward Drews was born Nov. 14 to Doug & Linda Drews, Past MRNA President

**MRNA EXECUTIVE BOARD**

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**MISS RODEO NEBRASKA 2007**  
ERIN ROBBINS

Kristen Corfield—Chairman  
newsletter@missrodeonebraska.org

\*\*\*PICTURES PROVIDED BY MRN 2008 KRISTEN SCHOTT, LADY-IN-WAITING MRN 2009 AMY AMACK, MTRN 2008 KRISTIN KOHMESCHTER, JERRY HOFF



Return Service Requested

Miss Rodeo Nebraska Association, Inc.  
4254 1/2 West South River Rd  
North Platte, NE 69101

**MISS RODEO NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION**

WINTER 2008



**NEBRASKA'S FIRST LADY OF RODEO**

**MISS RODEO NEBRASKA 2008 KRISTEN SCHOTT**  
**"Oh, The Places You Will Go!"**

The rodeo season has definitely slowed down this fall and has allowed me a little time to breathe and begin my preparations for the Miss Rodeo America Pageant. Sitting here writing this final letter of the year, I find it hard to believe that the year is almost over! It seems like just yesterday was my coronation and I couldn't wait to get on the road. This newsletter begins with my trip to Ft. Collins, CO for the Miss Rodeo America Pageant Seminar. The seminar was a great learning experience for me. I had a lot of fun catching up with some of the other state queens. It was great to get some insider tips on how to do well in the upcoming pageant. My next trip took me to the Oregon Trail Rodeo in Hastings. Congratulations to Tessa Wright for being crowned Miss Rodeo Oregon Trail. I have to admit that I had way too much fun at this rodeo! My friend Miranda Dodson was preparing to give up her title as Miss Oregon Trail Rodeo Queen, and we made that last weekend more than memorable. Most of the time our adventures involved food and this time we drove to Grand Island just to go to Red Lobster, which was delicious. For me, seafood is a very close second to Nebraska Beef. Although the food was good, the highlight of the weekend was definitely the queen's goat scramble! There was dirt and crowns flying all over the place during this adventure. I didn't win, but I came very close. My apologies to the goat that I tackled. As a rodeo queen, I have never been encouraged to purposely roll around in the arena dirt, until now. Thanks to the rodeo committee for making that one of my favorite memories of the year!! For those of you who know me well, you know that I really love to bargain shop. MRN 2009 Amy Amack and I had a great time shopping for good deals during this fall's Denver Market. Amy is also a beef lover so we combined our shopping trip with a hunt for the best prime rib. A big thanks to Jodee Burnham of Dry Creek Western Wear for sponsoring us for that weekend!! After our "shopped 'til we dropped" weekend in Denver I traveled to Omaha for the River City Roundup. This was an awesome weekend because I got to see Larry the Cable Guy, and I got to spend a lot of time with family friends—Bob and Catherine Hughes—who were gracious enough to open their home to me. There is a lot going on at River City Roundup: BBQ's, shopping, kids ag days, marathons, and of course you can't have a rodeo without a parade. For most parades I ride a horse, however, in Omaha I got to ride a golf cart through the parade. Unfortunately they wouldn't let me drive it so I got my very own golf cart chauffeur. That was pretty cool!!

My last trip out of state took me to Texas for the Cowgirl Hall of Fame Inductions and the Heartland ProRodeo Series Finals. The Cowgirl Hall of Fame Inductions were beautiful and we were escorted throughout the city in a limousine! We were definitely high class for a day. After the Hall of Fame Inductions, Miss Rodeo New Mexico and I decided to make our way over to Waco, TX for the Heartland Finals. We had a blast. This rodeo only allowed out-of-state queens as spectators (no queen gear allowed), which was a nice break from this busy year. However, the final night they sold out of tickets; so we made the best of it and watched the rodeo standing outside the arena watching the performance on the big screen. The following weekend I had my send-off party at the Haythorn Ranch in Ogallala. I was so excited to showcase my wardrobe for the Miss Rodeo America Pageant. Thanks also to all of the sponsors, friends, and queens who made it out for this special evening.

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Everything went well and it was good to see old friends again. I then drove to the Prairie Circuit Finals in Kansas City, MO. This was a packed weekend but was probably my favorite out-of-state rodeo that I attended this year. Miss Rodeo Kansas and Miss Rodeo Oklahoma and I had entirely too much fun at the rodeos. This was the first cold rodeo I have been to in a while so I forgot most of my cold gear. Luckily they gave us all contestant jackets to wear, but I still had to go and buy under armour; luckily I did or I would have shivered right off my horse.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

**MISSION STATEMENT:**

To Provide an opportunity for young women of high moral and ethical character to promote Nebraska and the sport of rodeo.

[www.missrodeonebraska.org](http://www.missrodeonebraska.org)

Continued from page 1.

I also had another send-off party near my hometown in Madison. The evening went well and I was so glad that my dose family and friends made it out to support me before I leave for Vegas. We had a soup supper and trust me, we had enough soup left over that my family will be eating soup until Christmas. The last event that I attended was the Norfolk Arts Center Fall Fashion Show where they showcased my dothing as art! I really appreciated the Norfolk Arts Center's hospitality and the honor of doing this prestigious show for them. To top it all off the food was more than delicious! I ear-marked this as one of the best meals I have had all year. That afternoon I left for Burwell where I made a TV Commercial for Dry Creek Western Wear. I had to rediscover my acting skills that have become lost since my high school speech days, but eventually I got the job done.

And that is the conclusion of my traveling this year. I can hardly believe it. I have one more trip to Hobbs, New Mexico for the Steer Roping finals and I will only have one very important appearance left—Las Vegas!! Wish me Luck!  
Kristen Schott MRN 2008



My Mom and I @ Ogallala Send-Off

Hanging Out with the 'Lil Guy

Limo Ride @ Cowgirl Hall of Fame Inductions

Me and Miranda Dodson @ Hastings Rodeo

A Special Friend @ Lolly Klug's Ranch

Send-Off In Ogallala

Turning Back Cattle @ Prairie Circuit Finals Steer Roping

Kid's Ag Fest @ River City Roundup

MRN 2008, Miss Burwell Rodeo, and Miss Buffalo County @ Hastings Rodeo

**"GOLDEN GIRLS" HONORED FOR YEARS OF SERVICE**



For more than 50 years, the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Association has supported the sport of rodeo by selecting a young lady to serve as ambassadors for both rodeo and the state of Nebraska. The success of the MRNA is the result of a group of dedicated volunteers. At the core of the organization are four women who have just over 100 years of combined served. We love these ladies and they were honored during the 18th Annual Miss Rodeo Nebraska Style Show which took place during the pageant held in North Platte. The "Golden Girls" are better known as Betty Priel, Mardee Swanson, Karen Troyer, and Sharon Halligan. Chairwoman of the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Pageant, shared the following valuable information about each of these ladies.

- Betty has been a member of the MRNA for 14 years and has served on the MRN Pageant Committee for 10 years. She not only lends her talents to the pageant committee but has been on the Silent Auction, Queen Clinic, Send-Off, and Coronation Committees. Betty's special project has been to grow the Scholarship Fund, insuring that every contestant receives a scholarship. During Nebraska Land Day's Bud and Betty have hosted 15 Miss Rodeo America's making her a comfortable home away from home during her visit to the Buffalo Bill Rodeo.
- Mardee is a Charter Member of the MRN Pageant Committee and a Charter Member of the MRNA, currently serving as the President. She was instrumental in the foundation of the Association, and has served on every committee in every capacity. She was our State Delegate to Miss Rodeo America, Inc. and currently sits on the National Advisory Council. Mardee has been a judge for State Pageants, the Nebraska High School Rodeo Queen Pageant, and the National High School Rodeo Pageant. Mardee served on the Nebraska Land Day's Board, and was one of the few woman president's while serving on that board.
- Karen Troyer was on the Buffalo Bill Rodeo Queen committee for many years, and has continued serving on the MRN Pageant Committee after it was organized in North Platte. Karen has been both Chair and Co-Chair for the pageant. She is a Charter Member of the MRNA, of which she has been president, chairmen for the Queen Clinic, and served on every event committee. Karen has served on the Horsemanship and Registration Committee's for Miss Rodeo America.
- Sharon started her volunteer career by serving on the Buffalo Bill Rodeo Queen Committee. She was MRN Pageant Chairperson for several years and currently sits on the Miss Teen Rodeo Nebraska committee. Sharon has also been the State Delegate for Nebraska at Miss Rodeo America. On the National Level, Sharon served 9 years on the Miss Rodeo America Executive Board, where she was president for 2 years. She was re-elected to the Executive Board last year. Due to illness, last year was the first Miss Rodeo America Pageant she missed attending. Sharon has judged 17 State Rodeo Queen Pageants, the Nebraska High School Rodeo Queen Pageant, and the National High School Queen Pageant. She has privately worked with several State Queens in their preparation for Miss Rodeo America Pageant.

THANK YOU LADIES!!!!!!

**2009 MISS RODEO NEBRASKA PAGEANT**

**PAGEANT PLANS UNDERWAY**  
Plans for the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Pageant are in the making. Although the 2008 Pageant was a big success, changes will be made to make our 2009 Pageant even better!! Dates for this years pageant are June 14-17. Events open to the public will include: Horsemanship Competition, the Queen's Luncheon, the Style Show (which will again be an evening event), Speech Breakfast, and Coronation of MTRN 2009, and the Coronation of the 2010 MRN during the Wednesday evening performance of the Buffalo Bill Rodeo. Those interested in competing for the title of Miss Rodeo Nebraska 2010 or Miss Teen Rodeo Nebraska 2009 may contact Karen Troyer, 10641 West Foothills Road, North Platte, NE 69101, 308-532-7199, or Carol Nelson, 4020 West Sunset, North Platte, NE 69101, 308-534-1538. Deadline for applications will be April 1, 2009. We are again offering a Pageant Sponsorship Package to individuals and businesses wishing to be a sponsor during the four days of the pageant. Cost of the sponsorship will be \$500.00 and will include the following:

- Horsemanship (a free event), 2 tickets to the Queen's Luncheon, 4 tickets to the Style Show, 2 tickets to the Speech Breakfast and Teen Coronation, 4 tickets to the Wednesday night performance of the Buffalo Bill Rodeo and Queen Coronation, Introduction at events, Banner logo advertising at each events and at the LaQuinta Hotel (host hotel for the pageant), Logo advertising in the Pageant Program, Pageant Posters, North Platte Telegraph, North Platte Bulletin, the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Association Newsletter, the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Web Page, and a logo spot on KNOP TV's advertisement for the pageant.

Pageant sponsors will be limited to eight this year and there are only six spots remaining. If you are interested in being a 2009 Pageant Sponsor, please call Sharon Negley at 308-530-4064 or 308-532-8877.

The Pageant Committee would again like to thank all of the businesses and individuals who made our 2008 Pageant a success. Our best wishes to Kristen Schott for a safe and successful trip to the MRA Pageant in Las Vegas.

**"REALITY SHOW OF A RODEO QUEEN"**  
MRNA Inc.'s 17th Annual Rodeo Queen Clinic  
March 7-8, 2009 @ Becky's Hall of Celebration in North Platte

- Featuring: AMY WILSON, MRA 2008
- Sessions Include:
- ♦ Dancing w/the Stars (Etiquette) Senior Girls Only
  - ♦ Survivor (Rodeo Knowledge)
  - ♦ Extreme Makeover (Appearance)
  - ♦ The Amazing Race (Games)
  - ♦ Project Runway (Modeling)
  - ♦ America's Got Talent (Speech & Interview)
  - ♦ Are You Smarter Than a 5th Grader (Horsemanship and Rodeo Tests)
  - ♦ So You Think You Can Dance (Respect) Junior Girls Only
  - ♦ American Idol (Horsemanship) Senior Girls Only
  - ♦ Deal or No Deal (Sponsorship) Senior Girls Only
- COST OF THE CLINIC:**
- ♦ Senior Girls (17 & over) 2 days \$150.00 Each girl shall bring her own horse.
  - ♦ Junior Girls (11-16) 1 day only \$80.00 (Horsemanship is not offered to the Jr girls. If you want to stay and observe only, it will be an additional \$20.00 which includes meals.
  - ♦ Pageant and Pageant Directors \$30.00
  - ♦ Coaches \$60.00
  - ♦ Adults MRNA Members \$20.00
  - ♦ Horse stalls per horse/day \$10.00

REGISTRATIONS AND FEES MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MARCH 1, 2009.  
For registration information: clinic@missrodeonebraska.org  
Or Sharon Halligan, 6454 West Foothill Road, North Platte, NE 69101

Cowgirl Mercantile—Saturday Night only 6-9 p.m. @ Becky's Hall of Celebrations



HOWDY ALL!!

It seems time has flown and I am in the slower part of my year. Recently I attended the Nebraska State Rodeo Association Finals in North Platte September 6-7. My duties were numerous throughout the weekend. Before it all started I had to send-out letters to invite all of the State Rodeo Royalty. I had 12 girls there to help me during the weekend. They were great and very efficient with the grand entry and carrying sponsor flags. There were numerous activities of the weekend that I had a blast with. Cleaning the arena, visiting with the contestants and spectators, and helping with the kids rodeo. I enjoyed seeing the future faces of our amazing sport of rodeo show off their competitiveness. And I think with the all of the rains that provided mud for them that weekend, it made it all the better for them. They all cowboy'd up and didn't complain. I would have to say the absolute best part of my weekend was the opportunity I was given to carry the beautiful American Flag for all three performances. It was so moving; it sent chills up my back knowing I was carrying the symbol of the country I love so much. God Bless America!! I would like to thank Linda Evans and Mardee Swanson for giving me an amazing weekend. Also to my mom, Laurie, for all she did in organizing us ladies!!

Kristin Kohmetscher MTRN 2008



THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO TAMMY MOORHEAD MTRN 2007

We would like to express our gratitude and appreciation from the Miss Rodeo Nebraska Association to Tammy for the wonderful job she did as Miss Teen Rodeo Nebraska 2007. Her smile and bubbling personality most certainly made her welcome at every event that she attended; she touched many lives and hearts during her reign. Tammy is a young lady that has loads of potential to continue on in the Rodeo Queen World. We hope to see her at many Area Queen Contests the next few years; she would be an asset to any rodeo or pageant. Of course we hope her future includes the goal of becoming Miss Rodeo Nebraska. Thank You Tammy for the dedication you gave as you carried the title of Miss Teen Rodeo Nebraska 2007.



MRNA MEMBER APPLICATION 2009

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ST: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE# \_\_\_\_\_ CELL# \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please write legibly—we communicate almost exclusively w/emails)

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 General Membership
\_\_\_\_\_ \$10.00 Youth Membership (age 16 & under)
\_\_\_\_\_ \$50.00 Rodeo Membership
\_\_\_\_\_ + \$10.00 late fee—renewals after 3-31-09
\_\_\_\_\_ = Total Amount due

Please indicate all committee(s) you would be interested in serving on:

- \_\_\_ Queen Clinic \_\_\_ Little Cowgirls \_\_\_ Send-Off Style Show
\_\_\_ Sponsorship \_\_\_ Scholarship \_\_\_ Queen's Luncheon
\_\_\_ Any Other \_\_\_ Officer of MRNA

How Many years with MRNA???

THANK YOU!!

Please fill out this form and return it with payment to: Bonnie Ehlers—MRNA, 12206 East Ehler Road, Stapleton, NE 69163. If you need more information email: membership@missrodeonebraska.org

MRN 2008 SPONSORSHIP DIAMOND

Grid of 50+ sponsor logos including Battle Creek State Bank, Nebraska Land Days, Visible Changes Salon, Jewelry by Wilkinson Enterprises, Miss Rodeo Nebraska Association, Morrison Enterprises, North Platte, Denise Langley, E.S.P., Ruby & Peg's Dolls, Sew Unique, Country Kitchen, Chief Motel, La Quinta, Blank Agency Inc., Nebraska Land National Bank, CENEX, Regency Portraits, Dry Creek Western Wear, Spectrum Quick Copy Center, Bill Summers, Summers-Zoellner, Jody's Auto Sales, River's Edge Ranch Supply, Tailor Maid, Divots Conference Center, Jessen Ranch, Reeves Farms, Carhart Lumber Co., The First National Bank of Valentine, Jansen & Wragge Produce, Art Cottage Inc., Walls Ranch Wear, Fort Western, The Rocky Mountain Boulder Company, Lucky D Tack Shop, Vinyl & Graphics by Custom Craft Sign Co., MacCooks Daily Gazette, Golight, Sunbelt.

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The generous support of all the sponsors is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

## 2009 MISS RODEO AMERICA PAGEANT INFO



This year the MRA added a new award to be presented during the 2009 Miss Rodeo America Pageant. Anyone with a cell phone will be able to vote for his or her favorite contestant. The People's Choice voting will take place Saturday, November 29th (beginning at noon) and ends Thursday, December 4, at midnight. [Votes accepted only during those times/dates.] The winner will be announced at the MRA Scholarship Foundation Cowboy Christmas Auction, Dec. 5. If you wish to vote: text to **73997**, type **Miss Rodeo**, then type her **state**. (example: Miss Rodeo Michigan) Each vote is 50 cents; standard text rates apply. There is no limit on how many times you can vote for your favorite! You look over the contestants on the [Contestants' Pages](#) and learn more about them on their respective state websites.

**Good luck wishes** can be emailed to the 2009 Miss Rodeo America Pageant contestants beginning Friday, November 29th until Friday, December 6th at noon. The email address is [missrodeopageant@yahoo.com](mailto:missrodeopageant@yahoo.com)

Thanks so much for your support!



## NOTES FROM THE PRESIDENT

WE ARE HEADED TOWARD THE END OF THE YEAR, AND IT HAS BEEN A GOOD ONE FOR THE MISS RODEO NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION. THE SEND-OFF AT THE HAYTHORN RANCH WAS AS ALWAYS AN ENJOYABLE EVENING; THE HAYTHORNS PROVIDED A WONDERFUL MEAL AND SUCH A BEAUTIFUL SETTING TO PREVIEW THE CLOTHES THAT KRISTEN WILL BE WEARING IN LAS VEGAS. THERE WERE MANY GOOD COMMENTS ON HER SELECTION AND WE KNOW THE SHE CAN BE "MISS RODEO AMERICA 2009". THANK YOU TO LORI BORTNER AND THOSE THAT HELPED PUT ON THIS SPECIAL EVENT. THE MEETING IN OCTOBER WENT WELL, AND I APPRECIATE THOSE WHO TOOK THE TIME TO COME AND BRING SOME NEW MEMBERS. I APPLAUD ALL OF THE COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERSHIP FOR THEIR HARD WORK THIS YEAR AND GETTING THEIR BUDGETS FOR 2009 INTO THE TREASURER. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL MET ON THE 10TH OF NOVEMBER TO WORK ON THE OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2009 AND PUT COMMITTEE LISTS TOGETHER FOR NEXT YEAR. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK ON A CERTAIN COMMITTEE, PLEASE LET ME KNOW, AS WE WILL FINALIZE IT IN JANUARY. WE WILL HAVE TWO MEETINGS IN JANUARY; THE FIRST MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE AFTERNOON OF AMY'S CORONATION—JANUARY 10TH IN CHADRON @ 3:00 P.M. MST AT CHADRON STATE COLLEGE STUDENT CENTER LOBBY ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE BUILDING. THE SECOND MEETING WILL BE IN NORTH PLATTE @ 3:00 P.M. ON JANUARY 18TH @ THE LAQUINTA INN. SEVERAL OF US ARE HEADED TO LAS VEGAS TO SUPPORT KRISTEN AND WORK AT THE PAGEANT. MOST OF US ARE VERY BUSY WORKING ON DIFFERENT COMMITTEES, BUT OUR MAIN PURPOSE IS TO CHEER KRISTEN ON AT EVERY EVENT. PLEASE CONTINUE TO CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ON ALL OF OUR ACTIVITIES. AS THE HOLIDAYS APPROACH, I PERSONALLY THANK EACH OF YOU AGAIN FOR YOUR SUPPORT THIS LAST YEAR AND WISH EACH OF YOU A BOUNTIFUL THANKSGIVING, A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND ONLY THE BEST IN THE NEW YEAR.

MARDEE SWANSON, MRNA PRESIDENT



Wow, I can't believe it has been almost five months since I was crowned Miss Rodeo Nebraska 2009. Time flies when you're having fun. Since the last time we talked I have been traveling the countryside doing all sorts of things. I have to say the best part is the people I get to meet. I have had the best experiences and made life-long friends. And my host families have become the same as family. They have opened up their homes and their hearts to me and I am eternally grateful. I will begin where I left off last time when I was a contestant in the Working Cowgirl Competition at The National Day of the Cowboy Celebration in Ainsworth. It was fun and I bet the audience got a kick out of seeing me in full queen attire doing ranch chores. I know the cow I had to milk gave me a double-take when I milked her wearing a bright, purple, sequined shirt. I got the job done and placed second to boot! Another crazy adventure was at McCook at the Red Willow Fair and Rodeo. Before the rodeo, Samantha Shearer, Kristin Kohmetscher, Samantha's brother, and I were in the chore time races. We had so much fun. If only my pig would have gone into the pen a little easier we would have finished better. He was very ornery. The rodeo had its moments as well. My horse was a little different to begin with—short-strided in the front and long-strided in the back—then he wouldn't

stand during the National Anthem, and when we presented sponsor flags I literally lost my left stirrup, so I left the arena at a trot since he was so rough to ride. The clown found my stirrup in the arena during the bareback riding. Those are the times when all else fails, just smile, it can't get any worse. This crazy streak continued the next weekend when I planned to take my horse Special to the Sioux County Parade and Rodeo in Harrison. That morning he decided to put his leg over the fence and leave me horseless. I called my friend Crystal who said I could borrow her horse any time I wanted. We got to Harrison which was Pig Pen's first trip to town, first time around flags, parades, and rodeos. So I was thinking to myself "Oh boy do I have my work cut out for me!". I just thought if I get dumped on my head I will always be jabbed about it by everyone in Northwest Nebraska. When the parade started we followed the Sioux County Fair and Rodeo Royalty without a problem. I was thinking this is great. I then decided to sack him out with my flag. What happened next will forever be etched in my mind. I have had horses jump, snort, shy, and kick when being sacked, but never whine. Yes, he groaned like he was in agony. It was the funniest thing. And after a few times passing the flag all around him he thought eating grass more entertaining. For a five year old I was thinking this horse is worth his weight in gold. Pig Pen's next test was the rodeo arena with the flag before the rodeo. He went in thinking it was a little scary but came out half asleep. His final test for the day—which would settle the score if he was the horse that every rodeo queen dreams of getting—the rodeo. Yes, he passed with flying colors—literally the flag run went well. The rodeo chutes, calves, and other horses didn't bother him a bit. Pig Pen has been the most honest, open-minded, young-old horse that I have ever ridden. He takes top honors in my book of good horses. Now let's talk about some good cowgirls. I went to the Miss Rodeo Cherry County Queen Contest in Valentine. Coronation had us anxious to hear the results because two of my dear friends were contestants. Kari Qualley won and Shy Lee Hewitt was runner-up. I was so very proud of both of them. Next stop was Gordon for the Miss Rodeo Sheridan County Queen Contest. Taya Lembke was crowned queen, Chamayne Strong was crowned Princess, and Eva Oliver was crowned Junior Princess. It is always nice going to contests, cheering on the girls, helping them calm their nerves, and seeing them accomplish their goals. Any girl who takes the time to prepare and compete in a rodeo queen contest is a winner in my eyes win or lose. It shows that she believes in herself and her abilities. With faith and determination she will eventually prevail. I competed in four contests before tiling. Never give up, dreams do come true. I love to watch new titleholders represent for the first time at their rodeo. It has always been an adrenaline rush for me and by watching and helping girls I think it is for them too. It makes accomplishment sink in. I saw this first-hand at the rodeos I have attended lately—Harrison, Gordon, and Valentine. I also represented at two performances of the Wahoo Rodeo. I had a blast and they do a swell job with their rodeo as far as stock, entertainment, committee, and production. I represented at other rodeos throughout the state such as McCook and the Mid-States Rodeo Association Finals in Valentine. Among all of the traveling, I found time to attend some community events such as the Dawes County Fair Gymkhana, Chadron Town-Car Sale, Brewster Community Picnic, and Old West Days. My dear friends Shirley Sellman and Natalie Noecker hosted a reception for me in Chadron. It was very nice and fun to see friends who couldn't make it to North Platte for the contest. Amidst the hustle and bustle of our two schedules, Kristen Schott and I snuck away to Denver to go shopping at WESA Market. What a place! It's huge and if you don't go in with a mission you will be swept away by the awe of the size, things, and variety that is there. Kristen showed me the ropes and it was wonderful for the two of us to be able to spend some quality one-on-one time together. I saved the best for last, Kristen's Send-Off Celebration at the Haythorn Ranch. It was wonderful seeing everybody. I love functions like that where we can all get together. Some people who were there I hadn't seen since the pageant in June. Did I mention Kristen is going to Rock Vegas!! She is such a wonderful, determined, genuine, and beautiful young lady thru and thru and has an awesome wardrobe for the Miss Rodeo America Pageant. She will do her best and represent us well.

Amy Amack MRN 2009

### RIDE FOR THE BRAND

**WHO:** AMY AMACK MRN 2009  
**WHAT:** 2009 MRN CORONATION  
**WHEN:** SATURDAY JANUARY 10, 2009  
**WHERE:** CHADRON STATE COLLEGE STUDENT CENTER BALLROOM  
 CHADRON, NE  
**COST:** \$15/PERSON OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

5 P.M. SOCIAL HOUR AND SILENT AUCTION  
 6 P.M. BUFFET DINNER  
 7 P.M. PROGRAM W/LIVE AUCTION TO FOLLOW



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HORSESHOE IN SHAPE OF A LONGHORN W/ BRAND CANDLEBRA'S ARE BEING SOLD. FIRST 30 @ \$50 AFTER THAT THE PRICE IS \$75. WILL BE ABLE TO TAKE HOME AFTER CORONATION. CALL AMY AMACK MRN 2009 TO RESERVE YOURS TODAY @ 308-430-4723!

