



MISS RODEO WASHINGTON ASSOCIATION

Volume 2, Issue 1

February 2010

Mark the Date

Feb 27 MRW Coronation
6pm Social Hr 7pm Dinner
Big Bend Comm. College
ATEC Bldg - Moses Lake

Feb 27 MRWA Board Mtg
Noon - open to all members
Rodeo City BBQ-Ellensburg

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION

If you have suggestions, an article or announcement you would like included in the next issue of MRWA News, please send to:

mrwanews@comcast.net

Deadline for next issue

May 15

Introducing Katie Garfield Miss Rodeo Washington 2010

As Washington's 2010 First Lady of Rodeo, Katie will eagerly dedicate this year in supporting of one of our nation's truest legacies--rodeo, and the ever-diverse state of Washington. Throughout the upcoming year Katie aspires to share with others the foundational cowboys beliefs that have held constant over many years; the saturation of true Faith, sportsmanship, and the hardworking image of the American cowboy. Katie is grateful to represent Washington's crown with sincerity, optimism and enthusiasm.



"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper and not to harm you, plans to give you a hope and a future." Jeremiah 29:11

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS 2010

Tegan Coward
Kristian Davis
Marilyn Lindquist
Nicole Miller
Aryiha Zanders
Kayce Chlarson

2010 MRW Titleholders



MTRW Kelsey Gunnier



Kesley Gunnier won the crown after a week-long pageant held during the Ellensburg Rodeo. She swept six judged categories of the pageant: Speech, Appearance, Knowledge, Horsemanship, Presentation and Personality.

Kelsey is the 18-year-old daughter of Charles and Connie Gunnier. She was born and raised in Toppenish, Washington. A small town with the motto, "Where the West Still Lives" so you can say it was fate she would grow up to be a cowgirl. She was born with glitter in her veins and rodeo in her blood. With her father, a three-time world champion qualifier, she has followed his footsteps down the rodeo trail. She started competing in rodeos at age five and has never looked back or let the dust settle. She won her first rodeo queen title at age eleven and has held a title every year since.

Kelsey now lives in a town so nice they named it twice and home to a national champion college rodeo team, it has to be Walla Walla. She attends Walla Walla Community College and competes on the school's rodeo team.

Kelsey will travel hundreds of miles this year promoting the sport we all know and love. She will be seen in rodeos, parades and may other public appearances throughout 2010. As Miss Teen Rodeo Washington, it will be her goal to be quick with her smile, friendly with her wave, generous with her time and a role model to all.

JMRW Madison Wagner



Introducing Madison Wagner, who was crowned Junior Miss Rodeo Washington on October 10th in Toppenish. In earning the title, Madison won the categories of: Horsemanship, Appearance, Personality, Photogenic, Presentation, Sales, Volunteerism and Congeniality.

Congratulations Madison!

LMRW Josey Shannon



Introducing Josey Shannon, who was crowned Little Miss Rodeo Washington on October 10th in Toppenish. Josey swept the categories of: Horsemanship, Appearance, Personality, Speech, Photogenic, Presentation, Sportsmanship, Directors, Sales, Volunteerism and Congeniality.

Congratulations Josey!

MRWA – The Latest

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Approximately fifty members from across the state of Washington gathered in Silverdale on January 31st to attend our Annual Meeting and to mark the trail that their Miss Rodeo Washington Association will follow. It was exciting, and encouraging, to see so many members present, and to witness their commitment to our program.

Primary on the agenda was the election of Directors and the consideration of Bylaws revisions. Special thanks to all, for weighing in and letting your opinions be known.

I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome Christine Hunter, Cheryl Brown, Scott Rummel and Jeff Crouch to the Board of Directors. Christine was elected National Director, Cheryl was elected Secretary, Scott was elected Vice President and Jeff was elected Treasurer by the Board of Directors following the Annual Membership Meeting. Congratulations to all.

The Board is now comprised of a healthy mixture of experience and innovation, and I am confident that our organization remains in good hands. I look forward to working with each and every one of them.

After a year-long effort, numerous phone calls, countless emails and a couple of meetings in The Dalles Oregon, the Bylaws Committee submitted a draft document to the membership which provides greater clarity and is concise and well organized. Although the draft document received some opposition, it was adopted by the membership by a wide margin and should serve us well as we move forward. Special thanks to Sharon Crouch, Michelle Hunter, Ron Graham and Scott Rummel for their dedication and hard work on this project.

Now that our organizational meeting is behind us, we can turn our attention to "An Evening of Western Elegance" as the lovely Miss Rodeo Washington, Katie Garfield, hosts her coronation banquet on Saturday, February 27th in Moses Lake.

I hope to see you all there as we get to know each other better, and support the First Lady of Washington Rodeo.

See you soon! Roy

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

CHRISTINE HUNTER

Over the past ten years Christine has helped her three daughters prepare for more than 20 queen pageants. She guided them through more than 12 titles and has traveled to various rodeos throughout Washington, Oregon, Idaho and British Columbia. Chris rides with the Skagit Rein Riders ladies Rodeo Drill Team and also serves as the leader of Boots & Buckles 4-H Club. Chris is excited to be the National Director for MRWA and hopes to bring a fresh outlook to an already great organization.

CHERYL BROWN

Ellensburg resident Cheryl Brown, is not only a member of the Miss Rodeo Washington Association, but also has personal experience with rodeo queen pageants and rodeo events. She began competing in Jr. Rodeos at the age of nine, continuing on through high school rodeo and was part of the Central Washington University rodeo team. Cheryl is now a member of the Ellensburg Barrel Racing & Roping Clubs. She looks forward to her role as Secretary of the MRWA and is dedicated to helping the organization achieve its goals.

SCOTT RUMMEL

Scott's roots run deep in the western way of life growing up on a ranch in Montana. Since becoming affiliated with MRWA, Scott has served on the pageant committee, the Bylaws committee, and as an Honorary Board Member. Scott has attended several MRA pageants, taking part in workshops and assisting with the activities sponsored by MRWA. He is excited to have been given the opportunity to serve as your Vice President and looks forward to the growth and development of this outstanding organization.

JEFF CROUCH

Jeff Crouch has been involved with horses for close to two decades. The father of Jessica Crouch, MRW 2008, Jeff has attended countless rodeo queen pageants and coronations, He has served as Finance Chair for the Miss Rodeo Washington Association, as well as a judge for the Clark County Fair Equestrian Court and the Miss Kitsap Stampede. Jeff's experience as a Senior Financial Analyst and Auditor with the City of Vancouver will serve him well in his role as your Miss Rodeo Washington Association Treasurer.

Former's Corner

MTRW 2009 Farewell

Former Titleholders Tid-Bits



Nicole Miller (MTRW 05) is a co-advisor to the Clark County Fair Equestrian Court.

Jessica Schuler (MRW 06) was recently promoted to Human Resource Coordinator at the Hazel Dell (Vancouver) Fred Meyer's.

Jesse Budd (MRW 07) has been appointed Pageant Coordinator for the Lewiston Round-up. She also accepted the Manager's position at Wild West Ranchwear in Lewiston, Idaho.

Jessica Crouch (MRW 08) is working as a Vet Tech at Brookside Animal Hospital in North Ogden, Utah.

WANTED

Are you a former MRWA titleholder or know someone who is? We'd love to catch up with them and perhaps feature them in future newsletters. Please contact mrwanews@comcast.net



Everyone says "time sure flies when you're havin' fun" and everyone could not have been more right. This past year has been the best it could have ever been. With over 7,000 miles traveling to 32 rodeos, 10 parades (even winning a few), and 12 pageant coronations this year really has flown by. The last time I wrote I was headed on to the MRW/MTRW Pageant and the Ellensburg Rodeo. Thank you Roy and Cheryl Chance for everything you did for my family and I that weekend! Hauling my horse to the rodeo grounds and letting us sit in your box seats is something that made that weekend ten times better, even if it was raining the whole time. As September came my whole family took a drive down to Pendleton, for the experience of a lifetime. Amanda and I rode in a buggy through the Westward HO! Parade, which is an amazing site. With October came the end of the Pro-West rodeo season too. Congrats to my sister Amanda who is Miss Pro-West 2010. The Sedro-Woolley Christmas Parade brought my year to a close. However, as this one closes a new year starts.

Susan, where can I begin to thank you? Gaining you as a friend this past year is one of the most memorable moments by far. You donated not only your clothing but also yourself. There was never a time where I couldn't text or call no matter what the reason was. You truly were my fairy Godmother the entire year!

Mom, Amanda, and Michelle, you three helped me in more ways than one. Whether it was fluffing my hair, telling me that outfit looked ridiculous, or dragging me in the car, you all were there to help me whenever I needed it.

Kelsey, some people say that MTRW is a small title but it is not in any way! In fact it is larger than most think because of what you will make it. Make the most of your year and have fun doing it!

Thank you to everyone who made my year spectacular!

