

**ACTRA National Board Held Annual Meeting in Reno  
January 20 – 22, 2012**

New National President Jim Oliveira called his first meeting to order January 21, 2012 in Reno. Despite the weather issues that made it difficult to get there, the meeting was well attended. Jim actually got started on Friday with a workshop where Chapters could share ideas on how to handle certain Chapter requirements. The two workshops worked on Chapter elections and chapter numbering procedures, the workshops were very informative and the end result will help make a more uniform procedure throughout the organization.

One of the changes you will see at this year's National Finals is that the Open Roping will start on Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> of October at 2:00 pm and will be followed by the #12 Roping. This should cut down on some of the long days at the first of the week.

The Board listened to a proposal from Tom Spitsnaugle who represents TotalTeamRoping.com. Tom represents a group of Team Roping Professionals who offer online instruction and tips to all skill levels of team ropers. The Professionals include, Clay O'brien Cooper, Jake Barnes, Charles Pogue, Bobby Harris, Cesar de la Cruz & Bret Beach. The Board felt this would be a great benefit to ACTRA Members and decided to endorse TotalTeamRoping.com. There will be more information about the great benefits in the near future.

Skyline Silversmiths will continue to be a major sponsor and the official Buckle maker of ACTRA. Les Vogt will continue to be a major sponsor and the official Bit and Spur maker of ACTRA. Tommy Lee was selected as the cattle manager of this year's National Finals. Tommy has been producing ACTRA ropings for a number of years and is well qualified for this job. Bill Myers C.E.O. of Cactus Saddlery extended an invitation to ACTRA to come and visit the saddle factory in Greenville, Texas. During the visit ACTRA Directors will design the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary saddles for the National Finals. Many of the Chapters will take this opportunity to design their saddles. This is a great opportunity for ACTRA and Cactus Saddlery to build on their partnership.

Business Manager Mike Sweeney is excited about a couple of new sponsorships that he hopes to announce in next month's article.

The Board also spent some time discussing things to improve over last year's National Finals and hopes to make the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary National Finals more exciting and fun than ever before. Check the articles in Ropers Sports News every month and their website as well as the ACTRA website on a regular basis to get the most up to date announcements on this year's Wrangler/Professionals Choice ACTRA National Finals October 20<sup>th</sup> thru 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012.