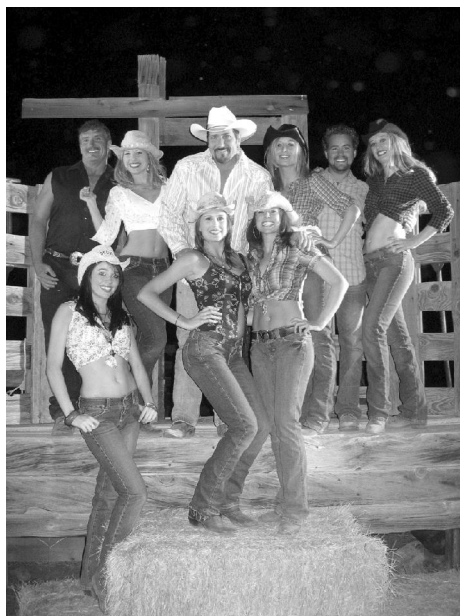


For my birthday celebration, I finally had a chance to see **Kathy Griffin** and her hilarious D-List Comedy Act at the **Silver Legacy Hotel & Casino**. From the moment she walked out on stage until her final bow – non-stop laughter. No one is off limits and Ms. Griffin is fearless in her candid observations about celebrities, the rich & famous and she certainly is no less harsh to herself. I decided to have a double-dose of laughter and went back for the second show!

Then I was off to Washington to see my daughter Kristan perform, (brilliantly I might add) the role of Rosalind in Shakespeare's "**As You Like It**" at Harper Joy Theatre. I was an extremely proud parent and very impressed with the entire cast and production!

Back in Reno, I attended Nevada Repertory's very entertaining version of "**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat**" at the University of Nevada Reno. The next night I

Giordano, who just passed away this past March, wrote his highly acclaimed and first-of-it's-kind book "Anthology of American Jazz Dance" in 1975. As a side note, I still have the hardback copy and used it as



"Wrangler Walk"

article, I've had the opportunity to work on two great video projects. First, my dancers were chosen to appear in the **Rebel Hearts** video "**Wrangler Walk**" (filmed by

was again at UNR to see the wonderful Spring Dance Concert with special guest dancers from the **Gus Giordano Jazz Dance Company** based in Chicago, they were truly inspiring in performance and technique. Mr.

Christopher Blanton, edited by Tom Wolfe) which will get played June 19-28 during the Reno Rodeo's "**Wildest, Richest Rodeo in the West!**" Don McDowell, the producer, is currently in Nashville checking into TV exposure. One of the filming locations was a "working ranch" in Wellington, NV (about 2 hours south of Reno past Carson City and Gardnerville) complete with authentic cowboys, horses, cattle, dogs, sagebrush, dust, hay bales, and a corral used as the performance stage and lit by the lights of four pick up trucks. It was a fantastic Nevada filming experience!


For YouTube viewing we filmed a "Hug Your Kids Today" video to mark July 21 as "**National Hug Your Kids Day**". The founder, Michelle Nichols, who tragically lost her 8-year old son, has turned this horrific loss into an inspiring and positive message to remind all parents to hug and love their children everyday. My good friend, Kia Crader founder/director of "Fascinating Rhythm School of



"Hug Your Kids Today"

a helpful reference guide while studying dance both in Reno and in LA.

Since my last

Performing Arts" involved her students and families plus created the choreography, all to help get out this very simple but important message. Again, **July 21** and that day you may notice billboards across the U.S., generously donated by Lamar Advertising Company and Clear Channel Outdoor, carrying the message to "Hug Your Kids", for more information visit www.HugYourKidsToday.com. 

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