

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

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March Edition Newsletter Deadline: February 25th '10 Send submissions to: LEVI HUNTING: AGRA, P.O. Box 40465 · Phoenix · AZ 85067-0465

THE BRANDING IRON

Monthly Newsletter for AGRA

From the Desk of the President

Howdy Cowboys and Cowgirls,

I am proud to say that the 25th anniversary of Road Runner Regional Rodeo will one that will be remembered for many years to come! Your rodeo team has been working around the clock for several months to put on this amazing event! I am so proud of this team for sticking together when obstacles were thrown at us. The team treated them as tiny speed bumps. Thank you for the overwhelming support from past members that have stepped up to the plate to offer their expertise. Thank you to Ron Trusley, for guiding our team and always being there to answer questions and being there for support. I also want to thank Tim Dougherty for an amazing job with our vendors. You are truly amazing!! To our sponsors Bud Light, Charlie's, Echo Magazine, N'touch, IONAZ, Rawhide and countless others. This would not be possible without your support.

Our debut of Country Idol was a huge success, thank you to the following bars that participated: Apollos, BS West, Cash Inn, Charlie's, Kobalt, and The Rock. What a huge turn out for every bar! Make sure you get out to Rawhide on Friday night, there is some amazing talent that will be out there!! Good luck to all the contestants that made it to the finals!!

Congratulations to Ionna Doublewide and Travis James for a wonderful reign as Miss AGRA and Mr. AGRA, we will continue to support you as you continue on with your IGRA reign. Thank you for being there for our contestants and getting them ready for the AGRA competition. We have an extremely strong royalty team again this year and our membership should be very proud of them!!

MR. AGRA- Michael Butts 1st Alternate- Ferdy Quezada

Mster AGRA- Ace Master

Ms. - Sharon Starks

Miss AGRA Claudia B.

CONGRATULATIONS to all of you!! GREAT JOB!

I hope to see you all out at the rodeo grounds next weekend! It is truly going to be a blast!! Please check out our website for ticket information as well as events www.agra-phx.com With that said IT'S TIME TO RO-DEO!!!

Happy 25th Anniversary Road Runner Regional Rodeo!!!

Sincerely,

Michael Weidmann AGRA President February 2010

Secretary

From the Desk of the Secretary

Howdy Folks, Happy Birthday and many more to these members of AGRA.



9-Feb	Chuck Greiner
11-Feb	Sherry Mullen
15-Feb	David Vitale
17-Feb	Patrick Nichols
23-Feb	Justin Owen
23-Feb	Shelda Wilde
26-Feb	Keith Carson
27-Feb	Cole Eisenhour



Well folks it has really been an eventful year. I am so proud to have been in the service of AGRA as your Secretary. I want to thank all the membership for their support and for the care they have shown. I am still learning each year and someday, if you let me, I might run for office again. I hope that I have served you well.

I have completed the new Bylaws and Membership Application which I hope will be proofed and out on the web site very soon. Remember that your memberships come due for renewal on 1 March 2010.

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Our membership still stands at 127 strong. I hope we will have as strong a year for 2010.

Keith A. Carson Secretary 2009



Trustee's Report

AGRA members entered four (4) different categories in the 2010 IGRA Dance Competition on January 16, 2010 in Las Vegas. Veronica Plascencia entered the Beginner Line Dancer competition; Charles Grosky entered the Intermediate Line Dancer competition; Nicholas Sharma entered the Advanced Line Dancer competition; and the Arizona Heatwave entered the Open Dance Team competition. They are all the 2010 IGRA Dance Competition Champions. CON-GRATULATIONS TO EVERYONE! Everyone did an excellent job, and AGRA should be very proud of them!

I want to remind everyone that the AGRA Annual Corporation Meeting and Banquet are scheduled for Saturday, February 27, 2010. If you are planning to attend, you must RSVP no later than Saturday, February 13. Look for information in this Branding Iron.

The 25th Anniversary Road Runner Regional Rodeo is almost here, and I hope to see many AGRA members at the rodeo. This would be an excellent time to volunteer in some area for a few hours and to visit with people from the other IGRA Associations.

In the last IGRA Board Meeting on January 15, two major decisions were made. The 2011 IGRA University will be hosted by the Gateway Gay Rodeo Association (GWGRA) in St Louis, Missouri. The 2011 World Gay Rodeo Finals will return to the Mojave Crossing Event

Center on the Fort Mojave Indian Reservation with the Avi Resort & Casino in Laughlin, Nevada as the host hotel. The 2010 World Gay Rodeo Finals will be in this same location.

On March 1 the 2010 AGRA Board Members will take office. I want to welcome Bob Shukis as Secretary and Claudia B as Fund Raising Director. I also want to especially give a very big THANK YOU to Keith Carson for his past service as Secretary and to Pussy LeHoot for his past service as Fund Raising Director. Both have served AGRA very well, and I appreciate everything they have done!

As always, please contact me anytime if I can help you.

Ron Trusley AGRA Trustee E-Mail: <u>rtrusley@cox.net</u> Phone: (602) 510-9671



Pack up your gear... The rodeo is almost here!







Arizona Gay Rodeo Association invites you to its 25th year of rodeo with the Road Runner Regional Rodeo: Presidents' Day Weekend, February 12-14, 2010.

RODEO EVENTS AT: RAWHIDE at WILD HORSE PASS 5700 W NORTH LOOP RD CHANDLER, ARIZONA

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12: WESTERN COOKOUT, COUNTRY IDOL FINALS & CONTESTANT REGISTRATION... all at RAWHIDE MORE INFO, ADMISSION & RV TICKETS AT www.agra-phx.com (602) 265-8166

HOST HOTELS: GRACE INN PHOENIX and the new WILD HORSE PASS HOTEL & CASINO

SPONSORED BY

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WS MAGAZINE ECHO COMPETE



We finally made it!!! Rodeo is almost here. The Rodeo planning team has worked very hard to host our special 25th year anniversary rodeo, begining Friday February 12, 2010 at Rawhide In Chandler. Though we had a few bumps along the way we managed to succeed. Dan and Myself want to thank the entire team for a job well done!!!!. We wish to thank the membership, our Trustee Ron Trusley and our President Michael Weidmann for all of the help, support, and hard work putting this event together. Rodeo will start off with contestant registration at the Branding iron Room in the town at Rawhide. Our entertainment will begin at 7:00 PM with the finals of Country Idol. Please come and support your favorite Idol contestant!!! We have planned a dinner to start at the same time. There will be a bonfire on the lawn at Rawhide.

Along with the entertainment in the Pavilion, all of our vendors will be open and ready so you can shop. Mr. James Allen Clark will be performing Friday night, and through out the weekend. Ticket prices for Friday nights events are \$8.00, which does not include the dinner. The price for the dinner and show/ entertainment is \$30.00. You have 2 dinner choices: Chipotle Mesquite Grilled Salmon fillet with Mixed green salad, Baked potato, Dinner Roll with Butter, Coffee, Ice tea, Water or, 6 oz Top Sirloin Steak, with 1/4 BBQ Chicken, Mixed Green Salad, Baked Potato, Dinner Roll with Butter, Coffee, Iced Tea, Water.

Ticket Prices-

Special Weekend Pass which includes Friday night entertainment / Show and Dinner Saturday, Sunday Rodeo events and Entertainment \$50.00

Friday night Entertainment/ Show- \$8.00 Friday night Entertainment with dinner -\$30.00 Saturday Rodeo events, entertainment- \$17.00 Sunday Rodeo events and Entertainment - \$8.00

Check out the Web Site for more Information and for the entire Weekend Schedule.

Our special 25th year Anniversary Grand Entry will begin at 1:00 PM. We have arranged to have a Ferris wheel on the grounds this year, along with an Adult Slide. Remember Sunday is valentines day, come take a ride with your Sweetie!!!

Hope to see Everyone there, We need all of your support!!!

George Immeso & Dan Iversen Rodeo Directors

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AGRA MEMBERSHIP & BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

February Board Meeting 3rd @ 7pm, Charlie's Offices, 727 W. Camelback Road February Membership 7th @ 5:00 PM Charlie's Dance Floor

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Contact Info

Board of Directors

Michael Weidmann President Phone: (602) 466-4624 Email: m.weidmann@hotmail.com

> Michael Butts Vice-President Phone: (602) 768-8469 Email: mjbutts1@msn.com

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> Pussy LeHoot (a.k.a. Kevin McSweeny) Fund Raising Phone: (602) 518-5064 Email: plehoot@yahoo.com

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Ionna Doublewide aka Kyle Ross (623) 202-6821 kyleqross99@yahoo.com

Mr. AGRA 2009

Travis James (602) 430-8706 tjrn01@cox.net

Ms. IGRA 2009 Sharon Starks (602) 402-0076

2nd Runner-up Mr. IGRA Michael Butts (602) 768-8469

2nd Runner-up Miss IGRA Pussy LeHoot (602) 518-5064

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