

# THE BRANDING IRON

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



### ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

Howdy Cowboys and Cowgirls,

Well it looks like we made it through the long hot summer. It is now time to really start gearing up and getting involved in the Rodeo Planning for the 2012 Road Runner Regional Rodeo. AGRA is teaming up with the RODEO Team and we will be having a booth at the Rainbows Festival Oct 1 and 2nd 2011. We need several volunteers for both days shifts. If you are interested please contact Christy Barnett to set up a time slot to volunteer.

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September 2011 Edition  
Next Newsletter Deadline:  
September 25th 2011

Send submissions to:  
[Justin@TheCreativeArcade.com](mailto:Justin@TheCreativeArcade.com)

I would like to congratulate Marcus Sandoval aka Trixie Delux on winning Miss AGRA 2012. Trixie met all requirements and will be an asset to the AGRA family!

Thank you all who volunteered at the Delegates fundraiser on September 25th. Remember all monies collected during those fundraisers will be divided up for those who were present to help with costs of going to the IGRA convention in November.

Have a safe and Happy Rainbows Festival Weekend, I will see you out at the booth!

**Michael Weidmann**  
AGRA President



# THANKS BOB!

Howdy Folks!

Seems like this year is really flying by. And now the holidays are just around the corner. And so are the Rodeo Finals and our 2011 Rodeo! And for these folks that share October as a birthday month, the year has flown by and they're heading into another one. We all wish you a Happy Birthday and for many more to come!

<b>10/04</b>	<b>Michael Butts</b>
<b>10/10</b>	<b>George Immerso</b>
<b>10/26</b>	<b>David Holmes</b>
<b>10/26</b>	<b>Doug Holmes</b>
<b>10/28</b>	<b>Richard Merritt</b>
<b>10/30</b>	<b>Cindy Morgan</b>
<b>10/31</b>	<b>Ruben Contreras</b>

Our membership now stands at 84 members, 8 of which are Champion Members.

Again, I would also encourage members to attend the General Membership Meetings. Even in the slowest of times for AGRA, your presence is always important. We want to keep the interest in our organization as high as possible. And again, as Rodeo approaches, do what you can to encourage new members. Talk up our organization and what great things we do for the Community through our charities.

Saddle Up folks...the ride is just beginning!!

Bob Shukis  
2011 Secretary

Hello AGRA Members,

Here is the financial report:

Thank you,

Jai  
AGRA Treasurer



June: Balance Sheet	
Total Assets	\$5,382.71
Checking	\$5,382.71
CD	\$0
Non Rodeo	\$2,639.70
Rodeo	(\$1,695.33)
Year to Date 2011 Rodeo Net Income	(\$14,489.61)
Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Program Ads \$450	Generator Rental \$1686.33
	Volunteer Party \$200
	Refund \$259
Non-Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Membership Dues \$71	Bank & Credit Card Exp 127.95
Merchandise \$15	IGRA Fundraiser \$2675.50
Apollos Kowby Karaoke \$191	Office Expense \$184.85
Pride Beer Booth Sales \$5351	
July: Balance Sheet	
Total Assets	\$6,241.99
Checking	\$6,241.99
CD	\$0
Non Rodeo	\$548.80
Rodeo	\$0.00
Year to Date 2011 Rodeo Net Income	(\$14,489.61)
Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Non-Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Membership Dues \$211	Bank & Credit Card Exp 128.35
Grand Ol' Opry \$651	Office Expense \$184.85







# TRUSTEE

## Trustee's Report

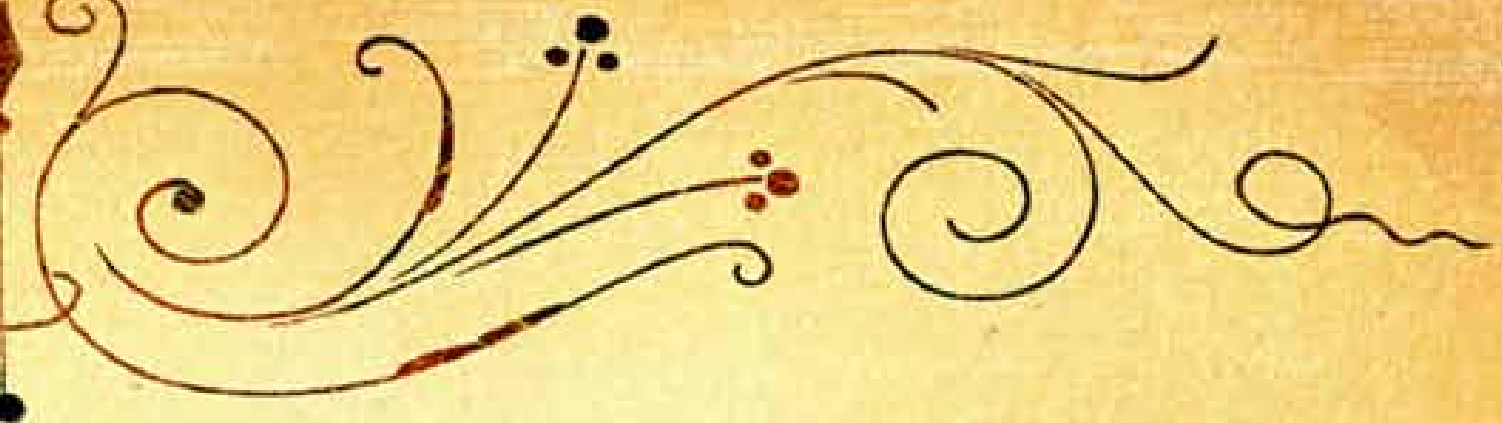
I am sure you all are ready for some cooler weather just as I am. Well, I just returned from a short 2-week vacation to Wisconsin to visit family. It rained most of the 7 days we were in Wisconsin. Then when we left on Monday, September 25, to drive back to Phoenix, it rained for the entire day! The rain was very heavy at times, but it was certainly good to see "real rain". Actually, we wore jackets for the entire time we were in Wisconsin.

Now I have lots of work to catch up on as I prepare to go to the 2011 World Gay Rodeo Finals in Fort Worth, Texas, which will be October 7-9. I hope to see many AGRA Members at this rodeo.

And, it is really hard to believe that it is almost time for the 2011 Annual IGRA Convention. The convention will be November 11-13, 2011 at the San Diego Mission Valley Hotel. Room rates are \$109.00 per night, and self-parking will be available at a reduced rate of \$5.00 per day. More information is available on the IGRA website ([www.igra.com](http://www.igra.com)). I encourage all Delegates, Alternate Delegates, and anyone else planning to attend convention to make your room reservations as soon as possible. Reservation deadline is October 19.

Per AGRA Bylaws, nominations for the Board of Directors shall be received at each membership meeting in November and December of each year with elections being held in January of the next year. Those elected will take office on March 1 for a 1-year term ending the end of February the following year. So if you think you might be interested in filling the position of President, Vice President, Secretary, Fund Raising Director, or Public Relations Director, it is not too early to start letting other members know, and to ensure someone nominates you.

**CONTINUED...**

A decorative flourish consisting of several thin, dark lines that swirl and curve across the top of the page. Some lines end in small, dark, circular shapes, resembling buds or berries. The background is a light, textured yellow.

**I want to ask everyone to think of ways to encourage AGRA members to attend membership meetings and to actively participate in all AGRA events and activities. AGRA needs the participation and involvement of all members. One never knows how much fun it can be to really participate in the various events, even if it is at the slightest level.**

**In the October membership meeting, I will review IGRA Bylaws/Standing Rules and Rodeo Rules proposals that have been submitted for 2012. Then after the annual convention in November, I will be able to report on which bylaws and rules were approved.**

**I want to encourage you all to start thinking now about attending the IGRA University in January 2012. University will once again be held in St Louis. Attendance and participation in IGRA University is a great learning experience, and I think an experience you will be glad that you had.**

**Ron Trusley, Trustee  
E-Mail: [rtrusley@cox.net](mailto:rtrusley@cox.net)  
Phone: (602) 510-9671**



# **PUBLIC RELATIONS**

**Hello A.G.R.A. members and friends -**

**In September, Arizona Gay Rodeo Association was pleased to announce its newest Royalty: Miss A.G.R.A. 2011 is Trixie Deluxe! We welcome Trixie as the newest member of that long list of Arizona royalty. Be sure to stay tuned to our website, [www.agra-phx.com](http://www.agra-phx.com) for updates as Trixie announces her future appearances and fundraisers.**

**Are you one of our Facebook friends? Why not? It's easy to find us... At the top of your Facebook page, just type "Arizona Gay Rodeo Association" in the Search Bar - and click to Friend us today!**

**Did you see it on our website already? Well, I can't blame you for not noticing --- it was not a major change - more like a tweak. In September, the Board of Directors approved an update to A.G.R.A.'s logo. It looks very similar to the original, however, the main change is what in printing terminology is called "pixillation." As small pictures are enlarged, they often become blurred and the pixels become visible. Our logo can now be easily sized and adapted for small, medium, and even LARGE printing needs. It will now stay crystal clear on ads, t-shirts, sashes, and banners of ALL sizes.**

**On September 25, Charlie's hosted an A.G.R.A. delegate fundraiser. In order to defray a portion of this year's IGRA Convention expenses, delegates and alternates sold jello-shots while the entertainers donated their tips to the cause. Be sure to catch us again on Saturday night, Oct 22 and Wednesday night, Oct 26. We appreciate your support!**

**Greg Gillum  
A.G.R.A. - Public Relations**





# MEETING SCHEDULE

**AGRA Board Meeting**  
**Schedule 2011 - 2012**  
**(Charlie's Office)**

**May 11**  
**June 8**  
**July 13**  
**August 3**  
**September 14**  
**October 12**  
**November 16**  
**December 7**  
**January 4**  
**February 8**

**AGRA Membership Meeting**  
**Schedule 2011 - 2012**  
**(Charlie's Dance Floor)**

**May 15**  
**June 12**  
**July 17**  
**August 7**  
**September 18**  
**October 16**  
**November 20**  
**December 11**  
**January 8**  
**February 12**



# CONTACT INFO

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# **ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION**

**A.G.R.A.**

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