



BRANDING IRON

December 2015

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President's Report

Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and A Happy New Year!

2015 is almost over which means Arizona Gay Rodeo 2016 is just a few short months away. Bob P Rodeo Director and the Rodeo Committee have a great deal of new things planned to help make AZ Gay Rodeo 2016 even better than before.

Congratulations to Ron Trusley on being elected to the International Gay Rodeo Association Board. Ron will start this new position in January. It is very exciting to have someone from Arizona in such a key position. Good Luck Ron!

Also Congratulations to Bob Pimentell who was elected in November as Arizona Gay Rodeo Association Trustee. Bob will serve as the liaison between AGRA and IGRA. We look forward to Bob representing AGRA and sharing with us each month what is going on at the IGRA level.

Country Idol kicks of this month! Thank you to Richard and Rudy for all of their hard work to put this event together. Check out our Facebook page and website for more information.

A reminder that at our December 20th board meeting we will be taking nominations for the AGRA Board of Directors with elections happening in January. That meeting will start at 7pm with our annual Holiday Bake Sale beginning at 5pm and an AGRA Christmas with Pussy LeHoot and Friends at 8pm.

The Holidays are always a busy time for all of us. Please make sure you take the time for family, friends, and yourself. Cherish the time you get to spend with them and have a wonderful Holiday.

Seasons Greetings,

Todd M Wyckoff
AGRA President

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President's Report

AGRA Shirts are now available for order! They are a rust color long sleeve cotton button down shirt that the membership voted on in our monthly membership meeting. If you are interested in purchasing one please contact:

Gabriel Medellin at gmedellin78@gmail.com

The cost of each shirt is:

\$33.50	Sizes Small to XL
\$35.50	2XL
\$37.50	3XL
\$5.00 Extra charge for	Name on shirt

Todd M wyckoff
AGRA President

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Vice President's Report

Well, November was a big month. I was able to attend IGRA Convention and helped mold the rules for the 2016 Royalty Competition. We have 4 people running in AGRA for Mr., Miss, Ms., and Mster. I'm hoping that we can get a couple more people to step up and run, right now we have 3 Mr.'s and 1 Miss. We're busy planning out Rodeo and it looks like we will have a nice show in February.

I was also able to attend the NGRA Royalty Contest over Christmas weekend and they now have a new Mr. and Ms. that will be going on to compete at Finals. We already have a couple shows for our upcoming royalty here in December, as of this writing, the 5th and the 26th, shows will be at the Rainbow Cactus.

Michael Brent
A.G.R.A. Vice President.

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Trustee's Report

AGRA was well represented with 6 delegates and 1 alternate delegate at the 31st IGRA Annual Convention in St Petersburg, Florida. Each person attended committee meetings on Friday and participated in the business sessions on Saturday and Sunday. AGRA should be very proud of your representatives at convention.

Elections were held for IGRA Vice President and Secretary for 2-year terms beginning January 1, 2016. Jason Bernard-TGRA was elected as Vice President and Ron Trusley-AGRA was elected as Secretary.

Although, the business sessions seemed to run quite late, there were not a lot of major changes to IGRA Bylaws/Standing Rules and Rodeo Rules. Some changes were rather minor. Following are changes I think are significant to mention:

- Voting by ballot will not be allowed in IGRA Directors and Trustees meetings.
- The Women's Outreach Committee was changed to Women of Gay Rodeo Committee.
- The president will now appoint an Animal Issues Committee Chairperson and request each Member Association to provide a representative to the committee.
- The Rodeo Officials Committee (ROC) will be a standing committee.
- In the IGRA Royalty competition, there will now be 7 judges, instead of 5.
- Contestants will choose to compete in either the horsemanship or entertainment category, and the choice will be indicated on the application at submission. Once the application is submitted, the category cannot be changed.
- In rodeo events rerides must be completed during that go of that event and contestant should be moved to the end of the running order for that gender's event.

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Trustee's Report

On line registrations for a rodeo must be completed and paid for by 10:00 pm mountain time.

- For roping events, at the start of the event, the finish flag judge will be mounted on horseback and positioned in the arena on the header box side.
- In breakaway roping, if the rope accidentally makes a half hitch around the saddle horn, the rider may undally the half hitch but cannot assist in the rope breaking away from the horn.
- In chute dogging, the start judge will drop a flag and simultaneously blow a whistle when the chute gate begins to open.
- In chute dogging, losing contact with the steer such that no part of the contestant is touching any part of the steer will result in disqualification.
- In chute dogging, a dog fall (dog fall defined as head in an opposite direction of one or more legs) will be a disqualification.
- Chute dogging will have a 60 second time limit. Arena buzzer, horn, or whistle will sound to indicate the end of the 60 second time limit.

The 2016 World Gay Rodeo Finals will be October 21-23 at South Point in Las Vegas. No bids were presented to host the 2016 IGRA Annual Convention, so the Board of Directors will choose a location.

I want to thank Walt Hutter for the many hours he dedicated to preparing for the annual Christmas bake sale and for baking for numerous hours. Also, thanks to Michael Butts for spending over 8 hours helping on Saturday. Thanks to everyone who sold or helped sell raffle tickets for the turkey giveaways. Money raised from the raffle ticket sales was \$296.00, and \$492.00 was raised from the bake sale.

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Trustee's Report

Now it is time to start planning for the annual Christmas bake sale that will be Sunday – December 20. If you can help with the baking preparations on Saturday – December 19, call Walt Hutter at (602) 510-9672. We will be giving away 2 large hams, and raffle tickets are now available for \$1.00 each. If you would like to take tickets to sell, contact Ron Trusley at (602) 510-9671 or Walt Hutter at (602) 510-9672.

My Trustee term will end December 31, 2015, and Bob Pimentel will begin a 3-year term on January 1, 2016. I want to thank the board and AGRA members for their support during the 9 years I have served as AGRA Trustee. It has been a rewarding experience, and an experience that I will cherish. I encourage you to give the same support to Bob. My departure as Trustee also means that I will no longer be on the AGRA Board, but I will still be available and willing to help and/or to answer questions, provide information, etc.

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a wonderful New Year in 2016!

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

BRANDING IRON

Treasurer's Report

October: Balance Sheet

Total Assets	\$3,675.48
Checking	\$3,675.48
CD	\$0
Non Rodeo	(\$1,640.33)
Rodeo	(\$10,625.99)
Year to Date 2016 Rodeo Net Income	(\$10,625.99)
<u>Rodeo</u>	-
Income:	Expenses:
Weekend Pass \$50	Arena Rental \$10000
RV Park \$75	Posters \$50.99
	Saction Fee \$700
<u>Non-Rodeo</u>	-
Income:	Expenses:
Membership Dues \$25	Bank & Credit Card Exp \$127.95
	IGRA Convention \$875
	Membership \$45.83
	Awards \$42.80
	Bake Sale \$500
	Telephone \$73.75

November: Balance Sheet

Total Assets	\$5,943.19
Checking	\$5,943.19
CD	\$0
Non Rodeo	\$617.71
Rodeo	\$1,650.00
Year to Date 2016 Rodeo Net Income	(\$8,975.99)
<u>Rodeo</u>	-
Income:	Expenses:
Vendor Space \$1450	
Program Ad \$200	
<u>Non-Rodeo</u>	-
Income:	Expenses:
Membership Dues \$325	Bank & Credit Card Exp \$78.19
Rainbows Festival \$215	Telephone \$75.10
Fundraisers \$181	
Contestant Fee \$50	

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Secretary's Report

Happy December to all the AGRA members out there! We are going strong with 172 members, including a new champion member, Randy Mackey, who re-joined late in November. I'd like to wish a happy birthday to the following members who celebrate their special day this month. Hope to see lots of you at our December meeting and don't forget we'll have another bake sale and raffle, as well as a show to go with it!

Dec 2 Francisco

Dec 4 Rick Manucy

Dec 5 Harry

Dec 6 Bob Pimentel

Dec 9 John Carnet

Dec 10 Adriana

Dec 10 Leo

Dec 13 Jobber

Dec 20 Gabriel Browne

Dec 24 Patrick Roe

Dec 27 Gary Hatterman

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Roe

A.G.R.A. Secretary

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Fundraiser Director's Report

Howdy all,

Hope your holiday season is going well.

Our AGRA bake sale raised \$492.00 and our turkey raffle raised \$296.00.

Upcoming AGRA events

December 5th

Mark Christensen candidate for Mr. AGRA 2016 has a fundraiser at Rainbow Cactus show time is 10pm. Proceeds to benefit Joshua Tree.

December

Christmas bake sale and show to follow AGRA membership meeting. Show time 8pm at Charlies . Also a ham raffle. Tickets are a \$1 each

December 26th

Candidates Mr. AGRA 2016 Dan Oldenburg and Jeff Smit will be having a AGRA fundraiser at Rainbow Cactus show time at 10pm

Come out and support AGRA and Joshua Tree this month.

Thanks for your continued support to our community.

Michael Butts

Mipsy Mikels Miss AGRA 2015

Fundraiser Director

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Public Relations Director Report

Hello all,

I hope you all have had a fabulous November. I look forward in the final weeks of the year to reach out to the community and create a business relationship with several more businesses in obtaining sponsors for our 31st annual Arizona Gay Rodeo.

If any of you members know of any business, organization, or individual that would like to become a sponsor please let me know.

Thank You,

Carlos L. Rodriguez

A.G.R.A. Public Relations Director

(480) 433-6150

Clr480@gmail.com

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**R E M I N D E R !!! R E M I
N D E R!!!**

AGRA's Christmas Bake Sale, an annual fund-raising event is just around the corner. It will be in Charlie's on Sunday -December, 20, 2015 beginning at 3:00 pm.

If you can volunteer a few hours to help with the baking and decorating the baked goods on Saturday - December 19, we would love to have you. Just call me at (602) 510-9672.

Raffle tickets are on sale for \$1.00 each for a chance to win a large ham. Two hams will be given away with the drawing on Sunday evening.

You do not have to be present to win!!! Talk with one of Charlie's bartenders or call me to buy tickets. If you would like to take tickets to sell, just let me know.

Come out on December 19 (the day before Christmas) and buy your breads and cookies to share with your friends.



BRANDING IRON

2015 AGRA ROYALTY

Mr. AGRA 2015
Jeffrey Smit

Miss AGRA 2015
Mipsey Michaels
AKA Michael Butts

Mistr AGRA 2015
Rusty Bolts
AKA Sharon Starks

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2015 AGRA Board of Director's

Todd Wyckoff

President

Phone: 602-616-5353

Michael Brent

Vice-President

Phone: (602) 448-3086

Patrick Roe

Secretary

Phone: 480-577-5976

Jai Crystal

AGRA Treasure

Phone: 602-463-0972

Carlos Rodriguez

Marketing Director

480-433-6150

Michael Butts

Fundraising Director

Phone: 602-403-9154

Ron Trusley

Trustee

Phone: 602-510-9671

Rodeo Contacts

Bob Pimentel

Rodeo Director

Phone HM: 505-265-0000

Phone Mbl: 505-306-4759