



BRANDING IRON

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am very pleased to report that Mark Boyd has been appointed as Branding Iron Editor, and I am confident he will do an excellent job. I am also happy that we will begin publishing the Branding Iron each month.

We had a board retreat on June 4, 2017, and I think it was quite successful. My goal/plan is now to schedule other similar retreats, e.g., Royalty. I feel these events are a very good learning experience for everyone.

An Audit Committee has once again been appointed, and the committee should begin its work very soon. Plans are to conduct an audit at least quarterly with the first audit being for January-March 2017.

If you would be interested in serving on an Election Committee, please let me know, as I want to appoint the committee no later our July membership meeting.

The IGRA Annual Convention will be November 10-12, 2017 in Little Rock, Arkansas. AGRA is entitled to six delegates and five alternate delegates. Per the AGRA Bylaws, the AGRA President and Trustee are automatically delegates. Since I currently serve as the IGRA Secretary, the AGRA Vice President will move into



my delegate position. There are still four delegate positions and five alternate positions. Nominations were received in the May and June membership meetings, and voting will take place in the July membership meeting. If you have not been nominated, but are interested in attending the convention as a delegate or alternate delegate, just let me or Trustee Michael Brent know. It is not too late!!!!

I hope to see many of you in our July 16 membership meeting at 3:00 pm on Charlie's dance floor.

As always, contact me if you have questions, need information, have suggestions or would just like to talk about AGRA.

-Ron Trusley

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

2017 AGRA Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Ron Trusley

E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

Phone: (602) 510-9671

VICE PRESIDENT

Sharon Starks

E-Mail: starkrazy56@yahoo.com

Phone: (602) 402-0076

SECRETARY

Chris Fairbrother

E-Mail: c.fairbrother.agra@gmail.com

Phone: (480) 217-7136

TREASURER

Walt Hutter

E-Mail: whutter@cox.net

Phone: (602) 510-9672

TRUSTEE

Michael Brent

E-Mail: azcby2@gmail.com

Phone: (602) 448-3086

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Mark Christensen

E-Mail: mrogra2010@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 219-7075

FUND RAISING DIRECTOR

Jayne Christensen-Walker
(aka Nikki Starr)

E-Mail: missrainbowcactus2012@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 219-8183



Over \$17,000 was given to local charities during June's member meeting. See "Public Relations Report" for more info!

next
member meeting:



JULY

16

3:00pm

@ Charlie's
on the dance floor



2017 AGRA Royalty

MR AGRA 2017

Jeffrey Smit

E-Mail: jeff-smit2008@yahoo.com

Phone: (480) 466-2988

MR AGRA 2017 1ST RUNNER-UP

Mahlon Lovell

E-Mail: mlovell4@msn.com

Phone: (602) 931-0641

MS AGRA 2017

Christi Starr Mikels

(aka Chris Fairbrother)

E-Mail: c.fairbrother.agra@gmail.com

Phone: (480) 217-7136

MISS AGRA 2017

Mipsy Mikels (aka Michael Butts)

E-Mail: mjbutts1@msn.com

Phone: (602) 403-9154

MSTER AGRA 2017

RJ Mikels (aka Cindy Fairbrother)

E-Mail: rjmikels1@gmail.com

Phone: (480) 232-5873

2017 IGRA Royalty

MR IGRA 2017/MR AGRA 2016

Mark Christensen

E-Mail: mrogra2010@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 219-7075

MISS IGRA 2017 1ST RUNNER-UP/

MISS AGRA 2016

Nikki Starr

(aka Jayme Christensen-Walker)

E-Mail: missrainbowcactus2012@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 29-8183



RODEO DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The first meeting of the Rodeo Committee was Sunday – June 11, 2017. The committee determined several tasks and set time lines to accomplish the tasks. We are off to a great start, and I am expecting great things for our 2018 rodeo.

Very soon I will announce coordinators for the various positions, and the committee will continue to meet regularly. The next meeting will be at 12:30 pm on Sunday – July 16 in Charlie's Offices.

in Phoenix in the month of February!

The Stock Contractor and all officials will be selected soon, and as they are confirmed, I will let you know who they are.

We have paid our first two deposits of \$5,000.00 each for the arena facility rental. Our next \$5,000.00 deposit is due September 1.

I want to thank Michael Weidmann for once again taking the lead in coordinating and leading three different special

fundraisers for the rodeo. The first fundraiser was raffle ticket sales for two bicycles. Ticket sales generated a total of \$5,436.31. Thanks to everyone who sold or bought tickets – especially Charlie's employees who sold the



The Wyndham Garden Phoenix Midtown has been selected as the host hotel with a room rate of \$119.00 per night which includes a full buffet breakfast each morning. This is an excellent rate

majority of the tickets. The next fundraiser will be raffle ticket sales for a chance to win a large (probably 60 inch) flat-screen television. This fundraiser will begin in July and go until September 17. I would like to encourage each member to take tickets to sell – even if you are only able to sell a few tickets.

I am hoping that we will be able to have all known expenses for the rodeo paid before the rodeo weekend.

Keep tuned for more information about Country Idol, and, hopefully, a few bar crawls leading up to rodeo weekend.

I will keep you updated as things occur through my report in membership meetings and through an article in the monthly Branding Iron. Information will also be available on our website (agra-phx.com) very soon.



Saul Aguilar, winner of one of the two bikes raffled on June 11, 2017. The raffle raised over \$5,400 for the Rodeo.

Ron Trusley
Ron Trusley

Rodeo Director, 2018 & 2019

Phone: (602) 510-9671

E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Well, it certainly has been a busy year already, and we are just over halfway through. New friends made, old ones reacquainted, its amazing about this big rodeo family and where we've come from. Here's a tidbit about the definition of the trustee:

trust·ee
/trə'stē/
noun LAW

an individual person or member of a board given control or powers of administration of property in trust with a legal obligation to administer it solely for the purposes specified.
synonyms: administrator, agent, More

It is our responsibility to maintain and keep pushing our organizations forward. I'm up to the task and take my position seriously. I'm hoping that I can make a difference in both AGRA as well as IGRA, and that we can continue to promote the

country/western lifestyle and give back to our communities.

As we head off to Denver rodeo, I'm wishing all of our AGRA Contestants Good Luck, and to our volunteers a very hearty "Thank You".

I'll be going to Santa Fe, hopefully

Kansas City, Las Vegas and World Gay Rodeo Finals in Albuquerque in the future.

Remember, we'll be voting on

our delegates to IGRA Convention in the July meeting.

That's all for now!

Michael Brent
AGRA Trustee

PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT

At June's Arizona Gay Rodeo Association membership meeting the Board presented money to some wonderful organizations that supported AGRA throughout the year.

Thank you to everyone that helped in raising this money over the past year, without you we could not have donated this amount of money to these charities. (Thank goodness for rain insurance also)

In the next few months of the Branding Iron I will introduce each one of these organizations and give you some history about them.

A new digital signage experience will be replacing the old AGRA message board inside Charlie's Phoenix by the dart boards. It will consist of a 55-inch LED television and an Android powered media player. This new signage solution will keep everyone aware of upcoming events, and general information about AGRA and the 2018 Rodeo.

An all-new website is now live at agra-phx.com! This new site will be expanding and adding new content over the next few months. Perhaps the biggest feature of the new site is the ability to now purchase and renew your membership online!

2017 CHARITY RECIPIENTS

Casa de Cristo	\$1,733.00
Community Church of Hope	\$2,509.00
Hell Raisers	\$2,270.00
Joshua Tree Feeding Program	\$3,405.00
P-Flag	\$5,974.00
TIHAN	\$1,434.00

GRAND TOTAL GIVEN IN 2017:

\$17,325.00!

You may also have noticed the new format to the Branding Iron. We want to thank Mark Boyd for the new website and the Branding Iron.

We would love to hear from our members and if you would like to put something in the Branding Iron submit it to marketing@charliesnightclub.com

Thank you,
Mark L. Christensen
Public Relations Director
Mr. IGRA 2017



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Happy Summer AGRA Members!

I'm excited to announce that we have hit 100 members strong and am looking forward to continued growth in Membership in the upcoming months!!

Happy Birthday AGRA Members born in July:

July 2 Ivan McGrew

July 4 Chris Rauscher

July 10 Brian Butler

July 12 Enrique Navarrete

July 22 Jason Parra

July 22 Timothy Schwer

July 27 Curt Biggers

Have a Great Day!

Chris Fairbrother (Christi Starr Mikels)

AGRA Secretary

E-Mail: c.fairbrother.agra@gmail.com

Phone: 480-217-7136

FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings All! I would just like to take a moment to tell you how thrilled I am to be the new editor of the Branding Iron.

Becoming a member of the AGRA has been a huge highlight for me this year! The spirit of friendship and camaraderie found in this group, and how quickly everyone has welcomed me into the organization has been amazing.

I look forward to working on this publication for many years to come and welcome your input! Please feel free to submit articles, news, etc. to: marketing@charliesnightclub.com

Thank you!

Mark Alan Boyd

Branding Iron Editor & Webmaster

E-Mail: marketing@charliesnightclub.com

Phone: 602-717-8685

FINANCIAL REPORT

ENDING BALANCE\$19,176.03

NON-RODEO

NET INCOME..... (\$12,515.86)

RODEO NET INCOME.....\$9,338.55

RODEO YEAR TO DATE

NET INCOME.....\$9,338.55

Walt Hutter

AGRA Treasurer



UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

JULY 16

AUGUST 20

SEPTEMBER 17

OCTOBER 8

NOVEMBER 19

DECEMBER 17

JANUARY 21, 2018

FEBRUARY 11, 2018

Membership Meetings are held at Charlie's Phoenix, on the dance floor and start *promptly* at 3:00pm.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

AUGUST 16

SEPTEMBER 13

OCTOBER 4

NOVEMBER 15

DECEMBER 13

JANUARY 10, 2018

FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Board Meetings are held at Charlie's Corporate Office, at 7:00pm.

NEW NEWS FROM *Nikki*



Dear Community and AGRA Members,

AGRA has taken the bull by its horns on raising funds for our 2018 Rodeo to be held at Corona Ranch

in February. One of our first annual shows was held on the patio of Charlie's Night Club in April "The St. Patio Days" where we raised \$805.51. Then in May, at our second annual show "Chili Verde Day" we were able to raise \$366.00.

On July 1, we hosted another "Grand Ole Opry" on the patio at Charlie's with performances by AGRA Royalty and other guests, raising \$619.00!

Along with our AGRA members,

Royalty, and the staff of Charlie's we sold over \$5,000.00 in chances for 2 Adult custom bikes. Raffled off at our past June membership meeting. Congratulations to Saul and Bobby on your big wins. "Enjoy your bikes!"

We will be putting together another raffle for a 60" Flat-screen Television where our members and Charlie's staff will be selling \$10 tickets.

Stay tuned for more New News from Nikki!

Nikki Starr

Miss. AGRA 2016

Miss. IGRA 2017 1st Runner Up

aka: Jayme Christensen-Walker

AGRA Fundraiser Chair

E-Mail: nikki.starr@jtftadmin.org

Phone: 405-219-8183

UPCOMING EVENTS

Zia Regional Rodeo (Santa Fe, NM)*	August 11-13, 2017
Show Me State Rodeo (Kansas City, MO)	September 01-03, 2017
AGRA Beach Party	September 02, 2017
Best Buck in the Bay-Rodeo on the River (Duncan Milles, CA)	September 15-17, 2017
BigHorn Rodeo (Las Vegas, NV)	September 22-24, 2017
Rainbows Festival (Phoenix, AZ)	October 21-22, 2017
31st Annual World Gay Rodeo Finals (Albuquerque, NM)	October 20-22, 2017
31st Annual IGRA Royalty Competition (Albuquerque, NM)	October 20-22, 2017
33rd Annual IGRA Convention (Little Rock, AR)	November 09-12, 2017
AGRA Day of Christmas at Charlie's	December 17, 2017
IGRA University (Oklahoma City, OK)	January 12-14, 2018
Super Bowl LII (52) (Minneapolis, MN)	February 04, 2018
Charlie's/AGRA Mini Rodeo	February 14, 2018
33rd Annual Arizona Gay Rodeo *	February 16-18, 2018
Rodeo Volunteer Party	February 23, 2018 (Friday)
AGRA Annual Corporation Meeting/Banquet	February 24, 2018 (Saturday)

*Indicates IGRA Rodeo Division 2