

The

BRANDING IRON

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 16363, Phoenix, Arizona 85011

DO IT IN THE DARK!



RODEO
AUGUST 16 & 17
Phoenix, Arizona

THE CORONA RANCH & RODEO GROUNDS

**FRIDAY NIGHT
EVENTS**

Bareback Bronc
Steer Decorating
Chute Dogging
Goat Dressing
Steer Riding
Wild Drag Race
Bull Riding

**SATURDAY NIGHT
EVENTS**

Team Roping
Barrel Racing
Calf Roping On Foot
Wild Drag Race
Pole Bending
Breakaway Calf Roping
Flag Race

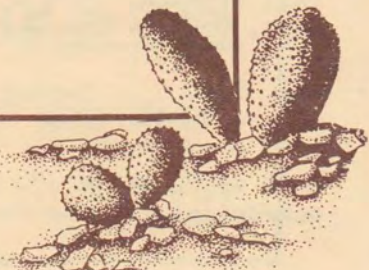
Full Service Bars & Open Dancing Both Nights!

Gates Open at 2:00PM
Rodeo Begins at 7:00PM

Tickets are \$7.50 each Evening



AN EVENING EXPERIENCE UNDER THE STARS!



SAGUARO REGIONAL UNIT RODEOS

EVENTS, DETAILS, SCHEDULES, NEEDS, WANTS, ETC...

Now what was that little vote we all had several months ago?... Something about a Unit Rodeo?... Well... it's heerreee...! August 16, 17, & 18th, at our usual Corona Ranch and Rodeo Arena, but at a very UNusual time. Two nights under the Stars!

It's now time for all of us to get busy and help make sure this Event is a success. First things first. We're guesstimating that we'll need approximately 1,000 paid bodies through the gates over the weekend, so start rounding-up those friends and planning on their attending. Second, we need your help out there in nearly every area. At this stage of the game, your best bet is to just grab a Member who looks like they know what they're doing, and volunteer your services. Hmmm, Members who look like they know what they're doing... okay, you're right. Maybe you should plan on being at the Volunteer Sign-Up Party, Sunday the 11th. 6:00 PM at "Charlie's". Here's a tip for some "easy duty": A simple 2-hour shift at the AGRA booth either night of the Rodeo will get you a free hat pin and baseball cap if you don't have them yet, plus free admission to the Rodeo that evening. Contact Jay Anderson, Tammi Caprice, Kris Eisenhut, Consuela Rodriguez, or Rob Sherr to reserve your time.

Here's a list of the scheduled Events that we had at press time.

Aug. 4th - Sunday - 11:00AM. BRUNCH at "Wink's". Start nearly two weeks of festivities with this AGRA Fundraiser. Order the Bloody Marys, and adjust your attitude for the upcoming days of fun.

Aug. 11th - Sunday - Noon. BRUNCH. at "Charlie's". Begin this long day with more Bloody Marys and a full stomach. Then stick around for the meetings. This is another needed AGRA Fundraiser.

Aug. 11th - Sunday - 3:00PM BOARD MGTING.
5:00PM MEMBERSHIP MEETING.

Both at "Charlie's". Last chance planning and scheduling for the Event.

Aug. 11th - Sunday - 6:00PM VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP PARTY & TURNABOUT. At "Charlie's". Get your name down to help during the Rodeo, and party with your new "co-workers".

Aug. 12th - Monday - 9:00PM PAST AGRA MISS CONTESTANTS SHOW. At "Charlie's" Continue the party with up to six years of Miss Contestants helping us to keep the week going.

Aug. 14th - Wednesday -9:00PM MINI-RODEO on "Charlie's" Patio. "Practice", and get to know the out-of-town early arrivals, at this strictly-for-fun "Rodeo" featuring such things as a tug-of-war, and stick pony races.

Aug. 16 & 17th- Fri. & Sat.-SAGUARO REGIONAL UNIT RODEOS. The weekend starts as soon as you can get to the Arena Friday morning to help set-up. For all your friends who are planning on attending, the gates (and bars) open at 2:00PM each day, with the Events starting at 7:00PM ea Evening.

Aug. 17th - Saturday -Noon. BRUNCH at "Cash Inn". Recover from Friday night's Events, and get ready for Sat. nights. So many Brunches with this Rodeo... starting to sound Queer to us.

Aug. 18th - Sunday - Noon. RODEO AWARDS BRUNCH on the Patio at "Charlie's". Drag yourselves out of bed early for the final party of the weekend. Celebrate the Award Winners while downing more of those (what else) Bloody Marys.

CONTESTANT SIGN-UP REMINDER

All Contestants must have their registration forms in, or at least postmarked, by Monday, August 5th. For more information, call Ron Trusley at #279-4991. First time Contestants may, as usual, become Members and sign-up at Friday and/or Saturday's Registration from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM out at the Corona's Rodeo Ranch and Arena.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Lots going on this month, both on our local, and the National levels.

One group of us is recently back home after attending Denver's 9TH Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo. While there, Greg Olson took another All-Around title, while first-time Contestant Kris Eisenhut placed in two Events (one on a horse that he was also on for the first time). Our congratulations should go to all who attended.

Another group recently returned from our first Tucson satellite organizational meeting. Interest seems to be really high down there, and we look forward to AGRA's future expansion.

A third group of us is currently leaving for Albuquerque, and the IGRA Convention. These people deserve our thanks for working through all those behind-the-scenes meetings that keep our yearly Rodeo Circuit running smoothly and uniformly. Good luck wishes go to our four Dance Contest Winners who will no doubt do us proud.

All of the above people, will converge back here in Phoenix, hopefully with all the rest of our Membership, the weekend of the 16, 17, & 18th for our Saguaro Regional Unit Rodeos. This is the first time we've tried a Unit Rodeo here in Phoenix, and the first time for an Evening Rodeo on the entire International Circuit. We're taking a risk on this one folks, and really need lots of support from all of you. The more of your support and help that we get, the more successful and fun the Rodeo will be. Please plan on helping us, and attending the Volunteer's Sign-Up Party at "Charlie's" on Sunday the 11th, right after the Membership meeting.

Looking to the future, October's Wichita Finals are fast approaching. In studying the latest Roster Listings, I see where we're in great shape for Division One invitations. We're heavily represented in both Men's and Women's areas, with Men in two to three of the top five places in nearly every Event. There should be a lot of us going up as Contestants, hope to see an equal amount of us in the Stands, cheering them on.

Finally, and quickly before it can't be said again, I'm thankful that we have a full Board working on these activities.

See ya at our Saguaro Unit Rodeos!

Jan Iversen

GAY RODEO GETS PLUGGED IN NYC BOB PIMENTEL DOESN'T

Long distance AGRA buddy Marle Becker, from New York City, arranged for a live radio interview there, talking with CGRA's Wayne Jakino in Denver on July 11th.

Two of Marle's many activities melded together perfectly that day. First, his interest in Gay Rodeo and it's expansion (first acquired here in Phoenix at one of our Rodeos a couple years back) and second, his co-hosting role on New York City's WBAI-FM "Gay Show".

Wayne did a wonderful job of not only plugging our next season of Rodeos and what they're all about, but also of answering the questions of our more politicized friends in NYC concerning Animal Cruelty, and the now successfully ended Miller Boycott.

It's hoped that some previously stalled plans for future charter plane flights to our different Rodeos will now come to pass following this interview. First up may be a group attending our January RRRR.

The interview was originally set to be broadcast live from CGRA's Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo the weekend before, where Marle was busy partying with those locals. A variation on this article's title could have been "NYC Gets Plugged in Denver", but that's another story. Let's just move on to say that the phone lines between NYC and IGRA's President, Bob Pimentel weren't working together that day. Not to worry, we'll be teaching Bob how to turn his cellular phone to the "on" position during Albuquerque's upcoming Convention so that he can hold future interviews.

Thanks Marle, for helping us expand Gay Rodeo to the East Coast. And thanks also for patching that interview from your Federal offices in NY, to our City offices here in Mesa. Spending tax dollars was never more fun!

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL RODEO



RESULTS



GREG OLSON TAKES ALL-AROUND AGAIN!!

Once again our very own Greg Olson took All-Around honors at Denver's 9th Annual Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo. This latest win consolidates his Nationwide lead in points, and should guarantee him an invitation to the October Finals. Also a shoo-in for a Finals invite is Larry Jones, another consistent placer Nationwide, who finished this Rodeo 5th Runner-Up. Greg and Larry also both brought home Buckles for Goat Dressing and the Wild Drag Race.

Placing in two events on Sunday was newer Member Kris Eisenhut, in his first ever time as a Contestant.

Rounding out our little band of Cowboys was Woody, and Jay Anderson. Jay, did every-one comment on what a good likeness last month's cover photo of you was? We know Hollie's been getting nothing but compliments.

Special thanks to Larry Jones' unofficial Secretary, Dan Iversen, who rooted through Greg's bag of ribbons with Kris, to give us the following results (we're all so professional here)...



Saturday -

Larry Jones-

- 1st Place - Goat Dressing
- 1st Place - Wild Drag Race
- 3rd Place - Team Roping

Greg Olson-

- 1st Place - Goat Dressing
- 1st Place - Pole Bending
- 1st Place - Wild Drag Race
- 2nd Place - Bull Riding
- 3rd Place - Barrel Racing
- 3rd Place - Break-Away Roping
- 3rd Place - Team Roping
- 4th Place - Calf Roping on Foot

Sunday -

Kris Eisenhut-

- 3rd Place - Wild Drag Race
- 5th Place - Pole Bending

Larry Jones-

- 2nd Place - Team Roping
- 4th Place - Wild Drag Race
- 5th Place - Break-Away Roping

Greg Olson-

- 1st Place - Chute Dogging
- 2nd Place - Team Roping
- 3rd Place - Bull Riding
- 4th Place - Flag Race
- 4th Place - Wild Drag Race

G.S.G.R.A.

Greater San Diego Chapter
presents



SAN DIEGO RODEO COMING QUICKLY

We know, we know, it's a month and a half away yet, and you're busy watching those Designing Women reruns, but if you don't start making some plans soon, you're gonna ace yourself out of those 21 day-in-advance plane tickets, and end up sleeping with bugs at some flea-ridden Motel Hell.

GSGRA's San Diego Chapter will be hosting their Third Annual Rodeo on Sept. 27 - 29th.

Last chance for our Contestants to earn points towards a Final's Invitation. Last chance for the rest of us to cheer them on. And your last chance to find dates for those Final's trips. Well okay, ONE of your last chances for dates, unless you're say a member of Flex Complex as well as AGRA, like... Oh never mind, he's married... so doesn't need a date... says he only goes there to work-out anyway.

The "one-stop-shopping so you can get back to Suzanne Sugarbaker's one-liners" method...

Call "My Favorite Travel Agency" at #1-800-878-8587, and ask for Sharon Woodard. They're the official travel agency for this year's Rodeo, and will handle all arrangements from airfare and hotel, to car rentals. You might even ask Sharon to help set you up with a date. Who knows, might work. If not, you can still have fun annoying her by asking.

The "turn off the T.V., take control of your life, and make your own damn arrangements" method...

Flights are cheap and plentiful at this early date, try our major competitors, Southwest, and America West.

The host hotel is the San Diego Marriott Mission Valley at #1-800-842-5329. Rates are \$69.00 per night (don't we just wonder who arrived at THAT particular dollar figure?!) for up to two bodies (that is what it takes ya know). Wonder if smaller sized people such as Steve Szabo could qualify for half-body status and rates? Go ahead and ask, and annoy those people as well.

Now let's see... where's that Dancers & Entertainers phone number... We're sure Moosela will want to get in touch to perform there... Never mind, none of us needs THAT much annoyance.

The sooner you make those plans, the sooner you can get back to Delta Burke, move it!

TUCSON SATELLITE ORBITS CLOSER

The first organizational meeting for a possible AGRA satellite in Tucson took place at Tucson's "Hours" bar on Sunday, July 21st. Finally took place, we should say, after the usual hassles that first organizational meetings usually encounter. Seems Tucson people were already advertizing a set day and time before Phoenix got word that a meeting was definite, and realized that there were schedule conflicts there. A "pre-scheduled late arrival" was then set-up if that's not too much of a contradiction in terms.

Luckily, John King and Eric Smith were able to arrive down there early and "hold down the fort" for the rest of our group.

Things were in full swing by the time the rest of Phoenix got there. Dan Iversen, Larry Jones, Bob Ryan, and Bill Wyman comprised the rest of our group. Hopefully next time we can have many more.

As it worked out this time, we have nine new Members, several more applications out to be returned, and a list of 39 interested people.

Tucson will now concentrate on keeping the interest up by having another get-together or two, while Phoenix concentrates on poring through IGRA and other State Assoc. by-laws to make sure we set everything up properly.

Thanks for your help so far Mike Butrymowicz, Bill Darnell, Jeffrey Schroeder, and all the rest of you Tucson folks, hold everything together while we organize the paperwork for some major AGRA expansion in the near future!



MOTHER GETS OFF, CONSUELA SITS ON

Sounds like a new smut movie title doesn't it? Only slightly less shocking is the news that Dance & Entertainment Director, Ron "Mother" Erickson will be leaving the Valley (for good this time, we're burning his re-entry card) by the end of this month. Ron's been saying for the last couple years that he's "over the heat", and that it was time to move on. His Valley stay has been his longest anywhere since childhood (course it wasn't so easy to move around in the mid 1800's). Kansas City will be his destination, where he's lived before (did you know he used to be married to a trucker? Wonder if he referred to himself as Mrs. Peterbuilt?) and has maintained many friendships. Though we understand that IGRA VP Doug Wagner is considering fleeing the State just to avoid becoming Ron's neighbor.

We're sure that Ron plans on taking his years of experience doing Entertainment events to MGRA now, in an attempt to show us up. So what will happen to our own January Rodeo Shows which have gained such national acclaim through-out the Circuit under his direction? We're still okay for January '92. As Ron is already well into the planning stages for that event, he'll be retaining his seat on the Board through that Rodeo. Joe Rubio (Miss AGRA Consuela Rodriguez) will be "sitting in" for him at Board meetings, and will act as our local contact. And of course his excellent Dance & Entertainment Committee remains intact. They do all the work anyway, so he can look good up there on stage. We say this only because we're part of his Comm., and it's fun to slag "Louella" once in awhile.

"Mother" shall return to us the beginning of January to produce his final Rodeo shows for AGRA.

For January '93 and beyond? Who knows. Maybe a couple flags hung on a wall and a boombox?

We'll miss ya "Mother"!

BAR CRAWLING TOUR CONTINUES

Scheduled too late for our last issue was a series of "Bar Tours" to publicize our upcoming Unit Rodeos. Luckily for you, there's still time to get in on the final ones.

August 8th and 9th are the dates. Caravaning to some of our local bars is the plan. Passing out flyers, talking up the Rodeo, and drinking way too many cocktails is the "action" (we Members do suffer for our cause don't we?).

Meet at "Charlie's" at 9:00 PM both evenings to get in on this very difficult way to accomplish some volunteer work. And why didn't the Boy Scouts give out Merit Badges for Events like these?



DANCE CONTEST WINNERS SWING TO ALBUQUERQUE

Dance and Entertainment Director Ron Erickson has gotten through his final "Dance Contest from Hell" for AGRA. Came up with some winners too.

Six couples competed overall, with two couples winning free flights and rooms at the Final Competition in Albuquerque.

Two-Stepping their way to the winning Amateur slot were Jim Betz and Ed S., a great looking couple who should make quite an impression at the Convention. Both have been dancing at "Charlie's" for quite awhile, where Jim is working part-time these days as well.

A creative Free-Style helped Jack Addington and Tim Versluys take the Pro-Am slot. Jack's taught dance lessons before, and is currently teaching the Sunburst Squares. These two guys have been dancing together for years (in more ways than one for awhile there) so their technique is perfectly in sync. They just glide across the floor, and should also make a favorable impression in Albuquerque. Good luck to all!

"BITS" "BITS"

David Anaya (Hollie Woods) taking on the awesome responsibility of coordinating the cooking for our Unit Rodeo's Awards Brunch. Don't tell the Health Dept., but we believe there's still bits and pieces of that big blond wig floating around her place. You are therefore advised to bring your appetite... and a strainer to Brunch.

Utah's UGRA has once again been asked to help us co-sponsor January's RRRR. Say "yes" people... we want Wilda Beast!!

The Tabloids have "outed" another Celebrity, this time with Phoenix connections (who would have thought that the Tabloids might some day actually have some truth in them?!). This time funny man Dom DeLuise is the target. Seems that an ex-employee of his is claiming to have had affairs with both Dom and his son's wife. Gives new meaning to the phrase "hired handy man". We'd heard years ago that Dom's frequent trips to Phoenix always included stops at "D.L.'s", one of our older bars that was more recently named "Shamoo's", and even more recently has closed. No facts Madam, just the latest in gossip for your perusal.

President Dan Iversen thinking of assigning seats at the next Board meeting. Hopes to gain more control, and cut down on the screaming... his.

Donna Bell up on charges of "contributing to the delinquency of a mess"? Seems a slightly tipped Woody, and his ever present gum worked her final nerve one recent evening. She pulled out the gum, and stuck in a big wad of chewing tobacco. Wasn't long before the slightly tipped, and now dizzy, Woody was on the dance floor, drooling and doing a line dance to the wrong song. Give us some warning next time Donna, we'll sell tickets and turn it into a fundraiser.

"R.T." PASSES ON

Longtime Gay Rodeo Supporter, and Founding Member of AGRA, Ron Templeton, died of complications of AIDS, on Thursday, July 25th.

Ron (R.T.) had just been voted by our Membership to be the Grand Marshall of our first Saguaro Regional Unit Rodeos.

He will remain with us in spirit as Honorary Grand Marshall of this month's Rodeos.

In addition, January's Roadrunner Regional Rodeo will be dedicated to his memory.

"BITS" "BITS"

Ron "Mother" Erickson escaping AGRA and our clutches without a "formal" goodbye? Perhaps not. We hear of plans being made for Friday, August 23rd, at "Charlie's". Be there around 9:00 PM and help "Celebrate His Leaving"! By the way, we hear that Ron has bequeathed the name "Mother" to Dan Iversen?



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CUSTOM WESTERN SHIRTS

MEMBERSHIP

Eight new Members joined us in June and July. Two of them are joining us as Miss Contestants for our upcoming AGRA Royalty Contest. Two are new Tucson Members. One is half of our recently voted, Best Amateur Dance Contest Couple, and another is the other half of Member Cindy Pepin.

Make a point of looking up and welcoming

...
Mike Butrymowicz (a Tucson Member who used to be part of GSGRA's San Diego Chapter)
Bill Darnell (another Tucson Member)
Bob Fields (cute and quiet they tell us)
Tammi Fischer (Tammi Caprice)
Timothy Krout (Nicolé Leigh)
Keith Roach (Trixie Louisa Tequilla)
Ed S. (our Dance Contest Winner)
Cindy Walker (Cindy Pepin's friend)

We're also losing touch with more of you transients. Would the following people please get in touch...

Andy Caves & Rod Henry
Garic Coleman
Bart Farrell
Geoffrey Williams

Call Phil Looby at #934-7970 and update that address information!

UPCOMING SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| August 1-4th - Weekend | - IGRA Annual Convention
Albuquerque, New Mexico |
| August 4th - Sunday | - Brunch - AGRA Fundraiser
11:00 AM - "Wink's" |
| August 11th - Sunday | - Brunch - AGRA Fundraiser
Noon - "Charlie's" |
| August 11th - Sunday | - Board Meeting
3:00 PM - "Charlie's" |
| August 11th - Sunday | - General Membership Meeting
5:00 PM - "Charlie's" |
| August 11th - Sunday | - Rodeo Volunteer Sign-Up Party
& Turnabout
6:00 PM - "Charlie's" |
| August 12th - Monday | - Past AGRA "Miss" Contestant Show
9:00 PM - "Charlie's" |
| August 14th - Wednesday | - Mini-Rodeo
9:00 PM - "Charlie's" Patio |
| August 16-18th - Weekend | - Saguaro Regional Unit Rodeos
Corona's Rodeo Arena - Phoenix
Gates open at 2:00 PM
Rodeo at 7:00 PM Fri. & Sat.
Sunday Brunch - Noon at "Charlie's" |
| August 23rd - Friday | - "Come Celebrate His Leaving!"
Ron Erickson Moves to Missouri
Party. 9:00 PM at "Charlie's" |
| August 25th - Sunday | - Board Meeting
3:00 PM - "Charlie's" |

Remember: Please bring a non-perishable food item to the General Membership meeting on the 11th. Help to stock Shanti's Kitchen.

