

The Branding Iron

SEPTEMBER 2000

ODDS & ENDS FROM THE PHOENIX CHAPTER PRESIDENT

SEPTEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING:

I want to remind everyone that the September membership meeting will be on Sunday, September 10, beginning at 5:00 p.m. The meeting will be inside Charlie's. At the August membership meeting, we exceeded the quorum, and I would like to see this happen again at the September meeting. If we have reached a quorum by 5:00 p.m., the meeting will begin on time.

NEW VICE PRESIDENT:

Congratulations to Glen May who was elected at our August membership meeting to complete the term of vice president. Glen, welcome to the board, and I am sure you will do a good job. Chuck Browning, who was vice president, resigned this position since he has moved to California, but he will complete (See the board's response to Chuck's resignation letter included elsewhere in this issue of The Branding Iron.)

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS:

The Charitable Contributions Committee had not been able to meet before the August membership meeting. Therefore, the committee did not make a recommendation as to which organizations should receive a portion of the \$20,000 that we previously voted to give to 501c(3) organizations. At the August meeting, nominations were reopened, and two additional organizations were nominated. Organizations nominated are:

- Phoenix Body Positive
- TIHAN (Tucson Interfaith HIV and AIDS Network)
- A Place Called Home
- Augustana Lutheran Church
- Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Awareness
- Joshua Tree
- Arizona PFLAG
- Community Church of Hope
- Valley of the Sun Gay and Lesbian Community Center

At the September membership meeting, the Charitable Contributions Committee will make their recommendation as to which organizations should receive a portion of the \$20,000 we will be donating. Members present will then vote to accept the committee recommendation, or make a motion to modify their recommendation. A representative from those organizations voted to receive a portion of the money will be invited to our October membership meeting to make a brief presentation about their respective organization. Then, at the same meeting, members will vote on the percentage amount of the \$20,000 to be given to each organization.

Ron Trusley

A NOTE OF THANKS

As many of you know, my mother passed away in Oklahoma on Sunday, July 23, while I was at the rodeo in Atlanta. The past month has been a very difficult time for me. I returned from Atlanta on Monday and drove to Oklahoma. Then I returned from Oklahoma the following Monday evening and drove to Las Vegas on Wednesday for the I.G.R.A. Annual Convention. I WANT TO EXPRESS MY SINCERE THANKS TO THE MEMBERS OF A.G.R.A. FOR THE FLOWERS YOU SENT FOR THE FUNERAL, FOR THE MANY COMFORTING WORDS SPOKEN BY MANY OF YOU, AND FOR THE CARDS & E-MAILS YOU SENT EXPRESSING YOUR CONDOLENCES. ALL OF THIS MEANT SO VERY MUCH TO ME, AND I WILL ALWAYS REMEMBER THIS. I HAVE FOUR SISTERS AND THREE BROTHERS, ALL OF WHOM WERE AT THE FUNERAL, AND STATED HOW NICE IT WAS THAT A.G.R.A., AS WELL AS OTHER OF OUR RODEO ASSOCIATIONS, SENT FLOWERS. AGAIN, THANK YOU ALL SO VERY MUCH FOR BEING THERE FOR ME - YOU HAVE HELPED ME TREMENDOUSLY!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Grand Old Opry

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WE APOLOGIZE:

IT WAS BROUGHT TO MY ATTENTION THAT DAN IVERSEN WAS AN A.G.R.A. VOLUNTEER AT THE 2000 PRIDE FESTIVAL. DAN'S NAME WAS NOT GIVEN TO US AS A VOLUNTEER, AND HE WAS NOT INCLUDED WHEN WE THANKED THE VOLUNTEERS. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, DAN, FOR YOUR HELP! WE DO APPRECIATE IT!

Ron Trusley

A.G.R.A. STATE BOARD MEETINGS:

A.G.R.A. STATE BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE HELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS IN NOVEMBER AND FEBRUARY!

A Word From Your Trustee

As most of you may know, I have relocated to Lancaster CA, to live with my lover, Todd Tramp. Yeah - yeah - Mom always told me I'd marry a tramp! Go ahead - I have heard it all. He has nine paint horses, and with my three that makes twelve, but that doesn't include the three chickens, two pigs, the duck, and four dogs, oh, yeah - and the Bearded Dragon lizard, too! Ask me and I can tell you all of their names - just seem to have forgotten my own! We reside in Lancaster Friday through Monday and in West Hollywood Tuesday through Friday for work!

I want to thank each and every member of A.G.R.A. for your support in my last five years of involvement. It has been a lot of work, stressful, but unbelievably rewarding to me! And as your outgoing V.P. of the Phoenix Chapter, I will finish the design of the 2001 Road Runner Regional Rodeo Buckles. I will pass the responsibility of getting the sponsors for those buckles to your new VP, Glen May. Congratulations, Glen! I know you will do a great job!

I wanted to inform you, the members, of the responsibilities of the A.G.R.A. Trustee prior to your voting. I feel it is imperative to A.G.R.A. and I.G.R.A. that you select the most qualified and willing candidate for this position. And, as the outgoing Trustee Chair for I.G.R.A., can tell you the necessity of voting for the best candidate.

It is the trustee's responsibility to attend all the division 2 rodeos, or appoint an alternate in his/her absence. It is the trustee's responsibility to attend as many of the division 1,3,&4 rodeos, or appoint an alternate in his/her absence.

The I.G.R.A. trustees act as a governing body of I.G.R.A. to ascertain that all rodeos follow the guidelines and rules of I.G.R.A. in being a sanctioned I.G.R.A. rodeo. This is done by their attendance from 5:45 pm on Friday evening

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From The Chapter Rep

A.G.R.A. is proud to announce that, over the past five or six weeks, several new members have joined (some renewed) our organization. For those of you who were not at the last meeting, I'd like to, again, welcome the following A.G.R.A. members: Gordon McCaw (Desert Valley Squares), Rodney Morgan, Linda Hoffman (welcome back, Linda!), Pat McGillicuddy, Suzanne White, Jon Williams ("Bubba Jon"), Gaylia Young and Rolland Lawrence. (Forgive me if I forgot anyone - I'll make sure to add them the next time around!)

I know it's not a lot, but that's all for now! Until next time.....

Lacey Edwards

Notes From the mailbag

So, it's been another slow month at the post office box - I guess everyone is trying to get through the summer! A few newsletters have come in - California (G.S.G.R.A.) and Heartland. Remember, I either have these newsletters with me at the meetings, or I put them in the blue binder notebook in the back of the A.G.R.A. room, if you'd ever like to look at them.

It sure sounds like the A.G.R.A. camp-out up in Show Low was a great time! Good job and many thanks to Will (and Travis, of course) for putting that together and inviting the A.G.R.A. group up to your land for a fantastic weekend! Several new A.G.R.A. members signed up, and some members renewed - thanks! We hope all the new members enjoyed the camp-out, and we hope they will enjoy being a part of our organization!

I'd also like to take a moment to congratulate and welcome Glen May to the Phoenix Chapter Board. Glen is our new Vice President, filling the position as Chuck Browning

has relocated to California. (Thanks again, Chuck - we'll miss you, but wish you well!) I'm sure we'll keep Glen plenty busy, especially with rodeo planning for the upcoming RRRR 2001.

One last item - remember, our general membership meetings are back to Sunday night.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 10th, at 5pm, inside the bar at Charlie's. We hope to see you all there, as we will be voting on our new Trustee for the next 3-year term. The following

Royalty Contestants:
There will be a Royalty Contestant meeting immediately following the membership meeting on September 10!

members have accepted the Trustee nomination: Bob Pimentel, Brian Helander and Anna Shannon. (I know, you're probably really tired of hearing about elections, but at least WE have GOOD CANDIDATES to vote for!!!)

Until the next postal drop, this is the Mailbag - signing off!

Claire Miller, Phoenix Chapter Secretary

Tidbits From The State

TRUSTEE ELECTION:

Just a reminder that elections will be held for the Trustee position on the I.G.R.A. Board of Directors will be at the Phoenix Chapter Membership Meeting on Sunday, September 10. The individual elected will serve a 3-year term, November 1, 2000 through October 31, 2003. Individuals nominated for Trustee are: Bob Pimentel, Brian Helander, and Anna Shannon

NOTE: THE ELECTIONS WILL ONLY BE HELD AT THE PHOENIX CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 10 - THERE WILL BE NO ABSENTEE BALLOTS.

ELECTRONIC BRANDING IRON:

We are almost ready to begin sending each issue of The Branding Iron electronically to those who want to receive it in this manner. We expect to begin electronic transmission with the October issue. If you would like to receive your copy of The Branding Iron electronically, please complete and return the enclosed form. We would like you to return the form to ensure that we have your correct e-mail address on file.

A few of our members have said they prefer to receive only one copy of The Branding Iron when two members live in the same household. If you are one

of these members and you want to receive your copy electronically, please indicate both members' name on the enclosed form and the e-mail address you want us to use.

Or, if you still want to receive your copy of The Branding Iron through the regular postal mail, but two members live in the same house and you want to receive only one copy, please send your request to the A.G.R.A. State address. Be sure you list both members' names and the current address.

A.G.R.A. MEMBERSHIP:

Currently we have a total of 140 members - seven are champion members.

A.G.R.A. DISPLAY CASE (AT CHARLIE'S):

Look for updated information soon on the state side of the display case.

A.G.R.A. BYLAWS:

If you do not have a copy of the most recent by-laws and would like a copy, send your request to the state address or to rtrusley@uswest.net.

Ron Trusley, State Secretary

BRANDING IRON INFORMATION UPDATE

Please send my issue of The Branding Iron electronically. My e-mail address is:

If you want to receive only one copy of The Branding Iron for yourself and another A.G.R.A. member residing in the same house, please list both names below.

(Printed/Typed Name)

(Signature)

I do not want to receive The Branding Iron electronically, but two A.G.R.A. members reside in the same house, and we want to receive only one copy of each issue.

Please list both members names below.

RETURN THIS COMPLETED FORM TO:

A.G.R.A.
PO BOX 40465
PHOENIX AZ 85067-0465

August 9, 2000

Mr. Chuck Browning
6828 S 27 Ave
Phoenix AZ 85041

Dear Chuck:

This letter is in response to your letter dated July 13th, 2000, giving your resignation as the Phoenix Chapter Vice President.

Thank you for your four years of service on the Phoenix Chapter Board and for the many contributions you have made to A.G.R.A. during the six years you have been a member.

Your commitment to design the rodeo event buckles and all-around buckles for RRRR 2001 is much appreciated.

Regretfully, we accept your resignation as the Phoenix Chapter Vice President. We will miss you and your valuable comments in the board and membership meetings. And, we wish you the very best as you embark upon "the new chapter in your life". We are confident that we will continue to see you in competition at many rodeos. Please remember A.G.R.A., and if we can help you in any way, let us know.

Again, thank you, Chuck, for the time and energy you devoted to A.G.R.A. and for your support of our goals and other activities.

Sincerely,

Ron Trusley

First A.G.R.A. Camp-out A Success

It all started out on a dreary rainy evening in Show Low, AZ and turned out to be a great time for all. I am referring to our 1st A.G.R.A. camp-out. The food was great; thanks to Ron and Walt, who helped me gather it all up and to Darren and many others for preparing it. We did not have potties, but thanks to Bob and several others that opened their trailers for everyone in need, that problem was solved.

Yes, it was raining when we arrived in Show Low. Yes, I was slow in getting the signs up. However, it did not take away from the high spirits that everyone had by the time the evening meal was cooked and everyone was taking part in the other kind of spirits.

Saturday was slow to start, not because of the weather, but because of the spirits, that everyone had taken part in the night before. We had Quad to ride thanks to Chris and Scott and no one got hurt even though we had Dr. John there to take care of any problems in that area. Not that he would have been able to help much with all of the Spirits that he partook. Just kidding, Dr. John.

We had 17 members and 2 guests present. Not all of these members started out as members at the beginning of the camp-out. I had to work overtime on some as well as agree to change job locations to get one to sign up as a member. Well, I am sorry to say that I had to renig on that promise, but hope she will forgive me. What a wonderful lady to have on our team.

We cannot forget to mention Glen and Rick when we are talking about the camp-out. They were a great help and a little hard to keep track of on Saturday night. Saturday night, well what a great evening. Great food and great company. You cannot get any better than that other then it was around a big camp fire and lots of great talk and laughter. The night was cool and the fire warm. "Red man build small fire, stay warm. White man build big fire and freeze." Well we could have all frozen and still had a great time because everyone was finding someone to get close to and keep warm. We should probably stop with that note because some had more than one to get warm with.

After the campout I went back up to spend some time with my kids and was able to meet my new neighbor. I found out that he is a pastor. I am very glad that everyone kept their clothes on. At least in the day light. What went on after dark and out of the firelight, well we better not go there. Let's just say we all had a great time.

I just want to thank all those that just jumped in an helped out with whatever needed to be done. With all this help I believe that we had a very successful camp-out. Aron, thanks for the pictures. They were wonderful. I am now working on a fun day that will take place in November. I hope to see all of you there. That's all for now.

Will Lann, Rodeo Events Director

A.G.R.A. Board Of Directors

State Board

Bob Pimentel Jr., President
 Phone: (602) 866-0069
 E-Mail: azrlp@uswest.net

Diann Kimmel, Vice President
 Phone: (602) 279-0253
 E-Mail: NONE

Ron Trusley, Secretary
 Phone: (602) 230-0940
 E-Mail: rtrusley@uswest.net

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 Phone: (480) 303-0196
 E-Mail: EPOWERS124@aol.com

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 E-Mail: rodeolacey@yahoo.com

Chuck Browning, Trustee
 Phone: (661) 728-0068
 E-Mail: agracwby@aol.com

A.G.R.A. Royalty

Mr. A.G.R.A. 2000
 Steve Mack
 Phone: (602) 776-9622

Miss A.G.R.A. 2000
 Victoria London
 (a.k.a. Scott Tickler)
 Phone: (602) 230-9762
 E-Mail: None

Phoenix Chapter Board

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 E-Mail: rtrusley@uswest.net

Glen May, Vice President
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 E-Mail: amazcowboy@home.com

**Thom Rowley, Dance & Entertain-
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 Phone: (602) 331-8839
 E-Mail: tgrowley@uswest.net

**Woody Howard, Fund-Raising Direc-
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I.G.R.A. Member Associations And Rodeos 2000

A.G.R.A.

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Phoenix AZ 85067-0465
(602) 265 8166

Phoenix Chapter
P.O. Box 16363
Phoenix AZ 85011-6363
(602) 265 0618
Rodeo date: 1/14-1/16/2000

A.R.G.R.A.

#208 223-12 Ave. SW
Calgary AB T2R 0G9
Canada
(403) 541 8140
Rodeo date: 6/30-7/2/2000

A.S.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 14308
Washington D.C. 20044-4308
(202) 547 9590
Rodeo date: 9/8-9/10/2000

C.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 18878
Denver CO 80218-0878
(303) 839 8810
Rodeo date: 7/7-7/9/2000

Colorado Springs Chapter
P.O. Box 15504
Colorado Springs CO 80935-5504
(719) 576 2472

Mile High Chapter
P.O. Box 18728
Denver CO 80218-0728
(303) 839 8810

Northern Colorado Chapter
15293 Higgins Ave.
Ft. Lupton CO 80621
(303) 857 6005

D.S.R.A.

P.O. Box 56503
Little Rock AR 72215
(501) 562 4466

G.S.G.R.A.

4226 E 15th Street
Long Beach CA 90804
(916) 978 4040

Bay Area Chapter
2953 Aetna Way
San José CA 95121
(415) 561 9228

Rodeo date: 6/16-6/18/2000
Capitol Crossroads Chapter
P.O. Box 189305690.

Sacramento CA 95818-9305

Rodeo date: 8/18-8/20/2000

Greater L.A. Chapter
15633 Horace Street
Granada Hills CA 91344-5431
(562) 498 1675

Rodeo date: 4/14-14/16/2000

Greater Palm Springs Chapter
4741 E Palm Canyon Dr., PMB C125
Palm Springs CA 92264

Greater San Diego Chapter
3768 30th Street
San Diego CA 92104
(619) 298 4709
Rodeo date: 9/22-9/24/2000

H.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 3354
Omaha NE 68103-3354
(800) 561 6918
Rodeo date: 6/22-6/25/2000

ID.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 6115
Boise ID 83708
(208) 467 2033

IL.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 14878
Chicago IL 60614-4878
(773) 529 4962
Rodeo date: 8/25-8/27/2000

K.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 16793
Wichita KS 67216-0703
(316) 687 6004

M.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 1965
Springfield MO 65801-1965
for rodeo information, please contact:
Mrs. Bobbie St.Jeor
428 NW 1771 Road
Kingsville MO 64061
(816) 697 3269
Rodeo date: 9/1-9/3/2000

Joplin Chapter
P.O. Box 3234
Joplin MO 64803-3234

Kansas City Chapter
P.O. Box 45073
Kansas City MO 6411-5073
(816) 697 3269

Springfield Chapter
P.O. Box 9432
Springfield MO 65801-9432

M.I.G.R.A.

3319 Greenfield Rd. # 264
Dearborn MI 48120
(313) 438 1305 Ext. 2

N.G.R.A.

1982 N Rainbow Blvd., PMB 198
Las Vegas NV 89108
(888) 643 NGRA
Rodeo date: 3/3-3/5/2000

N.M.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 35381
Albuquerque NM 87176-5381
(550) 255 5045
Rodeo date: 10/19-10/22/2000 (Finals)

N.S.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 11199
St. Paul MN 55111-0199
(612) 641 0069

P.O.N.Y.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 99321
Pittsburgh PA 15233-9321
(412) 370 1548

S.E.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 7881
Atlanta GA 30357-0881
(770) 662 9510
Rodeo date: 7/21-7/23/2000

T.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 460875
San Antonio TX 78246-0875
(210) 946 7787

Austin Chapter
P.O. Box 1511
Austin TX 78767-1511
(512) 933 0315

Dallas Chapter
P.O. Box 191168
Dallas TX 75219-8168
(214) 526 1115

Ft. Worth Chapter
P.O. Box 786
Ft. Worth TX 76101-0786
(817) 645 0579
Rodeo date: 11/10-11/12/2000

U.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 511255
Salt Lake City UT 84151-1255
(801) 468 6283
Rodeo date: 6/2-6/4/2000

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Phoenix AZ 85067-0465
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The Branding Iron is a publication of A.G.R.A.
Please send press releases and article submissions directly to:

The Branding Iron
515 E Carefree Hwy., PMB 465
Phoenix AZ 85085

Or e-mail to:
burp@idt.net

The deadline for the October issue is: September 24th.

Will things quiet down now, towards the end of the season?

How many contestants will Arizona send to finals?

Will Suzanne finally find a hot tub?

Find out the answers to all these questions and more in the October issue of THE BRANDING IRON!



Continued from page 2

through the post rodeo trustees meeting usually held 1/2 hour prior to awards. They complete the I.G.R.A. checklist and act as protest chair - involving any and all protests filed during said rodeo(s). They also are expected to be part of Grand Entry at any rodeo they attend as a trustee.

The trustees are required to attend four quarterly meetings at selected sites through the year. They act as the governing body on any E.P.R.B. allegations filed through I.G.R.A. And act as interpreters for the I.G.R.A. rules and by-laws throughout the rodeo year.

In representing A.G.R.A., they are to be a liaison with I.G.R.A. to your state association. They receive pertinent information that must be communicated to the state association and to the chapter associations. They also are required to deliver important information from the chapter and states to I.G.R.A. itself.

In selecting your best candidate for this position, I encourage you to seek out that the candidates know what is expected of them in this position, and that they are willing to represent A.G.R.A. with the association's best interest at heart. It is not an easy position, and requires much work, but will be a great learning experience for one who strives to learn, and can stay committed to this three year term of office.

Thank you for your time, consideration, trust, and faith.

Yours in Rodeo - and always an A.G.R.A. member - no matter where I live!

Chuck Browning

Quote of the Month:

"We had to drag Chuck out of the Bodybuilder's Convention"

Heard at the 16th annual I.G.R.A. Convention in Las Vegas

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