

The Branding Iron



Another Year's End from the President...

January Birthdays	
• Patrick McKeon	01/07
• Dudley Haines	01/12
• Rick Burdette	01/17
• C Kay Browning	01/18

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First let me start off by saying to all AGRA members I hope you had the greatest holiday season of all. The holiday season is over and now comes the RoadRunner Regional Rodeo 2003 at Rawhide.

It seems like we are going to have another great rodeo. I have had e-mails and telephone calls inquiring about the rodeo. Ric has had vendors calling and inquiring about our rodeo that have never participated in the event. As far as Ric and myself, we have been talking to everyone at Charlie's or whenever we are out promoting the rodeo. We hope everyone is doing the same to make 2003 RRRR more successful than last years. When we go out to bars in Phoenix promoting the rodeo in a week or so we need to have more AGRA members more involved to promote the rodeo and have a good time as well. So at this time I would like to wish all of the contestants from AGRA good luck and lets bring home to Arizona a lot of winning buckles.

I would also like to thank the AGRA Royalty Team, Patrick, Pussy, Gaylia and Novia for doing such a superb job during their reign for 2002. The Royalty Team of 2003 has some large shoes to fill in 2003.

As you know the 2003 AGRA Board will take office February 1, 2003. I would like to wish all the 2003 candidates good luck and may you have a great year on the board promoting the country and western life-style and taking care of AGRA business.

I would also like to thank my board for 2002 for helping and supporting me as President of this great organization: Will Lann, Danny Kelly, Pussy LeHoot, Ric Leone, Patrick Lose & Bob Pimentel, Jr. I could not have done it without all of your help and support. At times there were some hurdles in front of us but we crossed them and kept up our heads up. I feel all of you have done a great job and my hat's off to you, thank you AGRA board 2002.

Jon O'Dowd has done a wonderful job with the Branding Iron meeting deadlines & getting everything out on time. Jon you have done a great job....

Keith Carson and Gaylia Young, Parliamentarian & Recording Secretary thanks to you both for serving the past year in appointed positions. Also Keith Carson & Kelly Basque thank for doing a superb job as the By-Laws Committee Chairs.

I would also like to thank Diann Kimmel for serving with the By-Laws Committee and the Election Committee. Whenever you ask Diann to serve on a committee she always steps up to the plate and does a great job, Thanks Diann.

Bob Pimentel, Jr. and John Frank our 2003 Co – Rodeo Directors, Thanks for everything and let's put on a great Rodeo.

Now for my last Thank You it is a very special one. I would like to thank the love of my life and partner Ric Leone. Ric has served on the AGRA Board for 2 ½ years as State Secretary, Public Relations Director, Corresponding Secretary, and Vendor Coordinator for the past 3 years. Ric you've given enormous amounts of time for AGRA and the Association is a better one because of you. You will be missed on the board but he will be in the audience still helping AGRA to be one of the best organizations. Thank You...

Again lets have a great rodeo and hope to see everyone there.

Glen May

AGRA President 2002

IMPORTANT ELECTION NEWS

AGRA MEETINGS

JAN. 2003—FEB. 2003

Monday 01/06/03 7:00 p.m.

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Pookie's

4540 N 7th Street, Phx

602-277-2121

Sunday 01/12/03—7:00 pm

AGRA General Membership Mtg. Charlie's

727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

TENTATIVE FEB MEETINGS

These FEB 03 Board meeting dates depend on what the new Board decides:

Monday 02/03/03—7:00 p.m.

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Pookie's

4540 N 7th Street, Phx

602-277-2121

These FEB 03 Membership meeting dates depend on what the membership decides:

Sunday 02/09/03—7:00 pm

AGRA General Membership Mtg. Charlie's

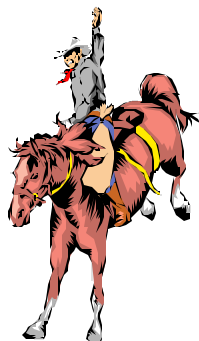
727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

All members are welcome to all AGRA Board of Directors meetings. We encourage members who wish to attend to do so. Thank you.

Ric Leone

AGRA Corresponding Secretary



RUN OFF ELECTION VOTE TO BE HELD JAN. 12, 2003 AT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

61 of 82 ballots were returned in the recent board elections. They have been counted and there are 2 board positions that will require a run off election vote to determine the winning candidate. No candidate received a majority plus 1 vote for the board positions of **Vice - President** and **Public Relations Director**. A run off election vote will take place at Charlie's on Jan 12, 2003 during the 7:00 p.m. membership meeting. The 2 candidates who received the most number of votes will be in the run off election. Only the 61 members who voted by returning their ballots are eligible to cast a vote in the run off election. The run off ballot will be as follows:

Vice President:	Gary Rushton
	Kurt McGregor
Public Relations Director:	Scott Perkins
	Danny Kelly

A simple majority of the votes cast at the membership meeting will determine the winner of these 2 board positions. The winners of the remaining board positions of President, Secretary, Fundraising Director & Rodeo Events Director will be announced at the Jan. 12, 2003 membership meeting, as stated at last months meeting.

Ric Leone

Corresponding Secretary

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

FRIDAY JANUARY 24, 2003

Send submissions to:

BrandingIron02@cox.net

or mail to:

P.O. Box 40465 · Phoenix · AZ · 85067-0465

Upcoming Rodeos & Events...

<p>Road Runner Regional Rodeo</p> <p>Phoenix, Arizona</p> <p>January 17th, 18th, 19th</p> <p>602-265-8166</p> <p>www.agra-phx.com</p>	<p>IGRA University</p> <p>St. Louis, Missouri</p> <p>February 14th, 15th, 16th</p> <p>www.igra.com</p>	<p>Cowtown Rodeo</p> <p>Fort Worth, Texas</p> <p>March 28th, 29th, 30th</p> <p>214-346-2107</p> <p>www.tgra.org</p>	<p>Bighorn Rodeo</p> <p>Las Vegas, Nevada</p> <p>April 4th, 5th, 6th</p> <p>1-888-643-NGRA</p> <p>www.bighornrodeo.com</p>
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<p>LA Rodeo</p> <p>Los Angeles, California</p> <p>April 11th, 12th, 13th</p> <p>562-498-1675</p> <p>www.larodeo.com</p>	<p>Rodeo In The Rock</p> <p>Little Rock, Arkansas</p> <p>April 25th, 26th, 27th</p> <p>501-562-4466</p> <p>www.dsra.org</p>	<p>Great Plains Rodeo</p> <p>Oklahoma City, Oklahoma</p> <p>May 23rd, 24th, 25th</p> <p>405-607-0969</p> <p>www.okgayrodeo.com</p>	
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January 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6 <i>AGRA Board of Directors Mtg.—7pm Pookie's</i>	7	8	9	10	11
12 <i>AGRA General Membership Mtg. 7pm—Charlie's</i>	13	14	15	16 <i>RSVP Banquet Deadline</i>	17 <i>AGRA Rodeo Phoenix, AZ www.agra-phx.com</i>	18 <i>AGRA Rodeo Phoenix, AZ www.agra-phx.com</i>
19 <i>AGRA Rodeo Phoenix, AZ www.agra-phx.com</i>	20	21	22	23	24	25 <i>AGRA Banquet @ T-Bones Steak House 6:00 p.m.</i>
26	27	28	29	30	31	

ADVERTISING SPACE IS AVAILABLE

Hey everyone in cowboy land. I just wanted to drop you a line and remind y'all there is still space for your business card size advertisement in the "Branding Iron". A single month is just \$10.00 but if you advance purchase a six month ad it's 10% off but wait there is more if you purchase a whole year in advance it's 25% off making your advertising as low as \$90.00 for the entire year. THAT'S INCREDIBLE!!

So don't forget to place your ad right away.

Keith Carson

BI Advertising



2140 E. McDowell Rd • Phoenix, AZ
244-9943

Hours

Tue-Sat 4pm-1am
Sunday 12pm-8pm

Dance Lessons

Thursday-7:30pm
Sunday-4pm

Dart Tournament

Wednesday-8pm



*American Grill
& Music Video Bar*

Your Hosts:

SCOTT, JONATHAN AND J.T.

4540 North 7th Street Phoenix, Arizona 85014 Phone (602) 277-2121



Embroidery - Equipment
Uniforms - Screening

TEAM SPORT OUTFITTERS, INC.
SERVING TEAM & INDIVIDUAL SALES

Patrick Nichols
EMBROIDERY SPECIALIST

1721 E. Warner #C-1A
Tempe, AZ 85284
480-491-0459

9250 N. 43rd Ave. #22
Glendale, AZ 85302
(602) 995-2424
Fax (623) 843-3488

LETTER FROM THE SECRETARY...

Hello, Good-bye

For 2 ½ years I have served on the Board of Directors of AGRA. From October 2000 thru Jan 2002 I was the Public Relations Director on what was then the Phoenix Chapter of AGRA. Also in the year 2001, I was State Secretary on the State Board. And for the past year of 2002, I have served as the Corresponding Secretary. As you all know this will be my last month on the board.

It has been a lot of work keeping up the memberships, email addresses for both AGRA and IGRA Associations, keeping the IGRA "Big Book" updated, ordering name badges & ladders (and returning misspelled name badges & ladders), getting the Branding Iron out, sending current membership lists to IGRA before each Rodeo, taking meeting minutes, mailing out ballots and writing press articles for HeatStroke, Echo and IONAZ magazines to keep AGRA out there. Although it is a lot of work I have enjoyed doing it and am very appreciative that I have had the chance to do all this for AGRA.

Thank you Brian Helander who first recommended I assume the PR director position from him.

Thank you to my fellow 2000 Chapter board members Ron Trusley, Glen May, Will Lann, Steven "Woody" Howard, EJ Powers & Lacy Edwards.

Thank you to Bob Pimentel, Jr., Jay Lovejoy, Dan Iversen, EJ Powers & Shirley Steiger all of which I served with on the State Board in 2001, for all your help and know how in getting through some tough issues.

Thank you to Steven "Woody" Howard, Glen May, Claire Miller, EJ Powers, Will Lann, Dan Ridge & Shirley Steiger of the Chapter Board 2001.

Thank you to my fellow board members of 2002, Scott Tickler (a.k.a. Victoria London) & Patrick Lose, EJ Powers & Max Sutherland, Will Lann, Marque Bobier & Danny Kelly, Kevin McSweeney (a.k.a. Pussy LeHoot), the two appointed non-board members Gaylia Young, recording secretary and Keith Carson, Parliamentarian and once again thanks to Glen May. I guess Glen deserves a special thank you, especially for putting up with me on the days of our Board and Membership meetings which never found me at my usual calm, cool, collected self !!!

You have all taught me so much.

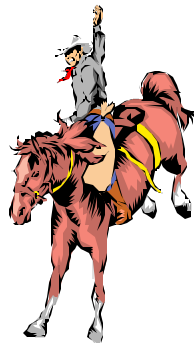
Most of all I want to thank all of you, the members, who voted me into these positions. Thanks to all of you for the support you've given me, for all your words of encouragement and thanks when things got heavy and seemed almost too overwhelming to deal with. It has been an honor to served you on the boards of AGRA. I hope I have served you well and to the best of my ability. I wish my successor the best of luck. I will be around to help you, who ever that person may be, whenever you need it. The past 2 ½ years are years I will always remember and get good feelings from when I reflect back on them. Members of AGRA and IGRA have become the biggest part of Glen's and my family and who could ask for a better family of brothers and sisters than all of you. I wish you all a very prosperous and Happy New Year, 2003.

Thank you AGRA.

Sincerely

Ric Leone

AGRA Corresponding Secretary



Trustee Report

December 2002 - January 2003

I hope everyone is ready to Rodeo in just a few short weeks. I know that our community looks forward to this event every year and expect the Road Runner Regional Rodeo (RRRR) 2003 to be bigger and better than ever. I am still getting my feet wet as Trustee and am beginning to get regular communication from IGRA. Here is some updates from IGRA:

Bicardi Silver Sponsorship: we are expecting a contract any day that will provide each rodeo with \$1,000 cash and 2 special buckles to be given out at each rodeo for the Bicardi Silver All-Around Camp Event Male & Female. The process of determining the winners is being worked on. I think this is a great way to our entry level and expert camp cowboys and cowgirls.

Instinct Magazine did pick up their first right of refusal and has offered a new "twist" to their contract. They will allow associations/chapters to sell instinct magazine ALL YEAR at a below the regular sub price and get a commission, a very good commission! This is a great opportunity to raise money throughout the year. I will discuss this opportunity further with the board.

I expect that there may be some complex Rodeo Rules questions come up at the RRRR related to gender issues that were approved at convention in 2002. We struggled with these gender issues then and will continue to struggle with them throughout this Rodeo year, however I believe we will work it out and be better off for it. I will keep the rodeo committee and membership posted on any developments.

That's all the news from IGRA at this point. Let's look forward to a safe and prosperous new year and a successful and fun Rodeo.

Sincerley,

Brian Helander



RODEO TRANSPORTATION...

Great News! Transportation, as mentioned in the last general membership meeting, has been secured for the 2003 Road Runner Regional Rodeo with Gray Line Tours. The buses will be the same as last year - charter-style buses. Below is a listing of preliminary pickup times for the charter bus service.

Friday, January 17th: First pickup from Charlie's at 4:00pm and the last bus will pick up from Charlie's at 3:00am

Saturday, January 18th: First pickup from Charlie's at 6:15am and the last bus will pick up from Charlie's at 3:00am

Sunday, January 19th: First pickup from Charlie's at 6:15am and the last bus will pick up from Charlie's at 1:00am

Note: The times listed above are only for the first pickup and the last pickup of the day. Other locations, such as hotel stops will be published at a later date.

We have formed a great relationship with Gray Line, not only for rodeo purposes, but for sharing our mutual contacts with various organizations. What does this do for A.G.R.A.? It opens up a wealth of opportunities to make future contacts in the community that support the kind of charitable work that A.G.R.A. is so well known for. Additionally, it enables us to create a more concrete bond with Gray Line and create a mutually beneficial relationship. Our contacts bring them more business, and their contacts have the potential of providing more donations and community sponsorship for our organization's events (i.e. RRRR).

As an example, Gray Line has taken the opportunity to create two tours throughout Arizona for our out of town guests as well as our Arizonans who may not have had the chance to venture to some of these local attractions.

Tour #1 - Pre Rodeo Tour to Sedona:

January 16th, 2003

This tour takes passengers to Sedona and includes a Jeep tour. Cost is \$88.00 per person.

Tour #2 - Post Rodeo Tour to the Grand Canyon:

Monday 20th, 2003

This tour takes passengers to the Grand Canyon with a brief stop in Flagstaff. Cost is \$99.00 per person.

Both are extremely nice tours for sightseeing with many dining and shopping opportunities. For details regarding these tours or to reserve your space, please contact Robert Berg with Gray Line Tours at (602) 495-9100 as more great tours will be forthcoming in 2003.

BE SAFE RIDE THE BUS!

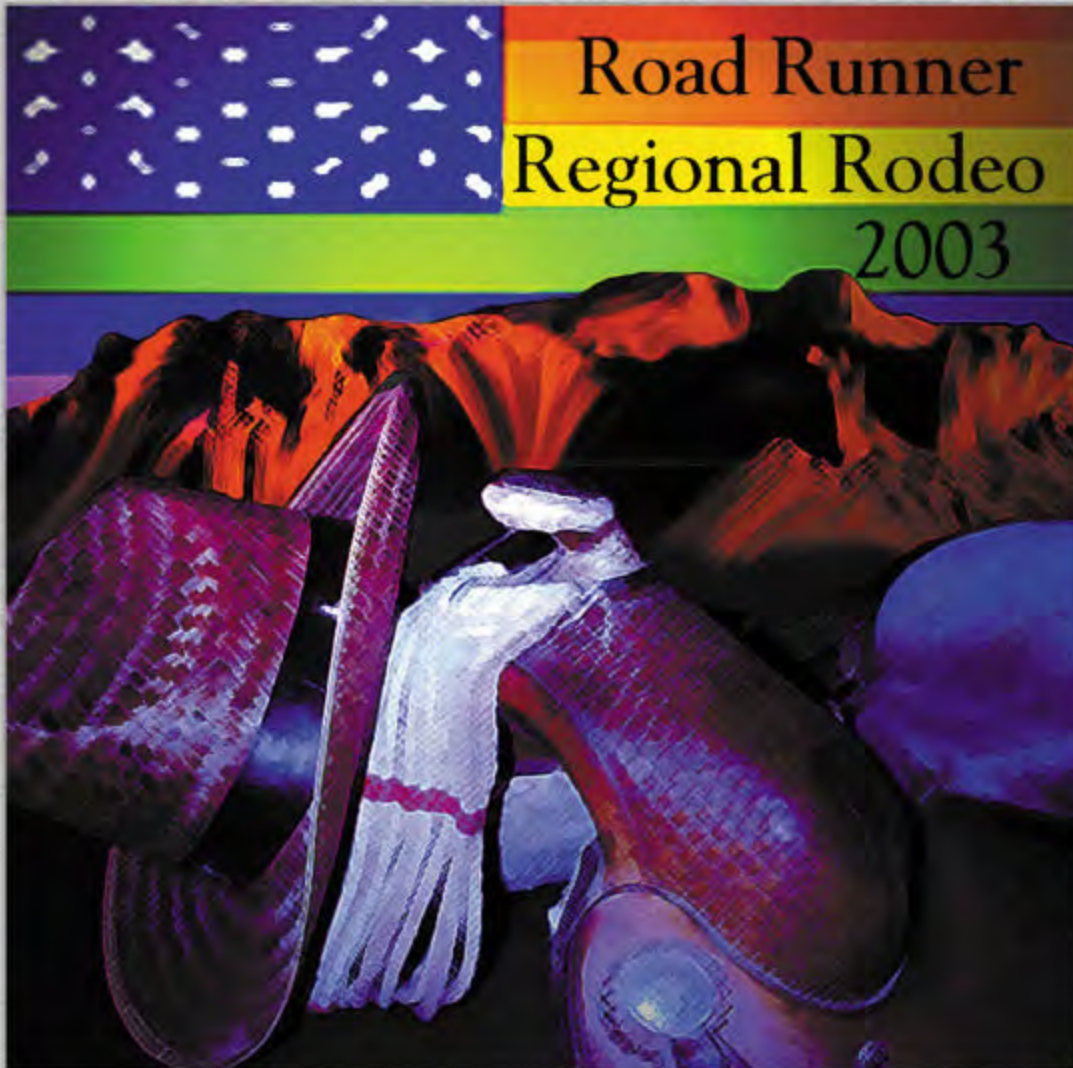
I look forward to seeing you at Rodeo!

Sincerely,

John Frank

2003 Co-Rodeo Director

An IGRA & Bud Light Sanctioned Rodeo



Road Runner
Regional Rodeo
2003

For More Information:
Contact the AGRA Hotline
at 602-265-0618



Date/Place:
Rawhide Wild West Town
Scottsdale, Arizona
January 17-19, 2003



www.agra-phx.com

Miss AGRA 2002
 Miss IGRA 1st Runner-up 2003
 Miss Pussy LeHoot
 Phone: (602) 518-5064
 Email: missagra@agra-phx.com

Miss AGRA 1st Runner-up
 Novia Gina
 missagra2ur@hotmail.com

MR. AGRA 2002
 MR. IGRA 1st Runner-up
 2003
 Patrick Lose
 Phone: (623) 572-6946
 Email: mragra@agra-phx.com

Ms AGRA 2002
 MS IGRA 2nd Runner-up
 2003
 Gaylia Young
 Phone: (623) 435-9098
 Email: msagra@agra-phx.com

A.G.R.A. Board of Directors

Glen May
President
 Phone: (602) 368-4253
 Email: president@agra-phx.com

Patrick Lose
Vice President
 Phone: (623) 572-6946
 Email: vp@agra-phx.com

Ric Leone
Corresponding Secretary
 Phone: (602) 368-4253
 Email: corsec@agra-phx.com

Pussy LeHoot
(a.k.a. Kevin McSweeney)
Public Relations
 Phone: (602) 518-5064
 Email: pr@agra-phx.com

Max Sutherland
Treasurer
 Phone: (602) 279-9357
 Email: treasurer@agra-phx.com

Fund Raising
Daniel Kelly
 Phone: (602) 595-4669
 fr@agra-phx.com

Will Lann
Rodeo Events
 Phone: (623) 203-8765
 Email: eventsdir@agra-phx.com

Brian Helander
Trustee TBA
 Phone: 602-266-5726
 Email: trustee@agra-phx



IGRA & Bud Light Sanctioned Rodeos



AGRA

PO Box 40465
Phoenix, Arizona
85067-0465

Phone: 602-265-0618
FAX : 602-265-8166
Email: webmaster@agra-phx.com



Check us out on the WEB
www.agra-phx.com

