

The Branding Iron



A Message from the President...

April Birthdays

- Danny Kelly 04/04
- Bob Hitchcock 04/04
- Dan Ridge 04/05
- Ron Linblad 04/10
- James Ramey 04/22
- Kevin Marienfeld 04/30

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FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Hi everyone it is looking like it is going to be a busy month for everyone. The Nevada Gay Rodeo Association (NGRA) is holding their Rodeo this weekend and then next weekend the Los Angeles Chapter of the Golden State Gay Rodeo Association (GSGRA) is holding theirs as well. I would like to wish all the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA) contestants the very best of luck who compete or represent AGRA.

Also the Arizona Central Pride (ACP) is holding Pride Saturday, April 12, 2003 at Steele Park on Indian School. The parade will begin at approximately 10:00 A.M. starting at Palm Lane near McDowell and head North to Indian School and then make a turn and end at 3rd Street.

I would like to invite all of the AGRA members to come and ride in the parade on the AGRA float and show your pride. Also there is an AGRA booth at the festival, which we need, volunteers to help staff it even for 2 hours. Pussy Le Hoot has arranged with Chuck Browning and Brian He-lander to donate a buckle or two to raffle off. I have contacted Elbow Grease and gotten a basket of lube to use as a raffle item also. Thank you to Chuck and Brian and Elbow Grease for donating these items for the raffle.

Thanks to Pussy Le Hoot and Danyel Ridge for this past months AGRA Jamboree. It was a Chili Cook-off at Charlie's. There were multiple entries and the audience was the judges who had to pay \$3.00 for tasting. There were some great chili's entered and it was a fun way to raise money for AGRA. Please watch for the upcoming AGRA Jamboree fundraisers held monthly on Wednesday's.

At this time I would like to say "Thank You" to a couple of AGRA members who resigned earlier this week. First I would like to say "Thank You" the invaluable Mr. Bob Pimentel, Jr. for all his years of service to the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association (AGRA). Bob has held some of the past titles as, State President, President, AGRA Trustee, IGRA President, Committee Chair's and Rodeo Director. He was also one of the Founding Members of the New Mexico Gay Rodeo Association (NMGRA). Bob I would like to thank you for all of help and your support during the previous years of being on the AGRA Board. You will be surely missed but now you will be in the audience not in front of the membership.

Next I would like to say Thank You to one of our newest Board Members Tom Ziegler. Tom was our Secretary for 2003 that also resigned. Tom was also hard working in the position of Secretary, as this is a very difficult position to hold. Tom you did a great job and I Thank You from the bottom of my heart.

So that brings us to the next Membership Meeting on Sunday, April 20, 2003 at 7:00 P.M. at Charlie's. I will open the floor for nominations for the position of Secretary and we will vote at that same meeting. So please if you are interested in being the AGRA Secretary for the remainder of the 2003-year and have a lot of time and dedication to give AGRA for this position please be at that meeting.

Well that's about it for this month. I hope to see everyone that did not go to L.A. at pride this year on the AGRA Float.

Glen

President 2003

AGRA MEETINGS**April—May 2003****APRIL MEETINGS****Sunday 04/20/03—4:30 p.m**

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Sunshine Inn & Suites

3600 N 2nd Ave, Phoenix

Phone: 602-248-0222

Sunday 04/20/03—7:00 pmAGRA General Membership Mtg.
Charlie's

727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

MAY MEETINGS**Monday 05/05/03—7:00 pm**

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Sunshine Inn & Suites

3600 N 2nd Ave, Phoenix

Phone: 602-248-0222

Sunday 05/11/03—7:00 pmAGRA 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.

MAY**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:****FRIDAY APRIL 25, 2003****Send submissions to:****BrandingIron02@cox.net****or mail to:****P.O. Box 40465 · Phoenix · AZ
85067-0465****Letter from a member and former Secretary...**

This column is normally titled "Letter from the Secretary"

However, the AGRA Board of Directors regrets that they accepted the resignation of Tom Ziegler, AGRA Secretary 2003.

Not only was Tom an asset to the Board in the short time he served on it, he would have been a great Secretary and will be missed.

Tom had the drive, dedication and the heart to learn the process of what it takes to be the AGRA Secretary and he was doing just that.

You will be missed and we do expect to see you at all the Membership meetings. Good luck to you.

Ric Leone

Former AGRA Secretary

*****MEMBERSHIP MEETING DATE CHANGES*****

MOVING AGRA MEMBERSHIP MEETING FROM 04/13/03 TO 04/20/03

MOVING AGRA MEMBERSHIP MEETING FROM 07/13/03 TO 07/20/03

MEMBERSHIP WILL REVOTE FOR MOVING MEETING ON 08/10/03

AGRA MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON 05/11/03

THANKS,
TOM ZIEGLER



Upcoming Rodeos & Events...



Bighorn Rodeo

Las Vegas, Nevada
 April 4th, 5th, 6th
 1-888-643-NGRA
www.bighornrodeo.com

LA Rodeo

Los Angeles, California
 April 11th, 12th, 13th
 562-498-1675
www.larodeo.com



Rodeo In The Rock

Little Rock, Arkansas
 April 25th, 26th, 27th
 501-562-4466
www.dsra.org

Great Plains Rodeo

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
 May 23rd, 24th, 25th
 405-607-0969
www.okgayrodeo.com



April 2003

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	3	8	9	10	11	12 <i>AZ Central Pride Parade and Festival 10:00 a.m.</i>
13	14	15	16 <i>AGRA Jamboree Fund Raiser Charlie's @ 9:30 p.m.</i>	17	18 <i>Miss AGRA 1st Runner Up 2003 Benefit for Terros— Apollos @ 8pm</i>	19
20 <i>Board Mtg @ Sunshine Inn—6:00pm Membership Mtg @ Charlie's—7:00 p.m</i>	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

COME PARTY ON THE RIVER!

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Pussy LeHoot Present**

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Includes:

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- 1 breakfast buffet ticket (River Palms)
- 1 ticket to Debbie's party @ River Palms (Friday midnight to 5am)
- A western buffet dinner Saturday evening at the Lariat.
- Shuttle service between the River Palms & the Lariat
- Pussy & the girls entertain nightly
- More fun than you can stand

Trustee Report

AGRA Trustee report for the April 2003 Branding Iron

Dear AGRA members

I will be attending both the Las Vegas and the La Rodeo in April and will keep you posted on any developments. I will miss being with AGRA at Phoenix Pride, but I feel it is important to represent us at these two southwest rodeos. Now is the time to start planning a visit to the 10th annual Canadian Rockies International Rodeo in Calgary...it would be nice to see several AGRA members there.

Please take the time to give careful consideration to your Convention Delegate vote... We have had a lot of nominations and I encourage members to consider the "mix" of attendees at convention when casting your votes. The majority of the controversial work at convention has to do with things that happen in and around the arena. This year, horse related issues and contestant gender issues will continue to be a challenge to the association and we need delegates that understand these important issues. Secondly royalty/dance related issues might be discussed at length. Other issues such as voting on finals and convention locations are less likely to cause controversy and are handled quickly and easily. So...we need a balance between contestants that know the events and the rule book, royalty that understand the issues and problems and administrative personnel that understand the politics. Rodeo Rules committee is generally a 12-14 hour day and our contestant representative need to cover each other for breaks, so we need at least 2 contestant delegates and two contestant alternate to cover Rodeo rules and Animal Concerns. Bylaws committee can be another long day and we need at least two members who understand the IGRA bylaws to represent us at this committee. Also any proposed Rodeo, Royalty Rules or Bylaws rules for Convention needs to be to me by April 15, 2003. Please e-mail me or the IGRA committee chair ASAP.

Brian Helander

Trustee

Phone: 602-266-5726

Email: trustee@agra-phx

Royalty News

Hi Kids! What a busy month we have ahead of us. In just a few short days the entire AGRA Royalty will be on it's way to represent the association at the "Big Horn Rodeo," in Las Vegas, Nevada. I have to say how proud I am of the team in place for Royalty this year. Marty has been kicking butt with cook-out and Jell-O shots. Cassandra was instrumental with the recent "AGRA Chili Cook-off," and Michael and Kelly are pulling up the ends so that they meet in the middle. I myself have been caught up in a bit of a personal whirl-wind, so Suzanne hasn't made it out as much as I would like; however, I make it to as many events as possible as either Suzanne or Woody. I truly appreciate the support from our 2003 Royalty team and the members of AGRA.

As soon as I get back from "Sin City," (Las Vegas for the innocent among you) I have to start deciding on what to wear for the Pride Parade. Everyone can relax, I have abandoned the idea of "Suzanne as Lady Godiva." While I still believe that it would be a great way to showcase the crown, I also believe it would be an unfair temptation for Kelly Bascue. With his Fortieth Birthday (Happy B-Day GURL) having just passed I simply couldn't live with myself if I were responsible for breaking up his long term relationship. Lord knows when he would find another?

Our very own MS. AGRA, Marty and her partner MS AGRA 2001 & 2002 Gaylia have just celebrated another milestone anniversary. They are a perfect couple and if we are all lucky we will have them around AGRA for a bunch of anniversaries to come.

I was saddened to hear that Bob Pimentel has resigned many of his duties with our association. For those of you who are not aware of Bob's personal contributions to Rodeo, here are a few to ponder.

Founding Member New Mexico Rodeo Association
 IGRA President
 AGRA Trustee
 AGRA Rodeo Director (On Multiple Occasions)
 AGRA (Numerous) Committee Chairmanships

With that in mind, I feel as an association we all owe Mr. Pimentel at the very least a debt of gratitude. If you have the opportunity to say a simple "thank you," I know it would be appreciated from someone who has worked tirelessly on AGRA's behalf.

I'm climbing off my soap-box now, that's the creaking sound you hear. These old bones ain't what they use to be. Until next time kids; remember, your borne naked and after that it's all just drag.

Big wet kisses,
 Suzanne Targe't
 Miss AGRA 2001 & 2003

News from the Fundraising Director

A letter from you Fundraising Director

Since our last issue we have had 2 very successful events. First of all, after the general membership meeting on March 9th, we had our regular show afterwards. Amazingly on our entertainers tips alone we raised \$306.00. Thanks to everyone who participated.

On March 19th, we had our 2nd regular fundraiser we are calling the AGRA Jamboree. This will take place every third Wednesday of the month. In conjunction with this, we had a Chili Cook Off (the brainchild of Charlie's own Dan Ridge. We had a total of 6 entries that evening. Three entries had three places to win. The audience were the judges, and here are the results:

1st place went to Kevin and Bryan of Charlie's
 2nd place went to Miss AGRA 1st Runner up, Lady Casondra
 3rd place went to Dan Ridge and Charlie Thompson, both of Charlie's.

Everyone had a great time and stuck around and ate up all the Chili during our show. The Grand Total for the evening was \$195.00. Special thanks to Dan Ridge, Marty Wolfe and Lady Casondra for setting up and running the Contest. Thanks also to Marque Bobier for all the secretarial work. Thanks to Charlie's for the Facility and all their help.

Miss AGRA 1st Runner Up 2003, Lady Casondra, will be hosting a benefit for Terros Friday April 18 at Apollo's. Be sure to join the fun!

Till next Month, keep those dollars coming!

—Puss

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Pride Festival AGRA Float

Hello All-

It's that time of the year again, and we all know that means Gay Pride. With this year's changes we expect to have a fun and exciting event. I would like to extend a warm welcome to those of you who have an interest or specialty for the event. Any volunteers who are willing to take time and help with building the float, riding in the parade, or have any resources that can be used for the event are encouraged to participate. Please look forward to updates on meetings and events. With everyone's help we expect the AGRA float and parade to be fantastic.

NEED VOLUNTEERS NOW!! CALL TO SIGN UP!

Please feel free to reach me at home @ 602-297-3749 or AIRJAS1@COX.NET

Jason Gardea

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%

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MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

FRIDAY APRIL 25, 2003

Send submissions to:

BrandingIron02@cox.net

or mail to:

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

Miss AGRA 2003
Miss Suzanne Targ'et
(a.k.a. Steven "Woody" Howard)
Email: missagra@agra-phx.com

Miss AGRA 2003 1st Runner-up
Lady Cassandra
(a.k.a. Daniel Dold)
Phone: (602) 242-0841
dannyboyinphx@hotmail.com

Mr. AGRA 2003
Kelly Bascue
Phone: (480) 970-3298
Email: mragra@agra-phx.com

Mr. AGRA 2003 1st Runner-up
Michael Butts
Phone: (602) 685-1746
Email: bouncetigger@aol.com

Ms. AGRA 2003
Marty Wolfe
Phone: (623) 980-0070

AGRA's IGRA ROYALTY

Miss IGRA 1st Runner-up 2003
Pussy LeHoot
Mr. IGRA 1st Runner-up 2003
Patrick Lose
Ms. IGRA 2nd Runner-up 2003
Gaylia Young

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TBA

Chuck Browning
Treasurer

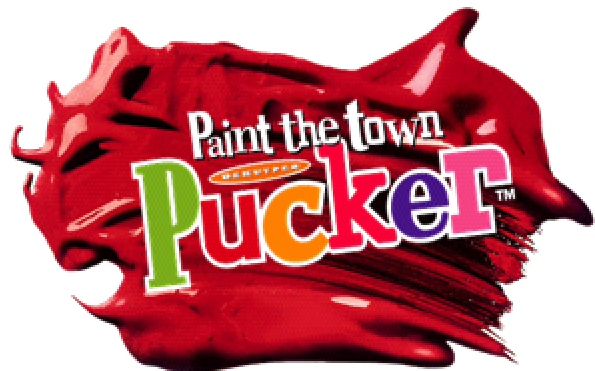
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