

The Branding Iron



FROM THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

March 2006

It is time to plan out the New Year. The February membership meeting you approved the schedule for the coming year and if you do not have a copy it will be available on the AGRA website shortly. In addition; the new bylaws are being updated with the calendar year changes approved last fall.

We are looking for a Webmaster. Someone who is creative and can build and maintain a website and assist with the AGRA email program. This person does not have to be an AGRA member but needs to understand our mission of information available for all interested members, spectators, contestants, etc. I want to thank Michael Brent for his involvement over the last year with the website. We kept him very busy and he was able to multi-task with us while keeping his busy work schedule. We appreciated all you have done Michael.

Other agenda items is the distribution of 2006 RoadRunner Regional Rodeo profits. I asked that you submit your nominations during March and April. The past we have asked that the nominated charities get involved as a volunteer for rodeo if possible. This is not a requirement but helps when the committee decides recommendations for these funds. The books for the RRRR 2006 should be closed out within the next 30days or less. Thanks Max for making that happen!

It is time to get a rodeo director selected. Per the Bylaws the Board makes the selection based on the interest. If you or anyone you know is interested in the Rodeo Director position you must notify a Board member right away. The Rodeo Director must start planning next year's event. Also if you can't commit to the time it takes to be Rodeo Director we will always be looking for talented rodeo committee volunteers. This committee plans the rodeo and makes RRRR a success year after year.

Not sure if the Branding Iron will get out in time, but on Sunday March 5 there will be a party at Apollo's for Oscar Night (Academy Awards) Awards start at 6pm, Phoenix time. Access Hollywood contacted AGRA and wanted to be a part of a Cowboy party while Brokeback Mountain was nominated for several awards. Please plan to attend for some wonderful specials all evening while we cheer on the Oscar winners. Remember to wear your cowboy wear and look good for the camera!

Pride is coming up on April 1, 2. They are looking for volunteers and would welcome any AGRA member available to give your time for their party. Please check the AZpride.org website for volunteer information.

Until next month!

Gary Hatterman
President AGRA

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AGRA MEETINGS

March 2006**MARCH MEETINGS**

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, March 7th @ 7 PM

Charlie's Bar on the patio.

727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

AGRA General Membership Meeting

Sunday, March 12th @ 7 PM

Charlie's Bar on the dance floor.

727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

APRIL MEETINGS

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, April 4th @ 7 PM

Charlie's Bar on the patio.

727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

AGRA General Membership Meeting

Sunday, April 9th @ 7 PM

Charlie's Bar on the dance floor.

727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

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

Thank you.

Carlos

AGRA Secretary 2006

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT

IGRA University 2006 was held February 17-19 at the Plaza Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada. For the first time, "Degree" programs were offered through IGRA University. Members can earn degrees in web design, community service, and three levels of rodeo production. I had planned to attend university, but was unable to do so. But, I am very pleased that four (4) AGRA members attended.

Brian Helander, IGRA President, and Chuck Browning were university instructors. Brian taught classes on "New Committee Chair Orientation" and "Boards That Make A Difference". Chuck taught a class on "Running a Safe Rodeo".

I am also very pleased to report that Erika Alexander (Miss AGRA 2006) and Michael Butts (1st Runner-Up Mr AGRA 2006) attended university and both received an Associate Degree in Community Service! Thank you for representing AGRA and your titles so well, and also a well-deserved congratulations!

The entire 2006 IGRA Royalty Team, with the exception of Ms IGRA, attended the 2006 Road Runner Regional Rodeo. They all helped in several and varied areas of the AGRA Royalty Competition and also at the rodeo. Ms IGRA, Kimberly Kay, had planned to attend but, at the last minute, was unable to do so due to many work commitments. All of the team members said they had a great time, and have offered their assistance to AGRA at anytime.

Michael Norman, Rodeo Secretary, said the Phoenix Men of Charlie's did an excellent job at contestant registration, and sent his special thanks. As always, AGRA and I also thank the Men of Charlie's; you are great!

At the February 12 membership meeting, the 2006 meeting schedule was approved. The schedule is through January 2007. Look for the schedule elsewhere in this issue of the Branding Iron. The schedule lists the AGRA Board Meetings, AGRA Membership Meetings, IGRA Board Meetings, and IGRA Rodeos/University/Convention. I encourage all members to attend and participate in all membership meetings

REMEMBER THE OSCAR'S PARTY WITH ACCESS HOLLYWOOD AT APOLLO'S ON SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 2006. BE SURE TO WEAR YOUR COWBOY HAT/ATTIRE AND ARRIVE BY 6:00 P.M. OR EARLIER TO JOIN IN ON THE FUN AND FESTIVITIES!

Ron Trusley

APRIL 2006**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:****Tuesday March 28, 2006****Send submissions to:****secretary@agra-phx.com****or mail to:****P.O. Box 40465 · Phoenix · AZ
85067-0465**

March

● **Cowtown Rodeo**
Fort Worth, Texas

- **March 3 - 5, 2006**
- W.R. Watt Arena Fort Worth, Texas Will Rogers Memorial Center
- [Texas Gay Rodeo Association](#) (TGRA) Div. III, (Auditor David Hill)

April ● **Sunshine Stampede**
Fort Lauderdale, Florida

- **April 7 - 9, 2006**
- Bergeron Rodeo Grounds 4271 Davie Rd Davie FL 33314-3433
- [Florida Gay Rodeo Association](#) (FGRA) Div. IV, (Auditor David Hill)



● **Rodeo in The Rock**
Little Rock, Arkansas

- **April 28 - 30, 2006**
- Arkansas State Fairgrounds 2600 Howard St Little Rock AR 72206-1714
- [Diamond State Rodeo Association](#) (DSRA) Div. III, (Auditor Michael Norman)

● **Greater San Diego Rodeo**
Dan Diego, CA

- **April 28 - 30, 2006**
- Lakeside Rodeo Arena Hwy 67 & Maplevue Rd Lakeside CA 92040
- [San Diego Chapter](#) (GSGRA) Div. I, (Auditor David Hill)



PARTY

When: Sunday March 5, 6pm (or earlier) Academy Awards start promptly at 6pm

Please try to arrive by 530pm for set up and camera check!

Where: Apollo's, 5749 N. 7th St. Phoenix

Why: Oscar night, AGRA, Cowboy's and
ACCESS HOLLYWOOD

Yes Access Hollywood had such a great time during our rodeo they are coming back to film our party in support of the BrokeBack Mountain Oscar nominations.

Come join us for a wonderful evening of drink specials, giveaways and good company!

Please wear your cowboy/cowgirl attire and enjoy an evening with your friends.

See you at Apollo's, 5749 N. 7th St. Phoenix

<http://www.oscar.com/>

SHOW TIME

**WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AT CHARLIE'S ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2006,
FOR A SHOW WITH
TRAVIS JAMES, MR AGRA 2006.
SHOW TIME IS 10:00 P.M.**

**MONEY RAISED WILL GO TO PROJECT HARD
HAT, ONE OF TRAVIS' CHOSEN 501C ORGANIZA-
TIONS.**

Hey Cowpokes!

Although Road Runner is over for another year, we are still busy. Access Hollywood is coming back to Phoenix for an Academy Awards party with AGRA at Apollo's. Shelly, one of the producers, got a hold of AGRA requesting to come back to Arizona to film an Awards Party because their feeling is that "Brokeback Mountain" will win "Best Picture" and wanted to get crowd reaction in a party atmosphere. RRRR 2006 was such a hit for them they wanted to come back and party with AGRA! Thanks to all who were nice with the media.....it pays off and you never know what doors will be opened. The party will be March 5, 2006 at Apollo's around 7 p.m. (half hour before the show starts). Ron Trustley has worked diligently with Ron and Lee (from Apollo's) to set this party up and there will be drink specials and prizes to come (we're still working on that one!)

Also, I received a forwarded "E" mail message from NMGRA asking if anyone from AGRA would be interested in sponsoring buckles, volunteering, etc. for Zia Regional Rodeo 2006. New Mexico Gay Rodeo Association is going through a rebuilding phase and nearly all their Board members are new to the Association. They are trying to get back on their feet and headed in a positive direction. AGRA and NMGRA has always had a good relationship and I encourage anyone who would like to help them out to go to their website and check them out. Thanks.

I don't know if many of you know, that our very own Wilma won All-Around Cowboy at RRRR 2006! Also, local and longtime favorite Brian Helander came in Third in the All-Around! Congratulations to them both, but we are proud of all of our Cowboys and Cowgirls. You all did a great job, enough to bring Arizona into second place for the weekend. You guys are awesome! For further results, go to www.irga.com.

Finally, much thanks goes out to Glen May and Wilma for their work on the Board last year. Thanks Guys! Also, I would like to welcome Carlos and Panda Bear to the Board. Let's make this the best year yet!

Well, Dudes and Dudettes, that's all for now.

Miss AGRA 2006

Ericka Alexander
pnutserver@cox.net

Mr. AGRA 2006

Travis James
scrpnpoisn@cox.net

Mr. AGRA 1st Runner-up 2006

Michael Butts
mbutts@msn.com

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