



**ARIZONA
GAY
RODEO
ASSOCIATION**



From the desk of the President

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It is September already, how time flies. To think it may just start to cool down some. I'm ready for our wonderful winter!

We have some things happening in the coming months please make sure you pay attention to your Branding Iron or at least attend the membership meetings.

We have Trustee nominations coming up in September and October then we vote in November. The current Trustee John King's time is up after a 3 year commitment. He is ready for someone else to take on the challenge and help continue to make IGRA what it is today. It involves some time but the time you spend in the position makes all your challenges worth it. You make a difference in Gay Rodeo!

Keep in mind that we take nominations for the Board of Directors of AGRA in October and November then we vote in December. The new Board takes over in February 2007! If anyone has any interest in a position make sure you ask the current Board members or past Board members what your job would be. I'd still like to see some changes made to the current by-laws that will give job descriptions to each Board position to help with future interest.

This has been 3 years for me. I have learned so much and have thoroughly enjoyed it! Challenges are fun and you work as a team to make the right decisions for the organization. Well worth the time and energy!

Keep working with your motivation towards our 2007 RoadRunner Regional Rodeo. We have many marketing plans coming up. We will begin our bar promotions towards the end of September until rodeo in January. I'd like to see as much participation as possible. Also some fundraisers are in the planning stages as well.

Pussy LeHoot and others will be heading to Tucson on September 30 for a fundraiser for AGRA and TIHAN. Why not plan on heading down south to support her and enjoy time away from home!

Until next month.

Cheers!!

Gary Hatterman

President AGRA

OCTOBER 2006

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

MONDAY September 25th, 2006

Send submissions to:

secretary@agra-phx.com

or mail to:

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

AGRA MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER MEETINGS

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, September 5th @ 7 PM

Charlie's Bar on the patio.

AGRA General Membership Meeting

Sunday, September 10th @ 7 PM

Charlie's Bar on the dance floor.

727 W. Camelback Rd., Phoenix

Phone # 602-265-0224

OCTOBER MEETINGS

AGRA Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, October 10th @ 7 PM

Charlie's Bar on the patio.

AGRA General Membership Meeting

Sunday, October 15th @ 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.

From the desk of the Vice-President

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Travis James, Mr. AGRA 2006, has exceeded all of the requirements and will be competing in the IGRA competition this November in Reno, Nevada. His last fund raiser was hosted by the Gold Diggers at Charlie's on August 15. At this fund raiser, a total of \$282.00 was raised with \$150.00 going to the West Valley Child Crisis Center and \$132.00 going to TIHAN. Since that show, a donation of \$25.00 was received for the West Valley Child Crisis Center, and a donation of \$25.00 was received for TIHAN. Both of these donations also count toward the money Travis is required to raise during his reign as Mr. AGRA 2006.

To date, Travis has raised \$340.00 for AGRA, \$340.00 for IGRA, and \$703.00 for his selected 501c organizations. As a contestant for Mr. AGRA 2006, Travis raised \$195.00 for AGRA and \$735.00 for his selected 501c organizations. And, I believe Travis is planning more fund raisers before the IGRA competition in November!

Pussy LeHoot's show at Charlie's on Sunday, September 10, will be her birthday show, and it will also be an AGRA fundraiser. Each royalty candidate is required to raise a minimum of \$100.00 for AGRA operating expenses and a minimum of \$500.00 for a 501c organization.

Currently, there are two candidates for Mr. AGRA 2007 – Kyle Ross and Gary Rushton. There are two candidates for Miss AGRA 2007 – Pussy LeHoot and Destiny Dallas. If you know of someone who might be interested in running for the Ms AGRA 2007 or MsTer AGRA 2007 titles, please let me know.

As I reported at the August 13 membership meeting, Tom Simplot, District 4 City Councilman, sent a card stating he is so proud of AGRA and the wonderful work we do for our community. He also said he was truly impressed to read about the funds we have donated to LGBT organizations.

Let's continue to support our 2006 Royalty Team (Travis & Michael) and the 2007 Royalty Contestants (Kyle, Gary, Pussy & Destiny) as they work to meet their requirements and to represent AGRA so very well in so many different places!

Ron Trusley

Vice President



2007 RODEO DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Things continue going very well as we prepare for the 2007 Road Runner Regional Rodeo. The rodeo committee meets once a month and much is accomplished at each meeting.

A lot of the rodeo information is on the AGRA website, but some things will be revised and updated soon. Watch for the completed rodeo poster to be on the website. Thanks to Scott Caffrey for volunteering to help finalize the poster for printing. And, speaking of printing, in addition to the poster, we will have rodeo information flyers and postcards printed very soon. We plan to take a large supply of the postcards to the IGRA Annual Convention this October in Nashville and distribute them to all convention attendees!

I have received a commitment for another Gold Sponsor for the rodeo bringing our total sponsorships to:

Platinum Sponsor (2 @ \$2,500.00 each)

Gold Sponsor (2 @ \$1,000.00 each)

Copper Sponsor (1 @ \$600.00)

These sponsorships are in addition to the \$8,000.00 from Hensley and \$2,500.00 from Southern Comfort.

I would like to remind everyone that now is the time to let us know if you are interested in sponsoring one or more rodeo buckles. Some of the sponsorship packages include sponsorship of an event (2 buckles) and the ribbons for that event. All buckle sponsorships are on a first-come, first-served basis.

There are several other areas available for sponsorship, and I would love to talk to you about them. So, if you are interested, just let me know!

Tentative plans are to have the Rodeo Volunteers Thank-You Appreciation Party on Charlie's patio from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 3, 2007.

In my article in the August Branding Iron, I listed the rodeo officials, but I failed to list the judges. Our judges are: Amy Griffin, Dee Zuspenn, Frank Elam Jr., and Kyle Putman.

Also, remember our annual rodeo school will be Thursday afternoon and Friday morning, January 11 & 12, 2007. Rodeo school is an excellent time to practice any of the rodeo events and to learn good safety tips.

We are looking at the possibility of having a "Monday After Rodeo Brunch" just before Pussy LeHoot and Friends Show that afternoon. I should know more about this by next month.

There is still a place for anyone who wants to volunteer to help us prepare for the rodeo and to also volunteer during rodeo weekend. Contact me, and we will find a place for you!

Ron Trusley

2007 Rodeo Director

Hey Folks!

I hope that you all are having a great rodeo year so far. Time is starting to move quickly towards RoadRunner Regional Rodeo again and with that I become more task oriented.

I am still currently writing the article "Cowboy Corral" with Heatstroke and have spoke with all the other publications via the phone. I do need to start meeting with them in person just to touch base and keep communications open.

I also contact a gay magazine out of Dublin, Ireland. The founder and publisher, Eddie McGuiness, was very nice and informative. I was watching LOGO and saw an episode on gay travel to Dublin. The hosts of the show where shown around by Eddie and they spoke of his magazine "Free". I remembered when I traveled to Ireland about six years ago and was going through this small country town. In the town's center they had over a hundred horses. When I asked the travel guide what it was all the horses doing in the park, she said that every once in a while all the country people bring their horses in for auction. I found that pretty fascinating and interesting. I thought that there is country people all over the world why not reach out an take an opportunity to promote Arizona Gay Rodeo Association plus make some friends in the mean time. I "E" mailed Eddie and described RRRR and AGRA. He was interested in attending RRRR in January and requested pictures of RRRR for their Oct/Nov. issue of Free. So, people might be different, but we're all the same

Well, It is time to sign off, but I want you all to think about the upcoming Board Elections. They are just around the corner and if you are considering that venture, then by all means talk to the Board member who has that position and find out more about it.

Kurt

Hello members,

We are almost out of the summer slump and getting ready for our up coming rodeo. We have had some good fundraisers this summer. Coming up on September 26th, the Charlie's Gold diggers will welcome AGRA at 10pm. On September 30th, we are going to Tucson to do a benefit show for AGRA and Tihan. I will be taking some of our Phoenix performers for a special show at Howl at the Moon. Several Tucson entertainers have committed to helping us out, and Tihan members will be pre selling raffle tickets in advance. So please come down and support us. Howl at the Moon is located at 915 West Prince Road. Phone (520)293-7339. Showtime is at 9pm, so hope to see you all there. Have a great month!!

Pussy Le Hoot

Oh!!! By the way >>>

Pussy's Birthday show, Sunday September 10, 2006 at Charlie's 8:30pm. A benefit for AGRA w/ Patrick Lose, Adrian Adair, Gary Rushton, Hollie Woods, Barbra Seville, Claudia B, Ebony and many other guests.

Note: Join Pussy right after the AGRA benefit as she celebrates 26 years in show business.

ALSO>>>

Saturday September 2, 2006 Charlie's 6th annual IGRA/AGRA beach party on the patio at 8pm, w/ Jell-O shots, raffles, prizes, Bud Light and entertainment. Pussy Le Hoot and Friends under the stars on the sand at 9pm.

RODEO DATES - January 12-14, 2007**HOST HOTELS**

Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix Midtown 4000 N Central Avenue Phoenix AZ 85012
Reservation Phone #: (602) 279-9811 *Room Block:* AGA *Rate:* \$119 + tax per night

(Make reservation by Sep. 15, 2006 & your name will be entered into a drawing for a free 2-night stay during rodeo weekend.) (This hotel is closest to bars.)

Grace Inn at Ahwatukee *(about 5 miles from rodeo venue)* 10831 S 51 St Phoenix AZ 85044
Reservation Phone #: 1-800-843-6010 *Room Block:* AGRA *Rate:* \$79 + tax per night

Both Hotels: Reservation deadline-December 18, 2006. Rates: 1-4 people per room

RODEO VENUE – Rawhide at Wild Horse Pass on the Gila River Indian Community

(approximately 22 miles from Central Phoenix) See AGRA website for directions.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Must be 21 years of age **WITH VALID ID IN YOUR POSSESSION** to purchase and/or consume alcoholic beverages. All beverages and food will be sold on premises. **NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR BEVERAGES PERMITTED. ABSOLUTELY, NO FIREARMS PERMITTED.**

TICKET INFORMATION

\$15 each day-Saturday and Sunday. Weekend: \$25 for both days. Advance tickets may be purchased beginning September 15, 2006 by contacting AGRA. Children under 12 years of age admitted free. Tickets will also be on sale on Friday at the pool party & Friday evening at the party. **ALL TICKETS ARE NON-REFUNDABLE.**

SHUTTLE SERVICE

Free to and from host hotels to rodeo grounds & possibly some bars on Saturday & Sunday; between Grace Inn at Ahwatukee and Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix Midtown Friday afternoon & evening for parties/contestant registration. Schedule will be on the AGRA website and at the front desk at both host hotels.

VENDORS

Rodeo Pavilion: Saturday and Sunday. Contact Jerry Jacobs, Vendor Coordinator, by e-mail at tuccowboy@access4less.net or visit the AGRA website.

ENTERTAINMENT

Rodeo Pavilion: Saturday and Sunday. Limited entertainment at Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix Midtown Friday night. Contact Michael Butts, Entertainment Coordinator, by e-mail at mjbutts1@msn.com, or visit the AGRA website. Friday evening entertainment/party will be in the Phoenix Ballroom at the Hilton Garden Inn from 7:00 till 10:00 p.m. Full-service bars.

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VOLUNTEERS

Contact Cheryl & Cody Brown by e-mail at agravolunteers@cox.net; <http://www.agravolunteers.org>.

CONTESTANT INFORMATION

IGRA Sanctioned Rodeo; all 2007 Rodeo Rules apply. Entries/fees accepted in accordance with IGRA Rules. **REGISTRATION: 6:00-9:00 p.m. – Friday-January 12, 2007 in the Scottsdale Room at the Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix Midtown. BUDDY PASSES: Available at contestant registration for \$25.00. Check the AGRA website for information on added prize money.**

HORSE CHECK-IN

Begins at noon on Wednesday-January 10, 2007. Contact Michael Dick by e-mail at azcampingdude@mail.ev1.net or by phone (602) 619-2739 if you have questions or want to purchase hay/shavings. All horses/equipment must be off grounds by noon Monday-January 15, 2007.

SPECIAL NOTES

Rodeo school: Thursday afternoon, January 11 and Friday morning, January 12.
Contact Chuck Browning by e-mail at agracwby@aol.com or visit the AGRA website for details. The only activity on Friday on the rodeo grounds, other than rodeo school on Friday morning, will be vendor set-up.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON SPECIAL

Pool party and country cookout at Hilton Garden Inn Phoenix Midtown – **1:00 – 5:00 p.m.** Pool party-free: Food tickets: **\$8.00 Advance purchase beginning September 15, 2006 by contacting AGRA. Tickets can also be purchased Friday afternoon on site. Tickets are non-refundable. Full-service bars in the pool area.**

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

www.agra-phx.com

E-Mail-rodeoinfo@agra-phx.com

Ron Trusley, Rodeo Director-E-Mail-rtrusley@cox.net

(602) 510-9671



September

Kansas City, Missouri

- **September 1 - 3, 2006**
- Wyandotte County Fairgrounds 1405 N 98th St Kansas City KS 66111-1827
[Missouri Gay Rodeo Association](#) (MGRA) Div. III, (Auditor Larry Lindstrom)

[Contestant registration](#) July 28 - August 18



Washington, DC

- **September 8 - 10, 2006**
 - Montgomery County Fairgrounds 16 Chestnut St Gaithersburg MD. 20877-2403
[Atlantic States Gay Rodeo Association](#) (ASGRA) Div. IV, (Auditor Michael Norman)
- [Contestant registration](#) August 4 - August 25



San Francisco, CA

- **September 15 - 17, 2006**
- Driscoll Ranches Event Center 5460 La Honda Rd La Honda CA 94020-9720
- [Bay Area Rodeo](#) (GSGRA-BAC) Div. I, (Auditor Larry Lindstrom)

[Contestant registration](#) August 11 - September 1



October

Las Vegas, Nevada

- **October 6 - 8, 2006**
- Horseman's Park 5800 E Flamingo Rd Las Vegas NV 89122-5502
[Nevada Gay Rodeo Association](#) (NGRA) Div. I, (Auditor David Hill)

[Contestant registration](#) September 1 - September 22



IGRA Annual Convention & International Dance Competition

Nashville, TN

- **October 19 - 22, 2006**
- Preston Hotel 733 Briley Parkway Nashville, TN. 37217



Miss AGRA 2006

vacant

Mr. AGRA 2006

Travis James
scrpnpoisn@cox.net

(602) 430-8706

Mr. AGRA 1st Runner-up 2006

Michael Butts
mjbutts1@msn.com

(623) 202-5558

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AGRA's IGRA
ROYALTY

2006

vacant



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