

THE BRANDING IRON

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Letter	1
Secretary	2
Trustee	3
Rodeo Director	4
Meeting Schedules	7
Board/Royalty Contacts	8

October 2012 Edition
Next Newsletter Deadline:
October 25th 2012

Send submissions to:
Justin@TheCreativeArcade.com

Howdy Cowboys and Cowgirls,

I hope everyone is excited for the 2013 ARIZONA GAY RODEO! John King and Bob Pimentel are working extremely hard to make this year's rodeo one to remember. In the mean time I am happy to announce that Sway Events has signed on to help promote the 2013 rodeo. Sway Events has proven to be a great partner with AGRA. They will be continuing the successful Country Idol. Sway Events and Smirnoff will be working together along with AGRA to gather party buses to and from the Rodeo. Please stay tuned for more details.

We will have a full delegation going to this year IGRA convention. I want to thank all of the Delegates and alternates for giving up their weekend to support a great event. IGRA Convention is a great learning experience for all that attend. The BOD will be giving a full report upon our return.

Remember get involved, we need all of your support to put on this GREAT RODEO!

Respectfully,

Michael Weidmann
AGRA President



THANKS PATRICK!

Secretary's Report:

As of this report, AGRA has 113 members, with seven Champion Members.

I would like to wish happy birthday to the following AGRA members for the month of October:

Michael Butts	October 4th
Robert Brown	October 9th
George Immerso	October 10th
Homero Medrano	October 11th
Sharon Starks	October 16th
David Holmes	October 26th
Doug Holmes	October 26th
Richard Merritt	October 28th
Sergio Lajam	October 28th
Cynthia Morgan	October 30th
Ruben Contreras	October 31st

Sincerely,

Patrick Roe
AGRA Secretary





TRUSTEE

My report this month will be very short; it will consist of a couple of reminders and an update.

The registration fee for IGRA University which will be held in January 2013 in St Louis is \$100.00 through November 30. Then the fee increases to \$125.00, and registration closes December 31, 2012.

The 2012 World Gay Rodeo Finals will be October 19-21 in Fort Worth, Texas. The host hotel is completely sold out, but an overflow hotel has been contracted. Information for the overflow hotel is:

**Hampton Inn Dallas/Arlington North
2200 Brookhollow Plaza Dr
Arlington TX 76006
Phone: (817) 652-9562**

Room rate is \$105.00 per night, and deadline to make reservations at this rate is October 11, 2012. When making a reservation, use Group Code IGRA to receive the special rate.

**Ron Trusley
AGRA Trustee
Phone: (602) 510-9671
E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net**

A decorative flourish consisting of dark brown, swirling lines and small circular accents, positioned at the top of the page.

RODEO DIRECTOR REPORT

Jeff Francisco
c/o
John A King
Co-Rodeo Director

07/05/12

“PHOENIX GAY RODEO MOVES BACK TO CORONA RANCH”

A lot of buzz has been created already about the Arizona Gay Rodeo to be held next year. I am pleased to announce that a contract with Felix Corona was assigned on June the 1st, 2012 enabling AGRA to move its venue back to the Corona Ranch Rodeo Grounds. This was made possible by a waiver granted at the IGRA Board Meeting on May 25th, 2012 which allowed us to use a non-regulation size arena.

The Corona Family Corporation has been putting more and more money back into its facility with each passing year. They now have the ability to provide twice as much parking and they also have room to park as many as 50 RV’s. The advantages of changing the venue include its “close-in” location actually located on the bus line. The setting is much more intimate with the ability to get close-up pictures of the contestants. AGRA will be using community volunteers to act as bartenders and the Coronas have given us a better break on concessions.

The Board, my Co-Rodeo Director Bob Pimentel and myself are already planning continuous entertainment starting on Friday night and ending with the awards ceremony on Sunday. Mark off this weekend - President’s Day Weekend 2013 - AGRA is going back to its “Glory Days”.



08/30/12

AGRA Changes it's Royalty Competition AGRA has announced some great changes and restructuring that has happened to make this year's Royalty Competition the best yet. The Arizona Gay Rodeo Association will hold it's annual Royalty Competition in February. Just like the new venue for the event, we are taking the Royalty Competition "Back to the Glory Days". What our Royalty does is act as spokes people for the organization at many community events. But most importantly, they raise money for local charities.

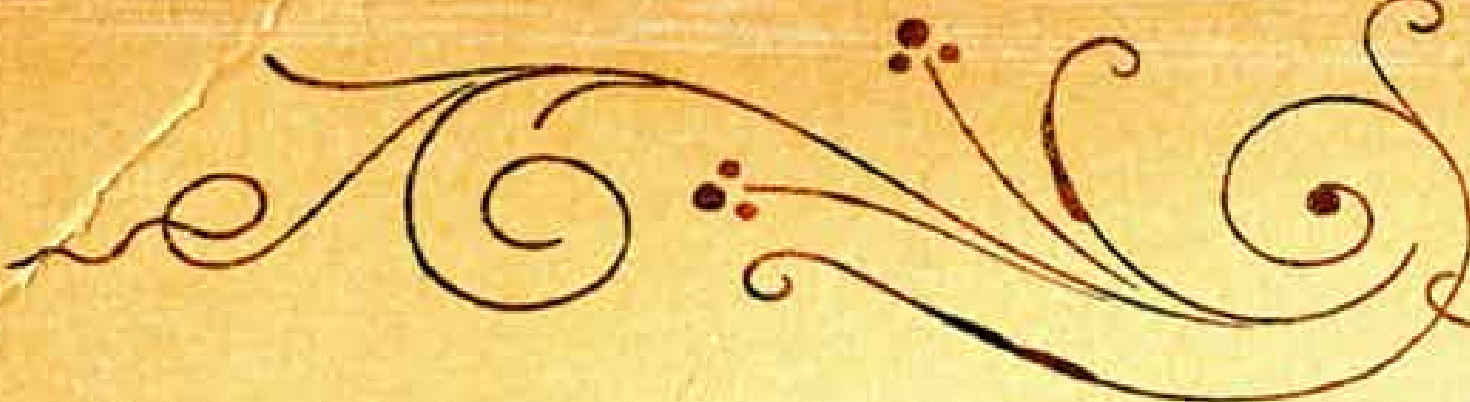
The Competition is usually held several months before the Rodeo, however, this year we are holding it during the Rodeo on February 15th and 16th at The Corona Ranch. This gives the Royalty the chance to be an active part by competing and winning at the actual Rodeo itself. We have also taken away the horsemanship area of competition. The areas that we are doing this year will be long talent, short talent, creative western wear, interview, and public presentation (onstage question).

We are SO excited for the changes and also to have many kings and queens, women and man involved. The titles are Miss AGRA ,which is open to drag queens; MsTer AGRA, which is open to drag kings; Ms. AGRA, which is open to females; and Mr AGRA, which is open to males. Any queens, kings, women and men who would like to compete, please contact Joshua Sipe (Claudia B) at Joshua.sipe@yahoo.com or (480) 217-7892. Thank-you and Let's Get Ready to Rodeo.

09/12/12

"Volunteer Bartenders to Raise Money for their Favorite Cause"

That's Right! When you ask for refreshment at the next Arizona Gay Rodeo, you'll be ordering from a member of the community and tipping to help out their chosen non-profit organization or charity. Because of the new Corona Ranch Venue, the AGRA board has opened up 16 bar-tending shifts to every compatible non-profit or charity who can muster at least 3 volunteers and has 5 hours to serve drinks behind their bar. The key to our next Rodeo is "Community Involvement - Back to the Glory Days" says Michael Weidmann, AGRA President.

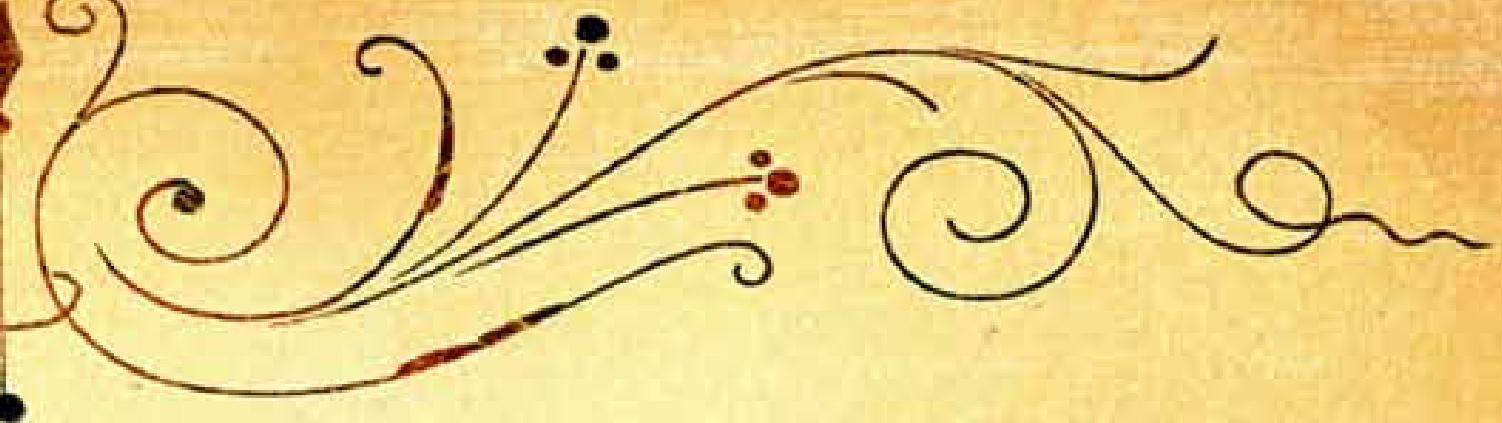
A decorative flourish consisting of dark brown, swirling lines and small circular accents, positioned at the top of the page.

In addition, AGRA has opened up 8 shifts to be filled by local gay and lesbian bars. They will be able to promote their unique features by hanging signs, wearing bar shirts or even giving out drink cards. Rodeo can get a little bit crazy when it is held at the Corona's. If your bar or your group is interested in volunteering for a bar shift, please call Jeff or John at 602-287-9026 or email johnaking81@yahoo.com.

09/25/12

**Bigger and Better
Country Idol Contest**

The AGRA Board has just signed a contract with Sway Events that expands the already popular Country Idol Contest that coincides with the Arizona Gay Rodeo. The first segment will start on Friday night at the Rodeo with the completion to be held early Saturday evening. "We had 10 bars with 20 contestants last year and now we have room for more", according to Gary Guerin, owner of Sway Events. "There is so much singing talent out there." Participating bars hold their own individual contests to determine who can represent them come Rodeo time. Winners will be invited to attend the Friday night contest by riding the Sway Party Bus to the Corona Rodeo Ranch. Anyone interested in being a part of this year's Country Idol Contest is invited to call Sway Events and ask for Helena (602) 277-SWAY (7929) or email at helena@swayevents.com.



TREASURER'S REPORT

**SEE NEXT
ISSUE**

MEETING SCHEDULE

2012 MEETING SCHEDULE			
BOARD MTG	MBRSHIP MTG	RODEO/EVENT NAME	RODEO/EVENT DATES
03/07/12	03/11/12	Texas Tradition Rodeo (Fort Worth, TX)	March 2-4, 2012
		AGRA St Patio O Day	March 17, 2012
04/04/12	04/01/12	Saguaro Cup	April 13-15, 2012
		Sunshine Stampede (Ft Lauderdale, FL)	April 20-22, 2012
		Phoenix Pride 2012	April 21-22, 2012
05/09/12	05/13/12	Hot Rodeo 2012 (Palm Springs, CA)	May 4-6, 2012
		AGRA Chili Verde Day	May 5, 2012
		Big Horn Rodeo (Las Vegas, NV)	May 11-13, 2012
		Great Plains Rodeo (Oklahoma City, OK)	May 25-27, 2012
06/06/12	06/10/12	Sierra Stampede (Sacramento, CA)	June 8-10, 2012 (cancelled)
		Pride in the Pines (Flagstaff, AZ)	June 16, 2012
		Canadian Rockies International Rodeo (Calgary) *	June 29-July 1, 2012
		AGRA Grand Ol' Opry	July 7, 2012 (date change)
07/18/12	07/22/12	Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo (Denver, CO) *	July 13-15, 2012
		Rodeo Fest 2012 (Detroit, MI)	July 27-29, 2012
08/08/12	08/12/12	Zia Regional Rodeo (Santa Fe, NM) *	August 3-5, 2012
		Windy City Rodeo (Chicago, IL)	August 24-26, 2012 (cancelled)
		Show-Me State Rodeo (Kansas City, MO)	August 31-September 2, 2012
09/05/12	09/09/12	AGRA Beach Party	September 1, 2012
		Best Buck in the Bay (San Francisco, CA)	September 14-16, 2012
		Sedona/Verde Valley Pride (Cottonwood)	September 29, 2012 (changes)
10/10/12	10/14/12	Rainbows Festival (Phoenix)	October 6-7, 2012
		Tucson Pride	October 13, 2012 (date change)
		26th Annual IGRA Finals Rodeo (Fort Worth)	October 19-21, 2012
		27th Annual IGRA Royalty Competition (Ft Worth)	October 19-21, 2012
11/14/12	11/18/12	28th Annual IGRA Convention (Las Vegas)	November 8-11, 2012
12/05/12	12/09/12	AGRA Day of Christmas at Charlie's	December 9, 2012
01/02/13	01/06/13	IGRA University (St Louis)	January 11-13, 2013
		Super Bowl Sunday (New Orleans, LA)	February 3, 2013
02/06/13	02/10/13	Pre-Rodeo Bar Crawl with Hensley/Bud Light	February 8, 2013
		Charlie's/AGRA Mini Rodeo	February 13, 2013
		28th Anniversary Road Runner Regional Rodeo *	February 15-17, 2013

* Indicates IGRA Rodeo Division 2

Board Meetings - 7 pm - Charlie's Offices

Membership Meetings - 4 pm - Charlie's bar - except December meeting will be at 7:00 pm



CONTACT INFO

Board of Directors

Michael Weidmann
President
(602) 885-9565
m.weidmann@cox.net

Jai Crystal
Treasurer
(602) 463-0972
jaredcrystal@aplustaxservice.com

Kevin McSweeny
Fundraising Director
(602) 518-5064
plehoot@yahoo.com

Claudia B / Joshua Sipe
Vice President
(480) 217-7892
joshua.sipe@yahoo.com

Patrick Roe
Secretary
(480) 577-5976
agrapat@hotmail.com

Vanessa Jimenez
Public Relations
(623) 225-8695
vanityfatale2011@yahoo.com

Ron Trusley
Trustee
(602) 510-9671
rtrusley@cox.net

Justin Gonzalez
Editor
(480) 220-8087
justin@thecreativearcade.com

Ms IGRA 2012
Trixie Delux
(602) 402-0076



ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

A.G.R.A.

P.O. BOX 40465

PHOENIX · AZ 85067-0465



LAYOUT & DESIGN BY
CREATIVE ARCADE LLC
www.TheCreativeArcade.com
info@TheCreativeArcade.com