



BRANDING IRON

PRESIDENT'S REPORT



I am pleased to say that attendance at our monthly membership meetings has been quite good. In the July meeting, 37 members were present, and total membership

at that time was 109. It is also exciting to see members actually participating in the meetings.

In the July membership meeting the Election Committee was appointed. Members are Brooklyn Diaz, Ionna Doublewide, and Claudia B who is also Committee Chair. They fulfilled their first duty as a committee by counting ballots for IGRA Annual Convention Delegates; and they did an excellent job.

Delegates to the IGRA Convention are Michael Brent (Trustee), Sharon Starks (Vice President), Mark Boyd, John King, Dan Iversen, and Jeffrey Smit. Alternate Delegates are Mark Christensen and Jayme Walker. So there is still room

for three additional Alternates. If you plan to attend convention, let us know so you can be appointed as an Alternate.

All of our current royalty team members, except Jeffrey Smit, were able to attend the Zia Regional Rodeo in Santa Fe, New Mexico the weekend of August 11-13. They also participated in various ways from timing to working in the arena, and they also represented AGRA very well. Mark Christensen and Nikki Starr were also present and represented AGRA and their IGRA Royalty titles very well, and they also participated in various ways during the weekend.

Only four AGRA members competed in the Zia Rodeo. They were Greg Begay, Joey Hervey, Ryan Knop, and Gary Parker. Greg was first runner-up to All-Around Cowboy, and he also won several ribbons and event buckles. It's always a thrill to see our AGRA members competing in rodeo.

Watch your email and the Branding Iron for information about the upcoming AGRA Fall Bake Sale in November. Then, of course, we will have the Annual Christmas Bake Sale in December. Turkey and ham raffle tickets will not be sold as they have been in past years. Instead members attending membership meetings will be given a ticket, and drawings for the turkeys and hams will be done in November and December respectively.

Remember: Contact me by email or phone at anytime if you have questions, suggestions, or just want to talk.

Ron Trusley
Ron Trusley

Rodeo Director, 2018 & 2019
Phone: (602) 510-9671
E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

2017 AGRA Board of Directors

PRESIDENT

Ron Trusley

E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

Phone: (602) 510-9671

VICE PRESIDENT

Sharon Starks

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Phone: (602) 402-0076

SECRETARY

Chris Fairbrother

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Phone: (480) 217-7136

TREASURER

Walt Hutter

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Phone: (602) 510-9672

TRUSTEE

Michael Brent

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Phone: (602) 448-3086

PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Mark Christensen

E-Mail: mrogra2010@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 219-7075

FUND RAISING DIRECTOR

Jayme Christensen-Walker

(aka Nikki Starr)

E-Mail: missrainbowcactus2012@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 219-8183

next
member meeting:



AUGUST



3:00pm

@ Charlie's
on the dance floor

RODEO DIRECTOR'S REPORT



2017 AGRA Royalty

MR AGRA 2017

Jeffrey Smit

E-Mail: jeff-smit2008@yahoo.com

Phone: (480) 466-2988

MR AGRA 2017 1ST RUNNER-UP

Mahlon Lovell

E-Mail: mlovell4@msn.com

Phone: (602) 931-0641

MS AGRA 2017

Christi Starr Mikels

(aka Chris Fairbrother)

E-Mail: c.fairbrother.agra@gmail.com

Phone: (480) 217-7136

MISS AGRA 2017

Mipsy Mikels (aka Michael Butts)

E-Mail: mjbutts1@msn.com

Phone: (602) 403-9154

MSTER AGRA 2017

RJ Mikels (aka Cindy Fairbrother)

E-Mail: rjmikels1@gmail.com

Phone: (480) 232-5873

2017 IGRA Royalty

MR IGRA 2017/MR AGRA 2016

Mark Christensen

E-Mail: mrogra2010@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 219-7075

MISS IGRA 2017 1ST RUNNER-UP/

MISS AGRA 2016

Nikki Starr

(aka Jayme Christensen-Walker)

E-Mail: missrainbowcactus2012@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 29-8183



The alleyway coming into the arena is now covered and has lots of lighting in it.

The sponsorship packet for our 2018 rodeo has been totally revised and simplified. It is posted on the website, and I encourage you to work with us to secure sponsors. If you need copies of the packet, just let me know. And, if you want to talk with anyone about a sponsorship, please let me know as I want to keep record of all of our contacts.

A "Contributing Sponsor" category for \$100 has been added. Of course this is open to anyone, but it is primarily intended for AGRA members who might wish to be an individual sponsor for the rodeo.

Things are looking better at the Corona Ranch and Rodeo Grounds. The alleyway coming into the arena is now covered and has lots of lighting in it. The bleachers (spectator seating) are being covered. Soon photos showing the improvements will be posted on the website.

Very soon vendor information and entertainment information will be available and posted on our website. And, as we move forward, more and more information will be posted.

The Country Idol competition will begin in September, and some new venues for the competition have been added. Also, it is probable that the finals competition will take place both on Friday and Saturday nights of rodeo weekend.

Four different bar crawls are planned

for September 30, 2017, November 4, 2017, December 2, 2017, and January 27, 2018. Stay tuned for more information, and get ready to buy your tickets and ride the bus with us for an evening of fun and camaraderie.

In the August and September membership meetings, nominations will be accepted for Rodeo Grand Marshal and Program Dedication. Then the Rodeo Committee will select the recipients.

Things are starting to move at a pretty fast pace as we move into high gear to prepare for the rodeo

Remember to buy your raffle tickets for a chance to win a 60 inch flat screen television. Tickets are \$10.00 each and can be purchased from Charlie's bartenders or AGRA members. The winning ticket will be drawn in our September 17 membership meeting. Then in October we will begin selling raffle tickets are a few different items with winning tickets drawn in our December 17 membership meeting.

I believe our 2018 rodeo will be one of the best we have ever had.

Ron Trusley
Ron Trusley

Rodeo Director, 2018 & 2019

Phone: (602) 510-9671

E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

TRUSTEE'S REPORT



Well, it's mid-August and we just got back from the rodeo in Santa Fe with NMGRA, all had a wonderful time. This was a board meeting rodeo, so I had to sit in meetings all day on Friday.

that everyone wants to sit in on Friday at convention.

Remember, Rodeo Rules changes need to be in by 9/11.

Upcoming rodeos include:

- Show Me State Rodeo on September 1-3 in Kansas City, MO.
- Bay Area Rodeo on September 15-17 in Guerneville, CA.
- Bighorn Rodeo on September 22-24 in Las Vegas.

I am unable to attend the Show Me State and Bay Area rodeos, so if you are interested in being an alternate trustee, let me know so I can send the email out to the board. I will be in attendance at Bighorn in Las Vegas.

We have been invoiced for our dues for IGRA when I was in Santa Fe, and I will be working with Walt, Ron and Christi to get the paperwork turned in.

That's all for this month, Happy Trails!!

Michael Brent
AGRA Trustee

Some points on the board meeting:

- We approved the rodeo application for Palm Springs (GSGRA)
- We heard the progress on the World Gay Rodeo Finals in Albuquerque, NM. It looks like we will have a wonderful finals rodeo this year.
- We have a lot of contestants for IGRA Royalty in all 4 categories.
- And, I was elected to be the Trustee Vice-chair for Division 2.

We need to get IGRA Convention on our minds and think of what committees



SECRETARY'S REPORT



Happy Summer AGRA Members!

I'm excited to announce that we have hit 112 members strong and am looking forward to continued growth in Membership in the upcoming months!!

Happy Birthday AGRA Members born in August:

- 8/11 **Jesse Dorantes**
- 8/11 **Michael Kaplan**
- 8/11 **CJ Wing**
- 8/12 **Jeff Francisco**
- 8/13 **Randy Mackey**
- 8/14 **Salomon Velazquez**
- 8/18 **Walt Hutter**
- 8/21 **Ryan Knop**
- 8/25 **Tony Kyng**
- 8/25 **Brett Rightler**
- 8/28 **Ashleigh Schuller**
- 8/29 **Mike Foertsch**

Have a Great Day!

Chris Fairbrother (Christi Starr Mikels)
AGRA Secretary
E-Mail: c.fairbrother.agra@gmail.com
Phone: 480-217-7136

FINANCIAL REPORT



Walt Hutter,
AGRA Treasurer

AS OF THE ENDING DATE OF

Jul-17

	REPORT		
ENDING BALANCE	\$	14,572.25	
NON RODEO NET INCOME-MONTHLY REPORT	\$	8.22	
RODEO NET INCOME-MONTHLY REPORT	\$	(4,729.00)	
RODEO YEAR TO DATE-NET INCOME	\$	4,609.55	
AS OF TODAY CHECKING BALANCE	\$	13,708.43	8/15/2017
RODEO AS OF TODAY	\$	4,609.55	8/15/2017



UPCOMING MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

AUGUST 20
SEPTEMBER 17
OCTOBER 8
NOVEMBER 19
DECEMBER 17
JANUARY 21, 2018
FEBRUARY 11, 2018

Membership Meetings are held at Charlie's Phoenix, on the dance floor and start *promptly* at 3:00pm.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

SEPTEMBER 13
OCTOBER 4
NOVEMBER 15
DECEMBER 13
JANUARY 10, 2018
FEBRUARY 7, 2018

Board Meetings are held at Charlie's Corporate Office, at 7:00pm.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Show Me State Rodeo (Kansas City, MO)	September 01-03, 2017
AGRA Beach Party	September 02, 2017
Best Buck in the Bay-Rodeo on the River (Duncan Milles, CA)	September 15-17, 2017
BigHorn Rodeo (Las Vegas, NV)	September 22-24, 2017
Rainbows Festival (Phoenix, AZ)	October 21-22, 2017
31st Annual World Gay Rodeo Finals (Albuquerque, NM)	October 20-22, 2017
31st Annual IGRA Royalty Competition (Albuquerque, NM)	October 20-22, 2017
33rd Annual IGRA Convention (Little Rock, AR)	November 09-12, 2017
AGRA Day of Christmas at Charlie's	December 17, 2017
IGRA University (Oklahoma City, OK)	January 12-14, 2018
Super Bowl LII (52) (Minneapolis, MN)	February 04, 2018
Charlie's/AGRA Mini Rodeo	February 14, 2018
33rd Annual Arizona Gay Rodeo *	February 16-18, 2018
Rodeo Volunteer Party	February 23, 2018 (Friday)
AGRA Annual Corporation Meeting/Banquet	February 24, 2018 (Saturday)

**Indicates IGRA Rodeo Division 2*

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION
60-INCH FLAT SCREEN TV RAFFLE!
WIN ME!
 Winner will be drawn & announced on **September 17**. Winner need not be present and will be notified via telephone or email.
SEE AN AGRA MEMBER OR CHARLIE'S BARTENDER TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!
A FUNDRAISER FOR THE 2018 ARIZONA GAY RODEO
only \$10 per ticket
agra-phx.com

FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings All! Just wanted to take a quick moment to remind everyone that all members are welcome to submit articles to the Branding Iron! I'm also looking for photograph submissions to build an online gallery on agra-phx.com. Please email photos you'd like included

on the site. Article submission deadline for the September issue is August 25

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 Branding Iron Editor & Webmaster
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