

2023 Annual Report

2023 Financial Summary:

Donations: January 1, 2023- December 31, 2023: **\$3218.00**

Program Expenses, Supplies: January 1, 2023- December 31, 2023 **\$4883.00**

Bank Balance as of December 31, 2023: **\$ 8267.18** (Cash Basis, Wells Fargo Bank)

Summary of Public Benefit Activities

Digitizing Documents:

The following documents were digitized in 2023:
IGRA Member Association Bylaws for the years 1999 through 2005, 2007, and 2015.
IGRA Board Minutes, correspondence, and Convention Minutes for the years 1987 through 2005; some of the Board meeting and correspondence for 2008, 2009, 2011, and 2012 through 2016.

Restoration of Photos:

Complete review of approximately 2,000 of the 6,500 photos taken by Bill Morris of Albuquerque. Hopefully, we will be able to review and identify as many of the individuals in these photos as possible prior to donating the photos to ONE. The negatives are being kept for now until they can be scanned and posted on the gayrodeohistory.org website.

In November, Robert Douglas of Reno loaned Phil Ragsdale's photo albums from 1979 and 1980 for the four-day gay rodeo archives display in Reno. Robert then loaned these albums to GLRHF for scanning. Roger Bergmann plans to have this completed before the end of December.

Collaboration with ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries (ONE):

ONE has been closed for major remodeling since the early Spring of 2023, so no items were donated during 2023. There are currently eight file boxes of documents ready to be donated when ONE reopens.

Collaboration with the Autry Museum of the American West (The Autry):

During 2023, duplicate rodeo programs, magazines, newspapers, and miscellaneous documents were donated to The Autry, as well as a dozen duplicate T-shirts from GSGRA sponsored rodeos.

In June 2023, The Autry opened a new long-term exhibit which includes gay rodeo items displayed in three separate locations within the space. This display was made possible by last year's grant from the California Library System.

Paladin Award:

The 2022 Paladin Award was presented to John King on February 18th during Saturday's Grand Entry at the 2023 Arizona Gay Rodeo. The 2023 Paladin Award was presented to Brian Helander on November 18th during the Hall of Fame Saturday night party at the 2023 IGRA Convention in Reno.

TRAVELING IGRA ARCHIVE DISPLAYS:

2023: Feb. Phoenix, AZ: Arizona Gay Rodeo
May Banning, CA: Hot Rodeo
Aug El Reno, OK: Great Plains Rodeo
Aug Santa Fe, NM: Zia Regional Rodeo
Sep. Duncan Mills, CA: Best Buck in the Bay
Nov. Reno, NV: IGRA Convention

The organization has continued to receive donated items to the IGRA archives at most of the displays. The largest display to date was during the IGRA Convention in Reno, NV November 16 – 19. It included items on 18 tables, posters and flags displayed on 14 4-foot x 6-foot display boards, and two quilts. This display was open to the public, and several individuals who had attended or participated in the original Reno Gay Rodeos visited the display. Some of them brought items to donate, which included: 3 cocktail glasses from 1979; a 1979 calf roping event buckle; an undated plastic mug; a photo of two rodeo clowns; and as mentioned earlier, the two photo albums on loan for scanning photos from 1979 and 1980.

In addition, a few Facebook contacts have been established that will hopefully result in additional donations. One of them was “MR. Reno Gay Rodeo 1979”, and I expect him to donate his sash and possible other items when he digs through his boxes. A woman who won the Wild Cow Milking buckle at the first Reno Gay Rodeo in 1976. And finally, a woman who competed in all nine of the early Reno rodeos and has several event buckles.

The “Gay & Lesbian Rodeo Heritage Foundation” has provided financial support to preserve, restore, and transport the archives to display locations.

Roger Bergmann
GLRHF President