



**ARIZONA  
GAY  
RODEO  
ASSOCIATION**



## From the desk of the President

### Inside this Issue

President's Letter	1
News Letter Deadline	1
President's Letter	1
Vice-President's Letter	2
Secretary's Letter	3
Trustee's Letter	4
Fund Raising Director's Letter	5
Public Relations Director's Letter	6
Rodeo Director's Report	7
Special Notice/Reminder	8
Board of Directors	9
Royalty	9
Meeting Schedule	9
Return address page	10

*March was a good month for AGRA. We had some shows, and St. Patio Days hosted by Pussy LeHoot and they all turned out very well. It was very good to see the turn out from everyone.*

*March was also a good month for the AGRA Board by selecting various committee members and our 2008 Roadrunner Regional Rodeo Director as Mr. Ron Trusley.*

*Thanks to all who have accepted our appointments. I am sure you will do a wonderful job. We are still in need of a Treasurer and Branding Iron Editor. If any of you know anyone that you feel would do a great job, please contact one of the board members.*

*April is now here and we have Phoenix Gay Pride coming up with AGRA having float in the parade and a booth at the festival. I encourage all AGRA members and affiliates to ride on the float and show your "PRIDE" for AGRA by wearing your western attire and AGRA name badges. Lets show Phoenix what AGRA is all about cowboys and cowgirls.*

**Talk to ya soon,  
John**

**John A. Carpenter  
5128 West T. Ryan Lane  
Laveen, Arizona 85339  
Home : 602-466-1648  
Cellular: 602-690-7735**

**[EeyoreCowboy@Yahoo.com](mailto:EeyoreCowboy@Yahoo.com)**

**MAY 2008**

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:**

**SUNDAY –April 25th, 2007**

**Send submissions to:**

**[pr@agra-phx.com](mailto:pr@agra-phx.com)**

**or mail to:**

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

## From the desk of the Vice-President

Hello All,

I personally want to thank the following AGRA Members for there time and support at the last AGRA fundraiser, **ST. Patio Day**. With out members support and volunteers we could have not had such a successful event.

Our President John Carpenter for donation of Jell-O shots and a belt buckle which was auctioned off.

Sharon Starks for donation of Jell-O shots

Robin Lee for donation of Jell-O shots

Rick Brennan & Jason Delto for help decorating the patio along with Miss Pussy Lahoot

April from bud light for being there to support AGRA and the donation of a beer tub stand

Ron Trusley the trustee of AGRA and his other half Walt for cooking and selling the Corned beef and Cabbage.

Mr. AGRA 1<sup>st</sup> Runner up 2007 Kyle Ross, for donation of movie passes for the raffle as well as entertaining that night

Charlie's Staff and John King for there continuous support of AGRA

Miss AGRA 2007 for putting this fundraiser together.

The total raised that night for AGRA was \$801.00. **Great Job Everyone !!!**

Reminder about Pride Weekend April 14<sup>th</sup> & 15 come join us at the country western tent for dancing and entertainment. The AGRA Royalty team will be in the parade as well as entertaining at the country tent.

Thanks for your support of AGRA

Michael Butts

Vice President 2007

## **From the desk of the Secretary**

**New members as of last membership meeting.**

**Viv Elliot**

**Sandra S. Johns**

**One renewal membership.**

**Patrick Olivo**

**Membership count as of March 29, 2007**

**100 total members.**

**AGRA schedule**

**Board Meeting—Thursday April 5, 2007**

**Membership Meeting—Sunday April 8, 2007**

**Carlos Garcia**

**AGRA Secretary 2007**

## From the desk of the Trustee

### TRUSTEE'S REPORT

The next IGRA Board and Trustees Meetings will be Friday, April 13, 2007, in Fort Lauderdale. In my May report, I will update you on any actions taken in these meetings.

The Sunshine Stampede (Fort Lauderdale, Florida) will be April 13-15, 2007. Rodeo in the Rock (Little Rock, Arkansas) will be April 20-22, 2007. The Gateway Regional Rodeo (St Louis, Missouri) will be May 4-6, 2007. The Great Plains Rodeo (Oklahoma City, Oklahoma) will be May 25-27, 2007. Information on these rodeos can be found on the IGRA website ([www.igra.com](http://www.igra.com)).

**The 2007 LA Rodeo has been cancelled, but a rodeo will be planned for 2008.**

If you are interested in serving as a Delegate or Alternate Delegate to the Annual IGRA Convention, I urge you to start making plans now. The convention will be November 7-11, 2007 in Kansas City, Missouri. Information can be found on the IGRA website. In accordance with AGRA Bylaws, nominations for Delegates and Alternate Delegates will be received in the May and June membership meetings, and voting will be in the July membership meeting.

Within the next few months, I will be asking for nominations for IGRA Awards. Before any nominations are accepted, I will review the description for each award. The IGRA Board of Directors vote on recipients of the International and Directors Awards; the IGRA Trustees vote on the Trustees Awards. IGRA will cover the cost of no more than two (2) Appreciation Awards per Member Association. The Appreciation Award is for non-members of IGRA who have made significant contributions to the association and is a means of providing a formal "thank you".

I want to encourage all AGRA members to attend the membership meetings, let your voice be heard, and become an active member of the association. There is always something for each member to do!

As always, please contact me by e-mail at [rtrusley@cox.net](mailto:rtrusley@cox.net) or by phone at (602) 510-9671 if you have questions or need information.

Ron Trusley

Trustee

## From the desk of the Fund Raising Director

### Fund Raising Directors Report

April 2007

Thank you to everyone who helped out on our first annual "St. Patio Days" out on the patio at Charlie's on March 17th. We had a great turn out and raised \$801.51 that night for AGRA. As usual Michael Butts and Rick showed up at noon to help decorate with help of our favorite rodeo clown Jason, who also helped "MC" later on. Walt prepared Irish fare of Corned Beef and Cabbage enjoyed by all. Sharon Starks and Robin from Cash Inn contributed also by making the Jello shots. April and Hensley made some great banners and donated some frn prizes for auction.

Guest entertainment included Mr. IGRA First Runner-up 2007 Kyle Ross, Claudia B, Dottie and Ebony. On March 28th the Charlie's Gold Diggers raised another \$140.00 for AGRA.

Upcoming events include a Gold Diggers show at Charlie's on April 24th at 10:00pm. Remember this years Chilli Verde Days will be held out on the patio at Charlie's on May 12th at 8:00pm and remember volunteers are always appreciated.

Thanks again.

Pussy LeHoot

## From the desk of the Public Relations Director

Well folks Spring is around the corner and Pride is already here.

AGRA will have both a float and a booth again this year. For information about the float you can contact Michael Butts at [mjbutts1@msn.com](mailto:mjbutts1@msn.com) or at [vp@agra-phx.com](mailto:vp@agra-phx.com). For more information about the Pride booth you can contact Ron Trusley at [rtrusley@cox.net](mailto:rtrusley@cox.net) or at [trustee@agra-phx.com](mailto:trustee@agra-phx.com).

In the past years we at AGRA have always looked to our own members to fill the positions on the float and at the booth. I want to remind you all that even if your significant other, friend or neighbor is not a member of AGRA they are all too welcome to assist in any way they can. We need to encourage those that might be interested but not yet a member to still join in on all the fun. This just might bring in some new members and new blood for our organization. We will always welcome new people, for if it were not for those new members there would not be new talents and experiences shared.

I remember when I first started donating time to AGRA. I worked in the booth, at the rodeo and elsewhere. I was so motivated by all the friendship shown and the excitement of the others I was working with that I joined shortly thereafter. I have been a member for ten years now and still get that feeling of excitement when things get going. This year promises to be a very good year for all those involved. So let's get this year rolling with lots of excitement. If each member brings in just one new friend or family member our membership will grow as well as our Rodeo Family.

I know this sounds like a membership drive speech but I truly believe that the experiences we share at AGRA are truly a once in a lifetime and should be a catalyst for others to want to join in on the fun.

Let's have a great time and I hope to see you all at Pride.

Until then.

Keith A. Carson

Public Relations Director 2007

## From the desk of the Rodeo Director

### 2008 RODEO DIRECTOR'S REPORT

At the March 8, 2007 board meeting, I was appointed as the Rodeo Director for the 2008 Road Runner Regional Rodeo. I will schedule the first rodeo committee meeting sometime during May 2007. We have the arena contract and two (2) hotel contracts signed, but there will be lots more work to do as we plan for the rodeo.

I plan to appoint three (3) Assistant Rodeo Directors and several Coordinators for different areas just as I did for the 2007 rodeo. Some of the Coordinator positions include:

Marketing Coordinator	Fund Raising Coordinator
Logistics Coordinator	Contestants/Staff Services Coordinator
Volunteers Coordinator	Special Events Coordinator
Entertainment Coordinator	Vendor Coordinator
Barn Coordinator	

Of course, other coordinators might also be appointed. Several people have already contacted me to let me know they are interested in various positions. I encourage you to consider becoming involved as a committee member and help in planning the rodeo. If you think you might be interested in a specific position, please let me know. Even if you are not interested in one of the key positions, you can still be a committee member. I hope to have all key positions appointed by June!

I hope we will be able to secure even more sponsorships than we did for the 2007 rodeo. As long as the weather is good and not as cold as it was for the 2007 rodeo, I am convinced attendance will be much better!

Ron Trusley

2008 Rodeo Director

## SPECIAL NOTICE/REMINDER

Phoenix Pride will be Saturday and Sunday, April 14 & 15, 2007. The parade will be on Saturday, and the festival will be both Saturday and Sunday.

We want to have an AGRA entry in the parade, and we are also planning to have a booth at the festival.

**IN ORDER FOR US TO HAVE A PARADE ENTRY, WE NEED THE HELP OF AGRA MEMBERS! IF YOU WOULD HELP PREPARE THE PARADE ENTRY, PLEASE CONTACT MICHAEL BUTTS AT (623) 202-5558, OR BY E-MAIL AT [mjbutts1@msn.com](mailto:mjbutts1@msn.com). UNLESS WE GET VOLUNTEERS TO HELP, IT IS MOST LIKELY AGRA WILL NOT HAVE A PARADE ENTRY!**

**ALTHOUGH A FEW PEOPLE HAVE VOLUNTEERED TO HELP IN THE BOOTH AT THE FESTIVAL, WE STILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS. PLEASE CONTACT RON TRUSLEY AT (602) 510-9671 OR BY E-MAIL AT [rtrusley@cox.net](mailto:rtrusley@cox.net) IF YOU WILL HELP IN THE AGRA BOOTH.**

**REMEMBER, PHOENIX PRIDE IS ONLY ABOUT THREE (3) WEEKS AWAY. AGRA NEEDS AND WANTS YOUR HELP!**

## Board of Directors

**John Carpenter**  
**President**

Phone: (602) 466-1648  
Email: [EeyoreCowboy@Yahoo.com](mailto:EeyoreCowboy@Yahoo.com)

**Michael Butts**  
**Vice-President**

Phone: (623) 202-5558  
Email: [mjbutts1@msn.com](mailto:mjbutts1@msn.com)

**Carlos Garcia**  
**Secretary**

Phone: (602) 663-1986  
Email: [secretary@agra-phx.com](mailto:secretary@agra-phx.com)

**Ron Trusley**  
**Trustee**

Phone: 602-510-9671  
Email: [rtrusley@cox.net](mailto:rtrusley@cox.net)

**Treasurer**  
to be announced

**Pussy LeHoot**  
**(a.k.a. Kevin McSweeny)**  
**Fund Raising**

Phone: (602) 518-5064  
Email: [missigra2005@agra-phx.com](mailto:missigra2005@agra-phx.com)

**Keith Carson**  
**Public Relations**

Phone: (602) 509-7017  
Email: [kacarson@cox.net](mailto:kacarson@cox.net)

**Miss AGRA 2007**

**Pussy LeHoot**  
**(a.k.a. Kevin McSweeny)**

**Phone: (602) 518-5064**

**Mr. AGRA 2007**

**Gary Rushton**  
**Phone: (602) 384-7997**

**Mr. AGRA 2007**

**1st Runner-up**

**Kyle Ross**

**Phone: (602) 870-3809**

## **MEETING SCHEDULE**

Board Meeting—Thursday April 5th @ 7:00pm on  
Charlie's patio

Membership Meeting— Sunday April 8th @ 7:00pm on  
Charlie's dance floor.

*Branding Iron Editor    Keith Carson*

A.G.R.A.

P.O. Box 40465

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