

# THE BRANDING IRON

## FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT



### ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Letter	1
Secretary's Letter	2
Treasurers Report	3
Trustee	4
Meeting Schedules	6
Board/Royalty Contacts	7

November 2011 Edition  
Next Newsletter Deadline:  
November 25th 2011

Send submissions to:  
[Justin@TheCreativeArcade.com](mailto:Justin@TheCreativeArcade.com)

Howdy Cowboys and Cowgirls,

First off, I hope everyone enjoyed their night of Halloween festivities!! This month's membership meeting we will be excepting nominations for all board of directors positions except for the Treasurer and the Trustees position. If you are interested in holding a position on the board please come to the meeting and get nominated. This is a great chance to get involved in AGRA and see how things work behind the scenes. I encourage all members to get involved. It takes an army of men to put on one of the largest Rodeos on the circuit and we could use some new "blood" and different ideas! SO GET INVOLVED!

The holiday season is fast approaching and everyone will be busy with their holiday festivities and travel plans, but this is when we kick things into high gear as far as planning the 2012 Road Runner Regional Rodeo. I encourage all members to attend all membership meetings so you can get the information about the rodeo. This is also a great oppurtunity to mingle with fellow members and get to know each other better.

I want to thank all the delegates and alternates that will be traveling to San Diego in mid November for the IGRA convention. It will definately be a learning experience for some new members who have never attended. We will keep you posted any changes that happens on the IGRA circuit.

Lastly, I want to wish everyone a very safe and Happy Thanksgiving!!

a

**Michael Weidmann**  
AGRA President



# THANKS BOB!

Howdy Folks!

I hope that everyone had a great Halloween and survived all the parties and ghosts of parties past! What we need to do now is wish these folks whose Birthday falls in November a Happy Birthday and Wishes for many more to come!!

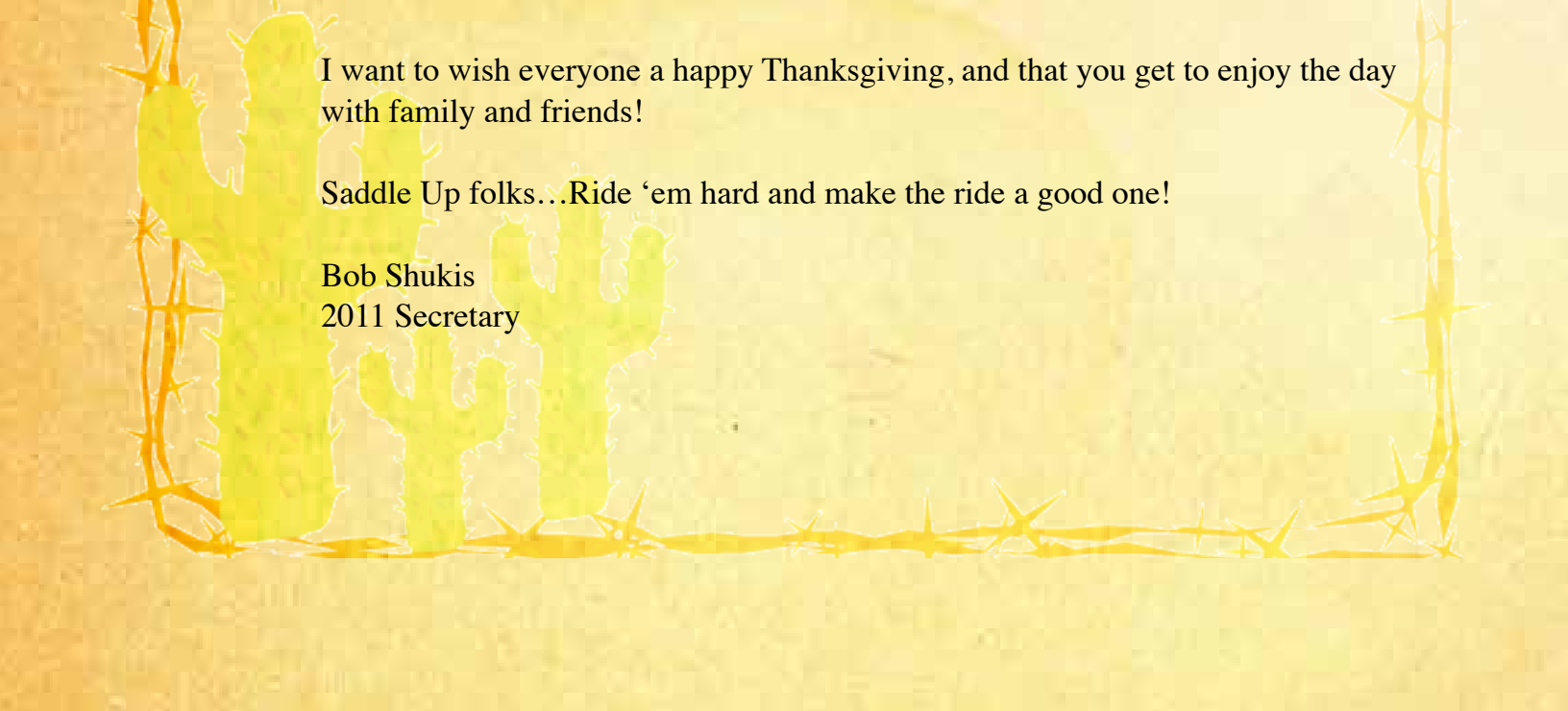
<b>11/15</b>	<b>Fermin Ray Smith</b>
<b>11/16</b>	<b>Jay Abbit</b>
<b>11/17</b>	<b>Lorenzo Alonzo</b>
<b>11/20</b>	<b>Scott Blades</b>
<b>11/21</b>	<b>Scott Darnell</b>
<b>11/27</b>	<b>Jeff Francisco</b>
<b>11/28</b>	<b>Nicole Weisbrod</b>

Well folks our 2012 Rodeo is approaching fast, being only a couple of months out. We're gearing up to make this a great Rodeo, and hope that y'all are doing the same!

I want to wish everyone a happy Thanksgiving, and that you get to enjoy the day with family and friends!

Saddle Up folks...Ride 'em hard and make the ride a good one!

Bob Shukis  
2011 Secretary



Hello AGRA Members,

Here is the financial report:

Thank you,

Jai  
AGRA Treasurer



June: Balance Sheet	
Total Assets	\$5,382.71
Checking	\$5,382.71
CD	\$0
Non Rodeo	\$2,639.70
Rodeo	(\$1,695.33)
Year to Date 2011 Rodeo Net Income	(\$14,489.61)
Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Program Ads \$450	Generator Rental \$1686.33
	Volunteer Party \$200
	Refund \$259
Non-Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Membership Dues \$71	Bank & Credit Card Exp 127.95
Merchandise \$15	IGRA Fundraiser \$2675.50
Apollos Kowby Karaoke \$191	Office Expense \$184.85
Pride Beer Booth Sales \$5351	
July: Balance Sheet	
Total Assets	\$6,241.99
Checking	\$6,241.99
CD	\$0
Non Rodeo	\$548.80
Rodeo	\$0.00
Year to Date 2011 Rodeo Net Income	(\$14,489.61)
Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Non-Rodeo	
Income:	Expenses:
Membership Dues \$211	Bank & Credit Card Exp 128.35
Grand Ol' Opry \$651	Office Expense \$184.85



# TRUSTEE

## Trustee's Report

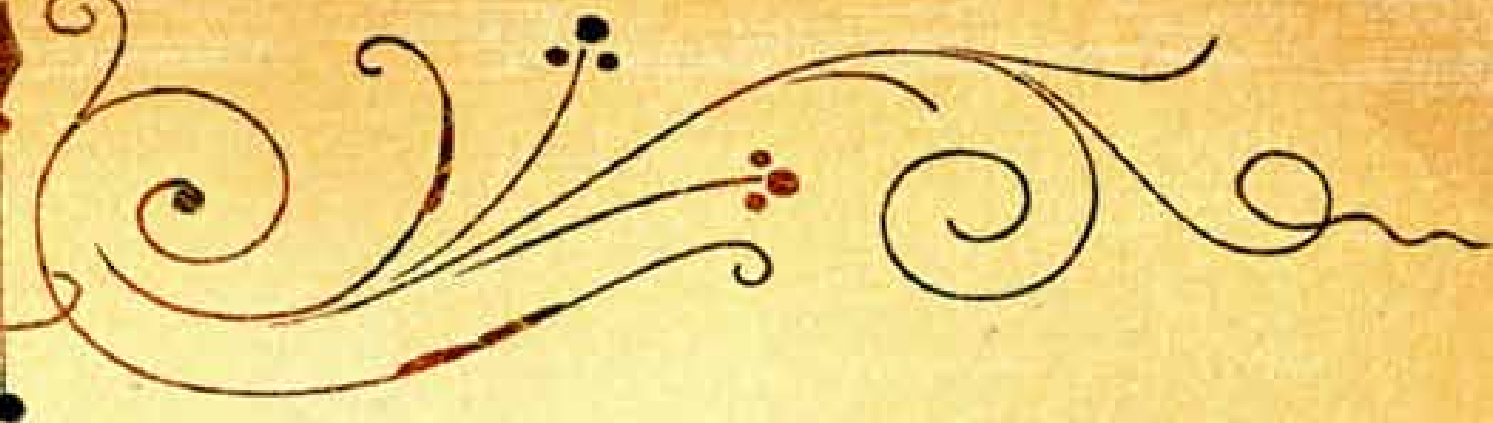
I am sure you all are ready for some cooler weather just as I am. Well, I just returned from a short 2-week vacation to Wisconsin to visit family. It rained most of the 7 days we were in Wisconsin. Then when we left on Monday, September 25, to drive back to Phoenix, it rained for the entire day! The rain was very heavy at times, but it was certainly good to see "real rain". Actually, we wore jackets for the entire time we were in Wisconsin.

Now I have lots of work to catch up on as I prepare to go to the 2011 World Gay Rodeo Finals in Fort Worth, Texas, which will be October 7-9. I hope to see many AGRA Members at this rodeo.

And, it is really hard to believe that it is almost time for the 2011 Annual IGRA Convention. The convention will be November 11-13, 2011 at the San Diego Mission Valley Hotel. Room rates are \$109.00 per night, and self-parking will be available at a reduced rate of \$5.00 per day. More information is available on the IGRA website ([www.igra.com](http://www.igra.com)). I encourage all Delegates, Alternate Delegates, and anyone else planning to attend convention to make your room reservations as soon as possible. Reservation deadline is October 19.

Per AGRA Bylaws, nominations for the Board of Directors shall be received at each membership meeting in November and December of each year with elections being held in January of the next year. Those elected will take office on March 1 for a 1-year term ending the end of February the following year. So if you think you might be interested in filling the position of President, Vice President, Secretary, Fund Raising Director, or Public Relations Director, it is not too early to start letting other members know, and to ensure someone nominates you.

**CONTINUED...**

A decorative flourish consisting of several thin, dark lines that swirl and curve across the top of the page. Some lines end in small, dark, circular shapes, resembling buds or berries. The background is a light, textured yellow.

**I want to ask everyone to think of ways to encourage AGRA members to attend membership meetings and to actively participate in all AGRA events and activities. AGRA needs the participation and involvement of all members. One never knows how much fun it can be to really participate in the various events, even if it is at the slightest level.**

**In the October membership meeting, I will review IGRA Bylaws/Standing Rules and Rodeo Rules proposals that have been submitted for 2012. Then after the annual convention in November, I will be able to report on which bylaws and rules were approved.**

**I want to encourage you all to start thinking now about attending the IGRA University in January 2012. University will once again be held in St Louis. Attendance and participation in IGRA University is a great learning experience, and I think an experience you will be glad that you had.**

**Ron Trusley, Trustee  
E-Mail: [rtrusley@cox.net](mailto:rtrusley@cox.net)  
Phone: (602) 510-9671**



# MEETING SCHEDULE

**AGRA Board Meeting**  
**Schedule 2011 - 2012**  
**(Charlie's Office)**

**May 11**  
**June 8**  
**July 13**  
**August 3**  
**September 14**  
**October 12**  
**November 16**  
**December 7**  
**January 4**  
**February 8**

**AGRA Membership Meeting**  
**Schedule 2011 - 2012**  
**(Charlie's Dance Floor)**

**May 15**  
**June 12**  
**July 17**  
**August 7**  
**September 18**  
**October 16**  
**November 20**  
**December 11**  
**January 8**  
**February 12**





# **CONTACT INFO**

## **Board of Directors**

**Michael Weidmann**  
President  
(602) 885-9565  
m.weidmann@hotmail.com

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

**Cary Leibowitz**  
Vice President  
(480) 628-5959  
cary.leibowitz@yahoo.com

**Claudia B / Joshua Sipe**  
Fundraising  
(480)217-7892  
claudiasbboys@yahoo.com

**Bob Shukis**  
Secretary  
(480) 414-1041  
cwbybobaz@gmail.com

**Greg Gillum**  
Public Relations  
(623) 203-9305  
3destiny@msn.com

**Ron Tursley**  
Trustee  
(602) 510-9671  
rtursley@cox.net

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

**Mr IGRA 2011**  
**Michael Butts**  
(602) 751-2796  
mjbutts1@msn.com

**Ms IGRA 2011**  
**Sharon Starks**  
(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](http://www.TheCreativeArcade.com)  
[info@TheCreativeArcade.com](mailto:info@TheCreativeArcade.com)