

# BRANDING IRON

SEPTEMBER 2020



The Official Newsletter of the Arizona Gay Rodeo Association

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT



I would like to say "thank you" to the members who attended/participated in the Annual Corporation Meeting on

Saturday – August 29, 2020. I believe 31 members attended.

Currently we have 10 Champion Members, and 6 of them attended the Annual Corporation Meeting.

Congratulations to Mark Boyd for being voted as 2019 AGRA Member of the Year. This is an honor well-deserved, and Mark continues to do the excellent work to which we have come to expect. Thank you Mark!

On August 30, Ron Keenom and Bradley Hansen from Eugene, Oregon became AGRA members. Welcome Ron and Bradley! This now brings our total number of members to 95.

Certainly, we have learned to

adapt and we continue to have good attendance at our monthly membership meetings – although they have been virtual meetings for the last five months. I am sure our September 13 meeting will also be a virtual meeting.

I hope you all will continue to stay positive, stay safe, and reach out to someone – even if it is just to say hello and I hope you are doing well.

I am truly looking forward to the time when we can all be together again in person. But, until then – remember to reach out to me at anytime if you have questions or suggestions for the betterment of AGRA.

*Ron Trusley*  
**Ron Trusley**

President

Phone: (602) 510-9671

E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

## 2020 AGRA Board of Directors

### PRESIDENT

Ron Trusley

E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

Phone: (602) 510-9671

### VICE PRESIDENT

Kevin McSweeney AKA Pussy LeHoot

E-Mail: plehoot@yahoo.com

### SECRETARY

Shannon McKenzie Perkins

E-Mail: agrasecretary2020@gmail.com

### TREASURER

Walt Hutter

E-Mail: waltagra@cox.net

Phone: (602) 510-9672

### TRUSTEE

Mark Christensen

E-Mail: mrogra2010@gmail.com

Phone: (405) 219-7075

### PUBLIC RELATIONS DIRECTOR

Mark Alan Boyd

E-Mail: mark@markalanboyd.com

Phone: (602) 717-8685

### FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR

Joshua Sipe AKA Claudia B.

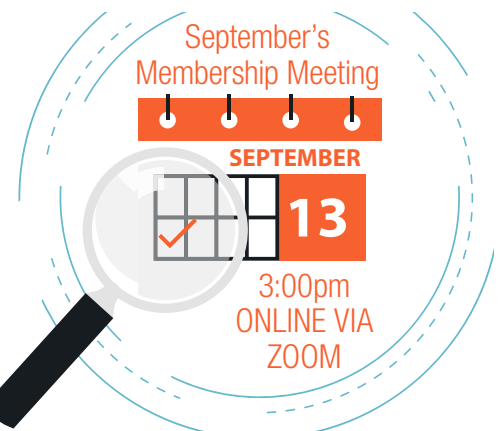
E-Mail: jjsipe17@gmail.com

Join us on **zoom**

Just because we are apart doesn't mean we can't be together. Sign up for a free Zoom account to attend our virtual meetings.



See Page 5 or visit [agra-phx.com](http://agra-phx.com) for more information!



# RODEO DIRECTOR'S REPORT

At this time, we are still planning for our 2021 rodeo that is scheduled for February 12-14. We will continue to monitor the current COVID-19 situation so we can be aware of any changes or modifications that we need to make.

We have begun to reach out to officials to determine their interest in officiating in the rodeo.

Since no association, other than AGRA, was able to produce a rodeo in 2020, I think it could be very likely that we would have a much larger attendance and a much higher number of

contestants competing in the 2021 rodeo. That would be my hope.

I have said several times that I want to assemble a 2021 Rodeo Committee and began meeting as soon as possible. So, if you would be interested in serving on the committee, please let me know. Any member is welcome to participate.

As I previously reported, the three 2020 Assistant Rodeo Directors and I recently met. We reviewed our income and expenses from the 2020 rodeo and made some projections for a 2021 rodeo. We were very conservative in our projections, but

we think we should still be able to make a "minimal" profit, but it could be a more substantial profit. We will continue to look at our projections/budget and revise as appropriate.

Our Trustee, Mark Christensen, let me know that our 2021 Rodeo Application was approved by the IGRA Board of Directors in their August 16 meeting.

*-Ron Trusley*

**Ron Trusley**

2020/2021 Rodeo Director

Phone: (602) 510-9671

E-Mail: rtrusley@cox.net

A promotional poster for the AGRA Virtual Beach Party. On the left is the AGRA logo, which features a silhouette of a cowboy on a bucking horse against a sun and mountains, with the letters 'AGRA' below it. Below the logo is a Facebook 'f' icon and the word 'LIVE' in a red box, followed by the URL 'facebook.com/LikeAGRA'. The main part of the poster shows a laptop screen displaying two drag queens, Claudia B. and Pussy LeHoot, in a tropical beach setting. The text 'VIRTUAL BEACH PARTY' is written in large, orange, bubbly letters across the screen. Above the queens, it says 'Hosted by Claudia B. & Pussy LeHoot'. At the bottom of the poster, a red banner contains the text 'SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5 AUCTION @ 6:30PM SHOWTIME @ 7:00PM ENTERTAINMENT, AUCTIONS, RAFFLES & MORE!'.

# FUNDRAISING DIRECTOR'S REPORT



slow and we have been having

Hey y'all...  
I hope this finds you safe and healthy during these crazy times we are living through! With bars being closed, fundraising has been a little

to come up with alternatives.

We will be having our Annual Labor Day Beach Party show and fundraiser, however it will be virtual this year, broadcast on Facebook Live. The auction and show will start at 6:30pm from the AGRA page. Please tune in to enjoy some great entertainment hosted by Pussy LeHoot and myself, and bid on some

fabulous auction items! Information to tip the entertainers will be displayed in the video description. Let's all try to stay involved and engaged.

I hope you continue to stay safe, and hopefully we are able to celebrate together in person sooner rather than later!

**Joshua Sipe aka Claudia B.**  
Fundraising Director



# MEETINGS & EVENTS

## AGRA BOARD MEETINGS

September 10, 2020  
October 8, 2020  
November 12, 2020  
December 17, 2020  
January 7, 2020  
February 4, 2020  
March 11, 2020

## AGRA MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

September 13, 2020  
October 11, 2020  
November 15, 2020  
December 20, 2020  
January 10, 2020  
February 7, 2020  
March 14, 2020

## IGRA BOARD MEETINGS

November 19, 2020

AGRA Membership meetings begin at 3:00pm and are currently being held on Zoom due to COVID-19.

AGRA Board Meetings are held at 7:00pm and are currently being done over telephone.

## RODEO/EVENT

## DATES

Beach Party @ Charlie's (AGRA Fundraiser) <a href="#">Facebook Live (See ad, Pg. 2)</a>	September 5, 2020
Labor Day (Monday)	September 7, 2020
Best Buck in the Bay (San Francisco/Duncan Mills CA) ( <b>RESCHEDULED TO 2021</b> )	September 11-13, 2020
BigHorn Rodeo (Las Vegas, NV) ( <b>RESCHEDULED TO 2021</b> )	September 18-20, 2020
Pride in the Desert (Tucson) ( <b>CANCELED</b> )	September 25-26, 2020
Las Vegas Pride (Las Vegas, NV)	October 18-20, 2020
World Gay Rodeo Finals (Scottsdale AZ) ( <b>RESCHEDULED TO 2021</b> )	October 23-25, 2020
IGRA Royalty Competition (Scottsdale, AZ) ( <b>RESCHEDULED TO 2021</b> )	October 22-24, 2020
Palm Springs Pride (Palm Springs, CA)	November 1-3, 2020
Phoenix Pride Parade & Festival	November 7 & 8, 2020
AGRA Fall Bake Sale	November 15, 2020
36th Annual IGRA Convention (Sparks (Reno), NV) ( <b>RESCHEDULED TO 2021</b> )	November 19-22, 2020
AGRA Day of Christmas at Charlie's	December 20, 2020
AGRA Holiday Bake Sale	December 20, 2020
AGRA 2021 Royalty Competition @ Charlie's	February 6, 2021
Super Bowl LV (55) (Tampa, FL)	February 7, 2021
Charlie's/AGRA Mini Rodeo	February 11, 2021
36th Anniversary Arizona Gay Rodeo	February 12-14, 2021
Rodeo Volunteer Party	February 19, 2021 (Friday)
AGRA Annual Corporation Meeting/Banquet	February 27, 2021 (Saturday)

# VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT



not been much to report

Dear AGRA members  
I hope everyone is healthy and surviving the effects of the pandemic.  
There has

due to the situation.

I'm planning on virtually meeting with the Royalty team before the September membership meeting. However at press time the date and time has not been confirmed. Happy Labor Day!

Stay safe,  
**Kevin McSweeney aka Pussy LeHoot**  
Vice President



# A LETTER FROM Ms. AGRA



It's been an interesting 2020 for all of us. The pandemic has changed our lives in ways we could never have imagined. In response to these changes, Shannon

McKenzie (Ms. AGRA 2020/21), has taken her platform online.

In March 2020, when the Phoenix Pride Festival was cancelled, Ms. AGRA joined forces with community members to produce the first virtual pride festival in history. Virtual Arizona Pride was held in April and featured online vendors, webinars, drag shows and musical performances. Shannon created a virtual flashmob dance class as a special event for the festival. The festival was attended by thousands of folks from all over the state as well as some from other states.

She continued working with Virtual Arizona Pride to co-produce their Juneteenth Celebration which featured a diverse cast of BIPOC

performers. Sponsored by NextGen Arizona, the show highlighted Mr. and Ms. AGRA in a public service announcement encouraging viewers to register to vote. The Charlie's Show Dancers performed numbers choreographed by Shannon for the opening and closing of the celebration. The event was hosted by Felicia Minor and co-hosted by Shannon McKenzie and Christopher Ray (Mr. AGRA 2020/21). It was well received and reached over 40,000 viewers.

In July, she participated in two fundraisers (hosted by Tucson Pride royalty Lucinda Holliday and Justin Deeper-Love) called "One CommUNITY, Many Voices". The first for the Navajo Nation Covid-19 Relief Fund raised over one thousand dollars and the second for EON Youth Lounge raised a little over five hundred dollars.

She helped raise funds in August for IGRA, performing in their auction and show hosted by Nikki Starr (Miss IGRA 2020/21), Mr. AGRA first runner-up Ryan Knop was also a performer and helped behind the

scenes. AGRA board members Mark Christensen and Mark Boyd did an amazing job with the technical aspects of the show. She donated a "Drinks and Dancing" gift basket filled with a gift card for Total Wine, a gift certificate for a free Zoom dance lesson, wine accessories and goodies. The event raised over seventeen hundred dollars.

Shannon will be continuing her virtual event tour in September with more exciting fundraisers. On the 5th you can catch her at the AGRA Beach Party Fundraiser. On the 12th she will be a featured performer in "Save The Screening Room", an event being produced to rescue an important venue in Tucson.

For more information on these and future events, please visit the Shannon McKenzie facebook page. Her event posts are public so you can scroll through and watch previous events or tune in for upcoming events.

**Shannon McKenzie**  
Ms. AGRA 2020/2021

## FROM THE EDITOR —



First off, I want to thank you all for the nomination and for selecting me "Member of the Year" at the Annual Corporation Meeting. It really does mean a lot

to me. I never in a million years thought I would be involved in a gay rodeo! But after attending my first rodeo I knew I was hooked. I've met so many wonderful people across this great country thanks to my involvement with AGRA and it really has meant a lot to me.

Speaking of meeting great people, I invite you all to visit our website (agra-phx.com) frequently, as I am constantly adding more content, including our new "Diversity in



AGRA & the Rodeo" initiative. This new section of our website will be a permanent addition to focus on AGRA's long-standing commitment to equality for all. We always been an organization that has welcomed everyone regardless

of sex, gender, race, physical handicap, religion, creed, sexual orientation, age, or national origin.

This new section on our website will house a collection of photos, stories, and profiles on the unique people who make AGRA and gay rodeo as special as it is to so many of us. If you have a story to share, photographs, or anything you would like included in this new section, please email me at mark@markalanboyd.com or info@agra-phx.com.

In closing, I hope you are all staying safe and in good health, and since I've run out of things to say, here is a picture of my puppy, Barney. :-)



**Mark Alan Boyd**  
PR Director



# Car



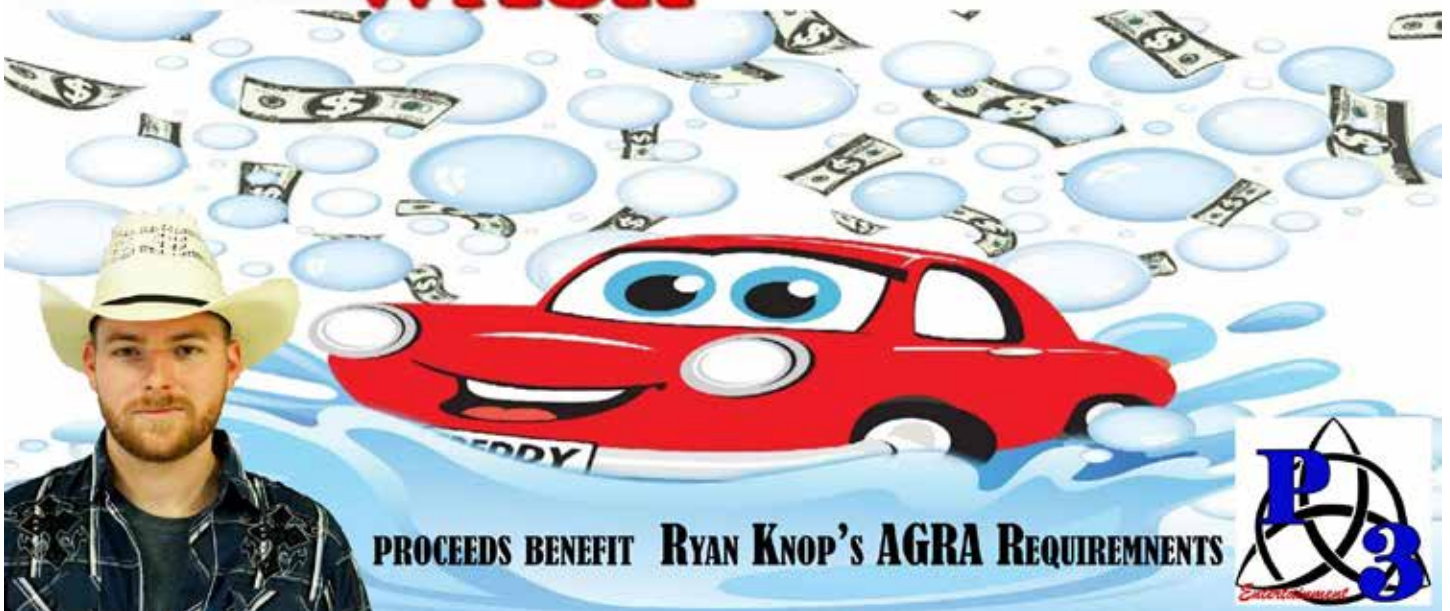
# WASH

# Charlie's PHOENIX

# PARKING LOT

# SEPT. 19TH

# 9AM - 3PM



PROCEEDS BENEFIT RYAN KNOP'S AGRA REQUIREMENTS



THIS MONTH'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING WILL BE HELD ON ZOOM

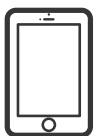
# zoom

**MEETING ID: 874 534 1582** URL: <https://zoom.us/j/8745341582>



### Personal Computer

Using a PC or Mac you can choose to use either Video or Audio-only. Video will require your computer to have a webcam and microphone. Most newer laptops have this built-in. Simply click on the link in the email being sent out to join the meeting, or manually enter the URL above into your web browser. You can see if your PC is capable by joining a test meeting at <https://zoom.us/test>



### Smartphone or Tablet

Using a smartphone or tablet will give you Video or Audio-only options. Download the Zoom app from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store. Create a free Zoom account in-app or online. Then you will be able to access the meeting through the email link or by entering the Meeting ID above.



### Call-in (Audio-Only)

Call any of the numbers to the right from any telephone and enter the Meeting ID above when prompted.

### AUDIO CALL-IN NUMBERS: (USE ANY)

1-346-248-7799

1-669-900-6833

1-312-626-6799

1-929-205-6099

1-253-215-8782

1-301-715-8592

# RODEO WORD SEARCH



Find the following words in the puzzle.

Answers will be posted on [agra-phx.com](http://agra-phx.com)

Words are hidden ↑ ↓ → ← and ↘ .

AGRA  
ARIZONAGAYRODEO  
BARRELRACING  
BUCKLES  
BUDLIGHT  
BULLRIDING  
BULLS  
CALFROPINGONFOOT  
CHARITY  
CHARLIESPHOENIX

COMPETITION  
CORONARANCH  
DIVERSITY  
DRAGKINGS  
DRAGQUEENS  
FAMILY  
FLAGRACING  
FUN  
FUNDRAISING  
GOATDRESSING

HORSES  
INCLUSIVE  
JACKDANIELS  
MENOFCHARLIES  
PARTYBUS  
POLEBENDING  
RODEO  
ROYALTY  
VOLUNTEERS  
WILDDRAGRACE

I thought it would be a fun idea to incorporate an interactive educational section to our Branding Iron. I will create word finds, crossword puzzles, etc. to help educate new members and refresh our seasoned members on how and what makes AGRA a success! I hope you all enjoy! - Michael Weidmann



2:38 PM  
08/31/20  
Cash Basis

AGRA  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of August 31, 2020

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	<u>Aug 31, 20</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
100 · Chase Bank Checking - # 7493	<u>17,921.01</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>17,921.01</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>17,921.01</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u><b>17,921.01</b></u>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
Equity	
2000 · Retained Earnings	9,259.33
Net Income	<u>8,661.68</u>
Total Equity	<u>17,921.01</u>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<u><b>17,921.01</b></u>

2:38 PM  
08/31/20  
Cash Basis

**AGRA**  
**Non-Rodeo Income & Expenses**  
August 2020

	<u>Aug 20</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4008 · Bank Account Income	
4012 · Credit Card Services	3.00
Total 4008 · Bank Account Income	3.00
4000 · Income	
4001 · Membership Dues	
4002 · Champion Membership	150.00
Total 4001 · Membership Dues	150.00
Total 4000 · Income	150.00
Total Income	153.00
Gross Profit	153.00
Expense	
6000 · Expenses	
6001 · Bank Account Expenses	
6004 · Paytech-Authorized Net Fees	127.95
Total 6001 · Bank Account Expenses	127.95
6018 · General Expenses	
6024 · Membership Expense	218.80
6070 · AGRA Fundraising Expense	
6073 · Beach Party	100.00
Total 6070 · AGRA Fundraising Expense	100.00
Total 6018 · General Expenses	318.80
6090 · AGRA Office Expenses	
6095 · Website	79.99
Total 6090 · AGRA Office Expenses	79.99
Total 6000 · Expenses	526.74
Total Expense	526.74
Net Ordinary Income	-373.74
Net Income	<u><u>-373.74</u></u>



2:38 PM  
08/31/20  
Cash Basis

AGRA  
2021 Rodeo Report  
Monthly

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	Aug 20
Net Income	0.00

2:38 PM

08/31/20

Cash Basis

# AGRA 2021-Rodeo Year to Date

	Jun - Aug 20
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
4000 · Income	
5000 · RODEO INCOME	
5008 · Rodeo Balance Transferred	20,999.33
Total 5000 · RODEO INCOME	20,999.33
Total 4000 · Income	20,999.33
Total Income	20,999.33
Gross Profit	20,999.33
Expense	
6000 · Expenses	
7000 · RODEO EXPENSES	
7100 · IGRA Expenses	
7101 · Sanction Fee	700.00
Total 7100 · IGRA Expenses	700.00
7120 · Arena	
7122 · Arena Rental	5,000.00
Total 7120 · Arena	5,000.00
Total 7000 · RODEO EXPENSES	5,700.00
Total 6000 · Expenses	5,700.00
Total Expense	5,700.00
Net Ordinary Income	15,299.33
Net Income	15,299.33