

Director's Report
November, 2010

The AHA annual convention in Orlando was my last meeting as your Regional Director. I would like to personally thank all of you for the support you have given me in these last two years as your Regional Director as well as the support you showed me during my first four year term as your Regional Director.

I am very proud of many of the things that have been accomplished over the past a10 years and of course there are things that I wish had turned out better. No one can deny that the horse industry in general has been affected by our economy and by changing demographics. I am sure we all agree that it is our mutual love and respect for the Arabian horse that keeps us all involved in AHA, Region 10 and our local clubs. We all need to introduce new people to these wonderful horses as the horses will do the rest.

I would also like to thank Region 10 for the very nice gifts that were given to me at the conclusion of my term. I have a beautiful bronze horse head on the wall of my study at home that will always remind me of Region 10 as well as a pair of beautiful cufflinks that I will wear with pride. Thank you again.

The items of business discussed at the Board of Director's meeting in Orlando have been reported to the convention delegates and at our Regional meeting. However, for those of you who may not have been at convention or another meeting I will highlight a few of the items that were discussed.

Lance Walters reported that AHA is considering expanding our halter division at the National shows. This proposal is still in the planning phase but includes the possibility of dividing classes by age and having a Junior Championship and a Senior Championship.

Lance also discussed the possibility of adding an "Amateur Nationals"...again no proposal on this yet...just a thought.

Dave Corning, AHA Treasurer, reported that as of the end of October, 2010, we were within 30K to 50K of where we had expected to end up for the year.

Glenn Petty, AHA EVP, described 2010 as an "interesting" year. Staff has been downsized considerably with most staff having to now do double duty. The new IT HRS (Horse registration system) is scheduled to be up and running in January.

All note payments on the sweepstakes debt have been paid on time and are current.

Debbie Fuentes, Customer Service and Registrations, reported that registrations are down 12% and membership is down 9%.....which is of course not good news but it is better than the Quarter Horse and Paints whose registration numbers are down 18% and 20% respectively.

AHA had a strong presence at the World Equestrian Games! Thank you Martha Murdock for your extra efforts!

Stan Morey, Judges and Stewards Commissioner, reported that the "Points of Emphasis" put out by his office have been very effective and he will continue to issue points of emphasis on an annual basis.

The AHA National Distance event was canceled for 2010. This event was planned before AERC set their National Championship ride. In light of the WEG rides, the AERC ride and low entry numbers the ride was canceled for 2010 and they are working on 2011.

Grace Greenlee gave a report on the AHA Breeders Sweepstakes program. The new PBS (Premier Breeder Sweepstakes) program is set to go in 2011. See the AHA handbook for more details.

The Regional Boundaries Ad Hoc committee gave a very well thought out and well done presentation on the issue of re addressing Regional Boundaries. A session was devoted to this at convention and it will be voted on by the BOD in 2011....so let Laura know how you feel.

These were the main points of interest that came out of the BOD meeting at convention. Other items of interest were part of the General Session at convention.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your regional director. Please show Laura Mickelson the same respect you have shown me during my terms as your director. It is not an easy job.

As I sign off...please remember, in all we do....let us all remain UNITED FOR THE ARABIAN HORSE and if we do that....we will make decisions for the betterment of our breed!

Van Jacobsen
Past Region 10 Director