

Region 10 Communicator

The official newsletter of Region 10

Fall 2004

www.region10arabians.com

Director's Report – August 2004

If feels like it has been a long time since I prepared a meeting report for your review...well it has been! Traditionally we have a May Board of Directors meeting but the meeting was canceled this year with the idea that two meetings in Denver plus a meeting at convention would be sufficient. There was clear consensus at the meeting that we need a May meeting again. Five months between meetings was just too long. We had a lot of business to cover at our August meeting.

The meeting was held August 12 - 14 at the AHA office in Aurora, Colorado. There was 100% attendance by the directors and officers as well as all of the director elects. Dean Meier was able to attend and participate. I was thankful to have the opportunity to give Dean a few inside tips on how the meetings are run and what to expect. I think it is very helpful to send our Director elect to this meeting, and it is something we should always continue.

The first item on the agenda for Thursday was scheduled to be a presentation of the EVP finalists to the Board of Directors. As you will recall, AHA was involved in an executive study and search as part of the Merger agreement. This process included hiring consultants to work with the Governance Committee and staff to develop job descriptions for the EVP and all management positions. This process was completed in early June.

The consultants then began recruiting candidates for the EVP position, acknowledging that Barbara Burck would be one of the candidates. It was anticipated that there would be candidates to submit to the Board at this meeting. This was not to be the case. The Directors were advised that although many resumes were reviewed and several candidates were interviewed by Bob Fauls and Alan Sankpill (a Governance Committee sub committee) they did not feel the candidates interviewed to date were the right fit to present to our Board. Accordingly, there were not candidates to interview at the Board meeting.

This development led to a motion by the Executive Committee to stop the executive search. The motion passed and was presented to the full Board of Directors for

ratification. There was a lot of discussion on the pros and cons of this motion. The motion was approved, and the executive search is concluded.

George Johnson gave the Judges and Stewards Commissioner's report and reported that there are 5 new National and Regional level judges. There are now 280 total judges. George reported that the Mark Himmel case is now scheduled for a jury trial the week of April 18, 2005.

Barbara Burck gave the EVP report. She reported that there has been "lots of progress in house bringing the two staffs together." She then asked the department managers to report on their various departments.

Janet Holloway reported on the Competition Services Department. We have had 379 recognized competitions this year compared to 412 for the same period last year. Sweepstakes breeding entries are down slightly with 4,469 for 2004 compared with 4,667 for 2003.

Candy Vande Ven gave the HR report. The employee count has been reduced from 71 to 65. We are in the process of hiring a new director for the IT position.

Rick Wilson reported on the IT dept. We also heard a special presentation from the IT committee with their recommendations for upgrading and merging the IT functions of the AHRA and IAHA. This proposal is very costly, between \$600,000 and \$700,000 depending on how it is implemented. There was a motion to approve the recommendations of the IT committee with the timing and funding to be determined by the President and the EVP. We also discussed this issue in one of our break out focus groups as how to best implement these recommendations. There are no easy answers here folks, but we need to make these improvements. The old system is becoming obsolete and we need to act soon or we could crash big time.

Steve Josephs and Cynthia Richardson gave a report on Marketing and Market Development and Promotion. Revenue from the AHA magazine is up and we are recruiting new corporate sponsors and show sponsors. I anticipate that we will receive a special report from the Market Development and Promotion committee at convention. The promotion efforts are very impressive. We were shown many ads that are running in all breed magazines, which are very impressive. MDP sponsored the Arabian Horsepower at Youth Nationals. This program exposed 230 children and their parents to the Arabian horse. The children had to learn about the horse by participating in a scavenger hunt for correct answers about horses. This involved visiting various farm stalls at the show and getting the opportunity to see the horses up close. This program was very well received and indicates just one of the many activities the MDP committee is involved with. There are many more, but space does not allow me to talk about all of them here.

Lorrie Liddicoat gave the Member Services report. We have 45,195 current memberships as compared with 45,151 from one year ago. This is very encouraging because we expected the number to decrease as some of the duplicate memberships were expiring. The membership renewal VIP trip program is back in effect. Renew your membership on line by 9/15 to be eligible for this promotion. AHA currently has 205 linked clubs and 52 non-linked clubs.

Debbie Fuentes gave the Registry Services report. The number of purebred registrations is down 8% from last year. There is a slight increase in HA/AA registrations, and transfers are up slightly. AHA will be issuing new HA/AA registration papers with the pedigrees and any legion awards listed. You will be able to update to the new papers for a cost of \$10.00. We are in the process of updating our database to include foreign registries. There are now 15 foreign countries included in our database.

Alan Sankpill gave the treasurer's report. For the year ending March 2004, the association has a change in net assets of -\$545,260. Some of our activities had better financial results than others. The loss included \$116,198 of paper loss on investments and \$344,274 of merger expense (approx 327,000 was budgeted). We also paid \$609,859 to the Purebred Arabian Trust. Without the first two loss items, our loss would have been a much more manageable loss of \$84,788, but is still a loss. With a new association, we must be very serious about hitting our budget. We are actually a bit ahead of our budget for this year, but we budgeted for a loss the first quarter and have a smaller loss than budgeted for. Alan encouraged us not to do anything that did not support our business plan and budget.

Bob Fauls reported that the Purebred Arabian Trust is in the process of their annual audit.

Howard Pike gave the report for the Governance Committee. Three resolutions were put forth by the governance committee that were unofficially approved by the BOD that will now be coming to the convention delegates. These resolutions had to do with establishing a combined Budget and Finance committee, revising the duties of the AHA treasurer in the bylaws, and setting forth the EVP duties and responsibilities. A motion was also put forth and approved by the Board to adopt our Vision, Mission and Strategic plan.

Alan Ehrlich reported that we have lost about 100 horses from the Canadian Nationals because of VS. Alan feels we will still be able to meet budget. Good Luck everyone!!

The Market Development and Promotion committee is looking for a contact in each region. Is there someone out there that is willing to serve in this capacity? Please contact me.

Sport Horse Nationals is all systems go. Entries have just closed, so we were not able to get an accurate estimate as to the number of horses that we expect. There are a number of promotional activities planned.

Now I am sure most of you have heard this already.....but here I go anyhow. Lance Walters gave the report on US Nationals. Lance brought forth a very well thought out and well presented proposal to evaluate the proposal from Tulsa to hold our US National show there in 2008 - 2010. The presentation included comparing costs, projected revenues, and anticipated profits based on various comparisons of the three facilities and various numbers of entries. The report indicated that there would be estimated additional revenue of between \$87,630 and \$470,643 per year. This issue was discussed extensively and approved by the Board 27 in favor, 1 against. I know many of you may have strong opinions on this issue, but it was clear that the Board was voting based on what is in the best financial interest of AHA.

The next hot item that came from the US Nationals report was the approval of a point system to qualify for regionals and Nationals. The show commission had earlier been directed to bring back to the Board a proposal that would "tighten" qualification for Nationals to make the show more manageable from a size standpoint and hopefully support increased participation at the local shows. The point system can be viewed on the AHA web site and is open to revision as may be suggested and agreed upon. I raised a concern that this should have gone thru the National and Regional Classes committee and was advised that it had been sent to the Chair of that committee but that they did not support a point system.

There were some other items of business that may be of interest to all of you. There was a vote to approve the Regional AHA logos using a numeric listing as opposed to a Roman numeral. Therefore, we will need to use Region 10 on the AHA regional logo as opposed to Region X.

There will be a new membership resolution to provide for membership categories with add ons for additional services. This will be presented to the delegates at convention.

In summary, the meeting was well attended and generally positive. We worked on setting some GOALS and doing some planning for the association and not just dealing with short-term issues. It was a long meeting, but we were all there to work. Decisions were made with the best interests of the long-term success of AHA in mind. These decisions may not always be popular, but if they are in the best interests of the association, they represent a fiscally responsible course of action that needs to be taken.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve as your Director these past four years. I have done my best to represent Region 10 and have done what I feel is in the best interests of the Arabian horse and AHA.

Finally, I have previously advised you that I am running for President of AHA. I have heard the rumor that I am the "registry guy." At the 2003 convention, delegates voted by a landslide in favor of merger. We no longer have "the Registry," and we no longer have "IAHA." We have the Arabian Horse Association. I'm an "Arabian Horse Association guy," and I support ideas that are in the best interests of our breed, regardless of where they come from. I just want you all to know that I have always done what I feel is in the best interests of the Arabian horse and AHA. I am who I am, and I am simply an advocate for the Arabian horse and AHA. I believe strongly that we need to continue our efforts to be united for the Arabian horse and all work together. I believe that there is more work to be done along these lines, and I believe that I am the person who can get this done. I would appreciate your support. If any of you have any questions you would like to discuss with me, feel free to contact me.

Thanks again everyone.

Van Jacobsen



2004 WAHA PRESIDENT'S AWARD

by Dean Meier

The Wisconsin Arabian Horse Association is fortunate to have a solid core of dedicated members that make choosing a single recipient for this award difficult. There are many of us who understand the benefits of participating with Arabian horses as a family and the enjoyment this provides.

For these reasons, I would like to present this year's award to the Richard Hoeft family. Dick, Nadine and daughters, Rachel, Lenore and Laota have all been terrific WAHA members whose contributions of time and talent provide benefits to all WAHA members.

Dick has served on the WAHA board and as a Region 10 delegate or alternate for more than 25 years. Nadine, with her family's help, started and continues to organize and produce the annual WAHA Youth Silent Auction at our Awards banquet. This activity provides the major source of funding for the club's youth group. Both Lenore and Laota have been officers in the youth group and have been recipients of the William Trapp Award that is presented each year to an outstanding youth in our club.

Because of their low key approach, much of their activity may be under the radar screen. But, all five of them are always eager to help the club in any way they can. It is difficult for me to recall any WAHA show or activity where help from the Hoeft family wasn't enthusiastically provided.

The Hoeft family serves as true ambassadors of the breed. All of the children have and continue to show in a variety of disciplines - English, Saddle Seat Equitation, Driving, Hunt, Costume and Western, even over fence classes. From an open show up to the National level, you can count on seeing them enjoying their beautiful Arabian horses as a family.

Please join me in thanking Dick, Nadine, Rachel, Lenore and Laota for their help and in congratulating them for receiving this award!



West Niles Update

West Nile virus is a mosquito-borne virus that can cause a range of symptoms of varying severity in humans. The virus is relatively new to the United States, having made its first known appearance in the summer of 1999 during an outbreak in New York City. Since then, West Nile virus has spread rapidly westward, infecting birds, humans and horses.

As of September 28, 2004 avian or animal WNV infections have been reported to CDC ArboNET from the following states: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and Puerto Rico.

Human cases have been reported in Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming.

Maps detailing county-level human, mosquito, veterinary, avian and sentinel data are published each week on the collaborative USGS/CDC West Nile virus web site:

<http://westnilemaps.usgs.gov/>

Minnesota human cases by County so far in 2004 are: Big Stone 1, Blue Earth 1, Carver 2, Cottonwood 2, Grant 1, Isanti 1, Lyon 3, McLeod 3, Nobles 1, Otter Tail 1, Pine 1, Ramsey 2, Redwood 2, Scott 1, Watonway 2, Wright 3.

Minnesota veterinary cases by county in 2004 are: Benton 1, Clearwater 3, Goodhue 1, Pipestone 1, Steele 1, Wadena 1, Wright 1.

Wisconsin Human cases by county in 2004: Chippewa 1, Dane 1, Iowa 1, Outagamie 1, Polk 1, Portage 1, Rock 1 and Wood 2.

Wisconsin veterinary 2004 cases by county are: Barron 1, Clark 2, Crawford 1, Dane 2, Green 1, Green Lake 2, Jackson 2, Manitowoc 1, Monroe 1, Richand Center 1, Saint Croix 1, Walworth 4.



From the Incoming Director:

Dean Meier

I would like to express my thanks to the delegates of Region 10 for the confidence they placed in me by electing me to be your new Director.

I appreciated the opportunity to attend the Arabian Horse Association Board of Directors meeting August 12th through the 14th and sincerely feel that this meeting was enlightening and will be helpful in allowing me to be a more effective director in a shorter period of time.

Hopefully, by now, you have had a chance to read Van's complete report. Our new combined association faces many challenges and I would like to enlist your input and cooperation in moving our association and our wonderful Arabian and Half Arabian horses forward.

I would also like to thank Van Jacobsen for the tremendous job he has done as our director. His accomplishments and his involvement in AHA have been effective and far reaching.

The most evident thing to me was how well respected Van is by the Directors and the AHA staff. His ability to respectfully listen to all sides of an issue and form a consensus is a true gift that few leaders possess. He assumed a leadership position on so many issues at this meeting, I, (and all of us), should be proud to be a Region 10 member!

Thank You, Van!!!



WEBSITE

Check out the Region 10 website (address on cover page of Communicator) for late breaking news. Contact Bev Cole with any club information you would like included.

Its that time of year where many clubs are electing new officers. After your elections, please contact AHA to allow them to update their pages, and Bev so Region 10 can be kept current. Remember - contacting one does not cover the other - you must make changes in both places.

If your delegates have changed - please contact Jackie Johnson preferably by email (scentedgardens@msn.com) with an address so the new delegates can receive agendas.



Regional Officers

Director	-	Van	Jacobsen
	Phone:		507-289-2546
VPJacobsen@ol.com			

Vice Director	-	Dean	Meier
	Phone:		262-968-2867
meier@wisonline.net			

Secretary	-	Jackie	Johnson
	Phone:		920-833-2323
scentedgardens@msn.com			

Treasurer	-	Jill	Frieders
	Phone:		507-289-4041
jfrieders@obrienwolf.com			



2004 Region 10 Scholarships

The Region 10 scholarship program was initiated in 1990. This year two \$1,000 scholarships were presented by Regional Director Van Jacobsen at the Region 10 Championship Show in Milwaukee on June 18th.

These scholarships are open to any Region 10 resident who is a current member of a Region 10 affiliated club, has been a member for the last two years and resided in Region 10 within the last five years.

The first recipient is Britta Leigh Hegge, the daughter of Laura and Jon Hegge from Evansville, Wisconsin. Britta served on the student council for all four years of high school. She also served as student council secretary and student council president. While in high school, Britta served on the Prom and Homecoming Committee and was the St. Jude Fundraiser chairperson. She was on the Honor Roll for four years.

At the local level in 4H, served on the 4H Equine Board and was a youth leader of the Horse and Pony project. She was active in FFA for four years, serving both as secretary and president. She has been an active member of the WAHA Youth Association holding the positions of reporter, vice president, and currently, president. Britta is choosing a Public Relations Marketing major.

The second recipient is Kristi Jo Theede, daughter of Mike and Shirley Theede from St. Mary's Point, Minnesota. Kristi is currently a junior at Winona State University and is studying Nursing. Kristi has maintained a rigorous scholastic schedule and high GPA in college. She is a member of her Resident Hall Council and has served on the Relay for Life team for two years.

In high school Kristi was a peer tutor in math and science. During her senior year, she served as co-chair for the Prom Committee and decorating chair for the event. She was also a delegate to the Arabian Horse Association Youth Convention in Albuquerque for two years.

Kristi has successfully shown her purebred Arabian Hunter at the Class A, regional and national levels.

Kristi says she has chosen to become a nurse (specializing in OB/GYN) because she loves caring for people and would be honored to play a role in the miracle of birth.

Congratulations to both Britta and Kristi!



Spirit of the Arabian Horse Society

Region 10 Gelding Award

Last year Spirit Horse decided to promote the Arabian horse on the local level and became the only breed organization in the six-club Northeast Wisconsin Pleasure Horse Association.

As a member club, 2004 was the first Spirit open/NEWPHA show they sponsored. It was held in Green Bay in July with about 60 horses. The show was successful both with a small profit and with lots of fun promoting Arabians in an open show atmosphere.

Spirit chooses this event to award the Region 10 Gelding award to the show's high point Arabian gelding. This year's award was given to WP Shainon owned and shown by Courtney Kucera of Oconto, Wisconsin. Shainon participated in eight classes with four firsts, 1 second and two thirds in both Arabian and Open classes - PB Arabians Mares and Geldings, PB Arabian Hunt, PB Arabian Western but also in Open Western Pleasure and Novice Western Pleasure (against other breeds) and came in First in Open Bribe Your Horse.

Congratulations to Courtney and Shainon!

Other Spirit news includes assisting their new youth leader, Gail Rentmeester, sponsor an open youth fun show in October. Spirit is offering an associate youth membership which includes a Spirit Tee-shirt. Plans are already underway for their Fifth Annual Healing Hands Clinic promoting complementary therapies for Equines and their Human Companions scheduled for June 25 in Green Bay.



Reminder Delegates

Region 10 Delegate Meeting - Sunday, October 25th in Eau Claire.

Agenda Items will be posted separately.

Region 10 Communicator
N6935 Hwy 55
Seymour WI 54165
920-833-2323
scentedgardens@msn.com