

January 2003
Director's Report

This year marks the beginning of the start of my second term as your Regional Director. I am very pleased with what we have accomplished as a Region in the last two years, and I look forward to what the next two years has in store for all of us.

Looking back, I am VERY pleased that we now have a wonderful website up and running to keep our members and delegates informed. This was a major goal for me when I took over as Director. I am very proud of the changes we were able to make to our Regional Championship horse show. While I was personally disappointed in the less than anticipated profit from last year's show, I believe the show committee has the situation well in hand to allow us to continue some of the additions to our Regional Show that were so well received. Our membership and the exhibitors were so excited to have an evening off and have a progressive barn party . . . "We need to put the fun back in the shows!" is something we have all been hearing. The neck garlands were very well received and will be back in 2003. We will also see the return of a one day pre show in 2003.

On a National level, most of you know I was heavily involved in the merger negotiations, and I am very excited about the future of the merged organizations. We are truly "United for the Arabian Horses." This should only be a win-win situation for the Arabian Horses and their owners.

Region 10 continues to be well represented in the Arabian Horse Association and continues to enjoy a reputation as a region that "gets along." We should all be proud of that. We will be co hosting the convention this fall with Region 11 which will give us another opportunity to show everyone how proud we are of our Region.

I had the opportunity to attend the January Board meeting on January 10 and 11 in Denver. This was the first Board meeting as the Arabian Horse Association, and we had the new Board and Officer slate in position. It was very exciting. Please look at the IAHA web site (which will soon be changed to the AHA web site) for a complete list of all the motions. I will not repeat them here, but I will comment on some highlights.

The following items are worthy of membership note:

- * The merger is not "official" as of yet because we are still waiting for the IRS to give its blessing on the tax exempt status of the new organization. Motions were made to allow us to move forward as a combined organization pending final approval.
- * In Regional Equitation classes (as well as National Equitation classes) exhibitors must now be excused from the ring during the individual work portion of the class.
- * The US Nationals have moved the close of entries up two weeks, and there will be no post entries. The entries will close during Canadian Nationals, so keep this in mind. The US National Show commission is trying to add one day to the show. Please note that we have had a nine day National show since 1993 at which time we had 78 classes. In 2002, still with a nine day show, we had 117 classes. Something has to give.
- * Memberships are coming into IAHA much faster than in the past because a large number of clubs are taking advantage of the linked club feature which allows members to renew online. As of January 9 in 2000, IAHA had processed 8362 memberships. For the same time period this year, IAHA has processed 15,195 memberships. With the combined membership between IAHA and AHRA, we will have roughly 40,000 unique members.
- * Youth Nationals will see the return of the progressive barn party this year.
- * No formal decision has been made about the possibility of using Tulsa for our National Shows. We are

meeting with them and discussing what they could do to make their facility meet our needs, but everything is in the discussion stage.

It has now become a January tradition for the Board to have lunch with the AHYA board. This provides a great opportunity to work together and network. Again Region 10 should be very proud of our Youth Director, Kelly Jones, who represents us well, as well as the AHYA President, Hillary Hoffman, a lifetime Region 10 member.

The first Regional Board meeting of 2003 was held in Eau Claire January 19 and was well attended. We got a lot of business done, and we have some new faces on the board.

I encourage all of you to talk to your delegates about any concerns you have and ask how you can become involved in your Region. We can use you at some of the horse shows or rides within the Region. What can you do to promote this wonderful breed to someone outside of the show arena? Ask yourself what attracted you to this breed, and communicate that to someone else. Let's spread the enjoyment of the Arabian horse.

Van Jacobsen
Region 10 Director

Hello Delegates, Alternates and other interested Region 10 members:

The Region 10 show is just around the corner and I hope the weather is good, the horses cooperative and that everyone has a good time. We made a commitment to stay with the expanded show schedule and upgraded awards in an effort to make this an enjoyable show for all exhibitors and spectators. Please provide us with feedback so we can better serve you in future years.

The minutes for the August Board of Director's meeting of the Arabian Horse Association are available on the AHA web site for those of you who like the official news. For the rest of you, I can offer some highlights of the Board meeting.

The Equine Stress committee has indicated that their study on hoof length will be on the web site "soon". Watch for this study. The study will show that the average dressage horse is 16.1 hands with hoof length of 4 3/8 inches and an 8 oz shoe. This is from last years Nationals. Watch for more details.

With the new budget and the merger, we saw \$613,600 positive change in income from the previous year. The big news in reviewing the budget for fiscal year 2004 is that there is \$875,000 budgeted for promotion. Of this amount, \$738,000 is for purebred promotion and \$137,000 for Half Arabian/Anglo Arabian promotion. Even with these numbers and the expense of the merger, we still show a profit for the year.

The new AHA web site is up and running effective 5/1/03.

The Universal point system is still the subject of a lot of talk and a formal presentation will be submitted at the August Board meeting.

The Registration committee has revised fees to reflect uniformity for both purebreds and half arábians....and these fees in many cases are reduced!!

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that we have THREE region 10 members on the Ways and Means committee--that's THREE out of the TEN voting members on this very influential AHA committee!!!! Thanks to Bev Cole, Dean Meier, and Dick Pope for serving on this important committee.

Please note that if you are traveling to Canada, you may need a passport. Also, if you are bringing children that are not your own, you need a note from their parents or guardians indicating that it is OK for the children to be traveling with you.

Negotiations are under way to try and add one more day to the 2004 Nationals in Louisville. There will be construction in Louisville next year.

HOWEVER....negotiations are continuing with the Tulsa facility for the US Nationals. Representatives of the Tulsa facility were in Denver to meet with the US National Show Commission. Watch for further details as they unfold.

Finally, watch the AHA magazine for a member survey that is part of our merger and governance study. PLEASE, PLEASE complete this survey and return it to AHA by 6/16. This is your opportunity to offer some input into the governance study and we want to hear from EVERYONE!!!!

Happy show season, trail riding season and foaling season to all of you.

Van

Hello Delegates, Alternates and other interested Region 10 members,

I wanted to give you all a personal report on the AHA Board of Director's meeting that was held in Aurora on August 8-9, 2003. You can view the full text of the unapproved minutes on the AHA web site. Be sure to check out the web site at www.ArabianHorses.org

The meeting was well attended, and a number of important issues were discussed including the Local Shows and Events committee's recommended Universal Point System as well as a report from the Governance committee. There were a number of issues that needed to be followed up on associated with the Governance committee's report that required my attention, as a committee member, following the meeting, so I apologize if this report is not as timely as I would have liked.

Alan Sankpill gave the Treasurer's report, and it was reported that revenues were less than budgeted for associated with Purebred registration income. This apparently came about as a result of the way revenues were allocated prior to the merger date. To the extent that income was down, it must be remembered that it will then be income that goes into the Purebred Trust. These numbers were not finalized because AHRA is waiting for the final word from their accountants as to the proper way to allocate this income and close the AHRA books.

George Johnson gave the Judges and Stewards Commissioner Report and reported that the dates are all set for the 2004 evaluations and schools. Additionally this year, AHA will be combining with the NRHA to offer a reining seminar following the School/Evaluation to be held in Scottsdale in November. For more information, check out the Judges and Stewards Commissioner link on the AHA web site.

Barbara Burck gave the Executive Vice President report and highlighted points of interest for the Board. We currently have 48,578 members. Staff feels that this number is somewhat inflated because we still have some duplicate members. There are currently 186 linked clubs out of 270 clubs. There was an executive committee motion presented for ratification that would have required all affiliate memberships to be done on line effective 2005. This motion was not passed and was referred to the membership committee to report back at the December meeting. I don't know if this will pass or not, but it is a heads up that to the extent possible, membership chairs should start sending membership renewals in online.

Barbara reported that members would be able to register for the convention online. Remember the deadline for the early bird registration is **October 3, 2003**. You should also be advised that you could sign up for committee on line. Remember the deadline to sign up for committees (to be included in the handbook) is **October 1, 2003**. Watch for more changes and additions to the web site.

Myron Krause gave a presentation on the Local Shows and Events recommendations including his report on the universal point system. Following a lengthy discussion, the Board voted to rescind the requirement for a universal point system. The Board also rescinded the Incentive Show program effective Jan 1, 2004. (There were only two incentive shows last year). Myron and his committee put a lot of work into this program, but the membership was just not behind it because of questions that remained.

The Market Development and Promotion committee has been active and is planning meetings for next year. There has been increased promotion at various Equine Fairs throughout the country.

The governance committee gave their report Saturday morning and fielded a lot of questions about the report that came from Management Advisors. There was some confusion as to whether the report that was presented—which will be provided to all delegates, and I believe will also be available on line—was the report of Management Advisors solely or whether the Governance committee had any input. Per the merger agreement, the Governance committee was to work with and oversee the work of the consulting firm. I explained to the directors that we were presented with rough drafts of their report and had joint meetings to discuss their recommendations. We wanted the report to be something that would be useful to our membership. I believe that the confusion over this issue is clearing itself up, and hopefully you will all have an opportunity to review the report. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me as your

Director and as a member of the Governance committee. We all need to move forward in a positive fashion for the good of the Arabian horse. Remember “United for the Arabian horse.”

The only motion that came out of this report was to put forth a resolution to amend the bylaws to change the provision relating to the Executive Vice President. The proposal is to rename this section to be “Duties of the AHA Executive.” This allows the position descriptions, authority, and title for this individual to be determined by the Board of Directors.

Canadian Nationals are all systems go!!! There are over 1000 horses entered. Check the web site for updates.

Debbie Fuentes (registrar) reported that the Registration Commission has started to have member meetings in various locations throughout the country. The first such meeting was in Washington DC. Watch for one coming to Region 10 soon.

Sport Horse Nationals are just around the corner. They are looking for \$200 class sponsorships. Jill Frieders will send a sponsorship on behalf of Region 10.

I would like to encourage all clubs to send a full slate of delegates to the convention this year. Since we are co-hosting the convention, I would like to see our delegate numbers at the maximum.

Please remember the following deadlines:

Aug 31 – deadline for AHA Regional Volunteer Service Awards nominations to be sent to me as regional director

Sept 1 – list of delegates to AHA

Oct 1 – committee sign up deadline to be included in the handbook

Oct 3 – early bird deadline for convention sign up

Finally, remember to put November 16 on your calendar for the next Region 10 meeting in Eau Claire. Watch for more details.

I previously put out a call for someone to take on the Region 10 directory. I have not heard from anyone . . . Are you out there? This will be an agenda item at the next meeting, and we may require some club involvement, but we need a volunteer or a team of volunteers. Ask not what your Region can do for you, but what you can do for your Region. (Now it seems I have heard something like that before!!)

Enjoy the rest of the summer everyone.

Van