

**Minutes from Region 14 Meeting**  
**August 10, 2014 @ 1:00 PM**  
**Holiday Inn at Cincinnati Airport**  
**Erlanger, KY**

Director Frank Gaddie called the meeting to order, with First Vice Director Duane Esser, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Jean Hedger in attendance. Twelve clubs were represented: BAHA, BAHAA, DBDR, KAHA, KAHABA, KARABS, NEOAHA, OHAHA, OVAHA, OAATS, SAHIBA and SAHS (*Note: the NWOAHA club has disbanded.*)

**Minutes:** Tony Conner moved and Debbie Glasener seconded to waive the reading of the minutes and have them approved as submitted. This was passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jean Hedger reported that she has received club dues for 469 members with four (4) clubs still to pay their dues. Last year we had 413 members, but in 2010 we had 740. Frank noted that all AHA clubs are down and also the trend is happening in all breeds. Jean noted that she has prepared a report for the 2014 Awards Banquet and Debbie G. will present that later in the meeting. The main expense since our last meeting has been \$632.28 for Breyerfest (a non-budgeted item). Currently we have a net loss of \$3,684.57. Cindy Clinton moved and Debbie G. seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. This passed unanimously.

Jean also reported on the issues we are still having trying to get a wrap-up to the 2013 AHA Convention expenses. She read from a preliminary report but we are still expecting more money back from AHA. Frank reported that he had spoken with Cynthia Richardson (AHA President) and Glenn Petty (AHA Executive Vice President) at Youth Nationals. They have agreed that we are still owed money from AHA and will expedite the process to get that money back to Region 14. There was a discussion as to why there has been the delay and uncertainty as to the amount we spent for this convention. There are still questions as to who was responsible to pay for certain costs. It is hoped that by the 2014 AHA convention we will have a final settlement. It was felt that a letter needs to be sent to AHA and that Jean and Joe Hull should work on that for a "paper trail."

**Director's Report:** Frank reported on the recent Board of Directors (BOD) meeting at AHA that he attended along with Duane Esser, our current First Vice Director. Frank stated that AHA is in good financial status but they have decided to spend an estimated \$250,000 to 400,000 to replace the building's HVAC system (which includes roof repairs and reinforcement). These changes have not been unexpected so money has been set aside. It is recommended that the work be done in September-October, which provides the best weather. Also they will be able to use the garage on the back of the property which will give the association much needed parking as well as on-site storage, which will save the rental on a remote storage facility. Gerald McDonald is working with AHA on the changes to the financial computer system upgrades.

Youth Nationals were a success with 848 horses (48 over budget). The show was saddened by the death of several horses, including one in the show ring while taking championship pictures. Because of this situation, the BOD has passed a rule that only one (1) person will be allowed into the ring when taking pictures at all the national shows. Also the colic issue that happens when horses are shipped to a more arid climate was discussed.

Dave Daugherty is on his way to Brandon for the Canadian Nationals. Preliminary numbers indicate that the show will be down about 20-30 horses. However, it was announced that the Brandon Chamber of Commerce is awarding AHA a \$10,000 grant for their patronage.

Bill Pennington reported that preliminary numbers for Sport Horse Nationals (SHN) will be down too, around 20 horses, but it appears that the entries per horse are up from 3.5 to 5. The SHN commission has

contracted to move the 2015 national show to Raleigh, NC. The show will also add two (2) days to the schedule, running Tuesday through Sunday (if they can move in the previous Sunday). They may need to add 100 temporary stalls.

Currently we don't have any information for the 2014 U.S. Nationals.

Duane reported that the BOD meeting is a full one and a half days of work. He found it interesting that the Sweepstakes Committee is leaning towards promoting the amateur halter classes while acknowledging that breeding is down.

**Budget Committee:** Frank appointed the following to the Budget Committee, who will meet at the 2014 AHA Convention and then present their report at our January 2015 regional meeting. Those appointed are: Duane- chair, Jean, Joe, Bill and Dave.

**First Vice Director Report:** Duane appreciated being able to attend the BOD meeting. It is a very diverse group, with access to many creative people. Our industry is struggling during these challenging economic times. It was noted that we need to preserve our breeding programs and trainers need to expand and offer lessons to bring new folks into our breed. We need to break our cycle of being "addicted to the past" - it is hurting our breed. Actually all the breeds are struggling. There was a lively discussion as to how to put the fun back into showing and get our youth involved as well as promoting our horses out to the community.

**Regional Show Update:** Cindy reported that we had a good regional show despite the Kentucky Horse Park (KHP) raising our fees by 18%. We had about the same number of horses; however entries per horse were up. Because of issues reported last year, we were audited by a third USEF steward. Many of the issues are with the KHP that are out of our control. Cindy noted that she is getting requests to add classes. She also noted that we have to use the KHP caterers for any parties held on the grounds. She gave us the dates for the next three (3) years: 2015 – June 24<sup>th</sup> thru June 28<sup>th</sup>; 2016 – June 29<sup>th</sup> thru July 3<sup>rd</sup>; and 2017 – June 28<sup>th</sup> thru July 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A motion was made by Debbie G and seconded by Cindy to approve the Palmetto Sport Horse Classic (in South Carolina) in June 2015 to hold our Region 14 Hunter Jumper classes. This passed.

Karen Blankenship had contacted Cindy about holding a concurrent Region 14 qualifying show in January 2015 in Texas. Cindy made the motion and Kathy Whitmore seconded. This passed.

**Breyerfest:** Our Youth Director Brinley Swears gave a report for Lorie Henderson on this event. This was the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival and over 10,000 were in attendance from all of the U.S. except Hawaii and even folks from Europe. The presentation that Jennifer Henderson arranged showed the Arabian and Half Arabians in eight (8) disciplines including music and we were the only breed that showed everyday. Many commented on how well mannered our horses were – not wild. The booth was on the concourse and they gave out bags marked with clubs logos containing Arabian horse literature. There is a video of the presentation on *YouTube* under Firelight Arabians. This is something that we should get more of our clubs involved with to promote our breed. Brinley thanked all who helped make this a success. It also received a lot of *Facebook* coverage. Neil Henderson noted that they have been asked back for next year – sometime in July.

**Regional Awards Banquet:** Debbie G thanked everyone that came this year and reported that they have donated \$915 to Erin Reid's Journey (treatment for her MS). The banquet made a profit of \$3,335.59. Kings Island Inn has had some issues so we are changing the venue for 2015 to the Great Wolf Lodge, just across the road. The food costs for the banquet are about the same. The rooms are higher, at \$129 per night, but this includes access to the indoor water park. The change of venue includes a change of date to March 7<sup>th</sup>. It is hoped that this will help with attendance and provide some entertainment for the youth. Debbie G noted that we get access to any audio/visual equipment we might need and she would like to put together a

presentation of the past year in Region 14 that can be shown at the banquet. Jeff Caldwell would like to see the youth get involved in putting this together. Donna Kitchel noted that they have a pizza parlor and can put together a party for the youth.

**Nominating Committee:** Sherri Lewis, chair of the committee, asked Debbie S to verify that we have a quorum present for the election of officers. Debbie reported that we have 17 of the eligible 21 delegates present. Below is the slate of officers that the committee wishes to present:

Director: Duane Esser  
First Vice Director: Jeff Caldwell  
Second Vice Director: Jackie Robinson  
Secretary: Debbie Swigart  
Treasurer: Jean Hedger

Nominations were accepted from the floor. Bill nominated Debbie Glasener for the Second Vice Director position. Kathy nominated Sherri Lewis for the Second Vice Director position but Sherri withdrew her name. Since all the other positions were unopposed, Tony moved and Joe seconded a motion to elect the slate for Director, First Vice Director, Secretary and Treasurer as presented. All eligible delegates present voted by paper ballot and Debbie Glasener was elected as Second Vice Director for the term 2015-2016. All officer terms will begin at the end of the 2014 convention.

**By-Laws Revisions:** Joe Hull reviewed the changes that had been made and presented to the delegates at the January and March meetings and were sent to the region via an e-blast in July. Tony asked about the electronic voting. Joe clarified that if you don't respond to an email vote by a set deadline, it is considered a vote of approval, but a delegate can ask that the item be held and voted on at a meeting. If you have a question, it is felt that it can be submitted to the group by sending as a "Reply All." Also it should be noted that Debbie S needs to have valid emails for all delegates. Joe also addressed the Roberts Rules of Order question that Sherri had about our nominating committee procedure, that the director appoints the committee and the delegates must approve the appointments. There was a question about the wording in the By-Laws that refers to "region's geographic area" and how that applies to our internet clubs (like ABHAHA and SAHS). Joe checked with AHA and that when the clubs were set up, the contact for the club was a member of Region 14. He believes that it has to go before the AHA BOD should the club want a change of region. Jeff and Joe would like to see certain questions added to the website. Joe moved and Tony seconded a motion to accept the revised By-Laws as they were presented to the delegates. This was unanimously passed. Thanks to Joe for all his work, along with Dave on getting these revised.

**Calendar:** Kathy noted that the December full page ad is still available. Debbie G would like to have it to promote the Awards Banquet. Tony asked if the calendar would be available for the convention. Kathy noted that with the limited funds for the calendar, it had been decided that we need to send these to our membership first and then distribute the remainder to the Kentucky Round-Up, Equine Affaire and Breyer Fest so that we are marketing to the outside, not ourselves. Cindy asked if we get our list from AHA and can it be changed to make it easier to use. Kathy believes that the list is correct for 2015. She also noted that she will send a proof of the club list to Debbie S to review. Sherri asked if the AHA electronic list could be shared with the regional club presidents. Frank addressed this as it is an issue of privacy and AHA doesn't sell the list. It is being supplied to the region with specific instructions that it is for the regional directory only and not for electronic distribution.

**New Business:** John Morici noted that Region 11 had raised \$15,000 for the Arabian Horse Distress Fund (AHDF) by having an all male sidesaddle class. It would be nice if our region could do something like this.

Bill reported that our regional trailer is in need of repairs, like painting, etc. Carl Malicote is going to get new tires and possibly new brakes. It will be moved to MiMar (Mildred Stakelin). Frank also noted that KAHA will be selling its trailer and maybe the region could purchase it.

Brinley would like the region to purchase t-shirts for the youth. She will need to put together a proposal for the budget committee.

Jean reminded the meeting that anyone wanting a line item in the budget needs to get that to the Budget Committee who will meet at convention. These can be sent to Duane, as budget chair, and should include some description of the proposal as well as the amount of money being requested.

Donna moved and Neil seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting will be our convention caucus in Denver November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart  
Region 14 Secretary