

**Minutes from Region 14 Caucus Meeting**  
**November 20, 2014 @ 7:00 PM**  
**Denver Marriott Tech Center**  
**Denver, Colorado**

Director-elect Duane Esser called the meeting to order (outgoing Director Frank Gaddie was absent from the convention), with Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Jean Hedger in attendance. We had 17 delegates, 3 alternates and 1 guest present – representing 9 of 13 regional clubs: Bluegrass Arabian Horse Association (BAHA), Buckeye Arabian and Half Arabian Alliance (BAHAA), Daniel Boone Distance Riders (DBDR), Kentucky Arabian Riders And Breeders Society (KARABS), Northeastern Ohio Arabian Horse Association (NEOAHA), Ohio Half Arabian Horse Association (OHAHA), Ohio Valley Arabian Horse Association (OVAHA), Ohio Arabian and All-Breed Trail Society (OAATS), and Society for Arabian Horses In the Bluegrass Area (SAHIBA). Those clubs not represented at convention were: Ablackhorse Arabian Horse Association (ABHAHA), Kentucky Arabian Horse Association (KAHA), Kentucky Arabian and Half Arabian Breeders Alliance (KAHABA), and Spanish Arabian Horse Society (SAHS).

**Minutes:** Donna Kitchel moved and Debbie Glasener seconded a motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes and approve them as submitted. It passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Jean reported we have 557 members paid (with one club outstanding). The Awards Banquet reported income changed by \$750 due to one ad for the 2015 calendar being paid through the auction and the Awards Banquet also buying a page in the 2015 calendar. The Equine Affaire has been paid for 2015. Breyerfest was a huge success – thanks to the Hendersons. Its cost was \$632.28. The August meeting at the Cincinnati airport Holiday Inn cost \$325. The 2015 regional calendar / directory has incurred additional expenses for a current negative balance of \$1076.09, but there is still some outstanding income for the calendar. John Morici asked about the line items for the trail ride and the \$1000 as an emergency fund. Jean explained the trail ride has been eliminated for 2015 and the emergency fund amount was set aside since we were working with a “slim” budget this past year. We currently have a negative balance of \$2827.86. Dave Daugherty moved and Donna Kitchel seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. This passed unanimously.

**Director's Report:** Duane was called upon at the last minute to fill in for Frank at the Board of Directors (BOD) meeting. He had attended the August BOD, which he noted was somewhat overwhelming – a full 1½ day of non-stop information. He will present a full report on this convention BOD meeting and the regional budget meeting at the January meeting. He and Jean will be meeting with the AHA staff here at convention to try and get a final settlement to the 2013 convention finances.

Duane also reported that he had spoke with Bill Pennington, who was unable to attend convention this year due to surgery. Bill is doing well and we all wish him a speedy recovery. A card was passed around for all those present to sign.

**Regional Show Report:** Cindy Clinton reported that despite the increase in costs at the Kentucky Horse Park, the regional show did well. She is not sure if there will be more increases in 2015. Thanks to everyone for their help.

**Website:** Debbie Swigart reported she has made some minor changes to the title tabs to help clarify the information. She has also posted the regional meeting minutes from 2013 and those approved for 2014 as well as the recently revised By-Laws.

Debbie also reported that the region has a Facebook page that Frank and Ellie Troutman established back in 2011 but nothing has been posted since the June, 2012 Churchill Downs outing. That site is linked to Frank's personal Facebook page and she wants to establish a separate Facebook page that we can keep going no matter who is the director. Pepper Proffit is willing to help Debbie with this endeavor. More to follow.

**Regional Awards Banquet:** Debbie Glasener reported that we have already sent an e-blast out to let folks know about the change in venue to the Great Wolf Lodge. An interesting turn of events is that the Kings Island Hotel and Convention Center has now been permanently closed.

The 2015 Awards Banquet will be Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and Debbie has established an e-mail address ([Region14photos@yahoo.com](mailto:Region14photos@yahoo.com)) for folks to send her photos of any 2014 horse events to be used as a power point for the banquet. There may be some increase in the cost of the meeting rooms but we will get more amenities. Debbie would like to buy two packets of 100 lottery tickets that we can sell chances on to those at the banquet. She had also thought of doing a Golf Cart Raffle, with tickets being sold as 100 tickets - \$50 each OR 50 tickets - \$100 each to raise \$5000. The cost of the refurbished cart is \$2500. Profits from this raffle could be used to pay for the meals for the youth who want to come to the banquet but can't afford to do so. There was some discussion as this could be a hassle and not sure how much interest there would be in the golf cart. The consensus was to precede with caution with this change of venue this first year and then build from there. It was approved that we purchase the lottery ticket packets as a fundraiser. It was also suggested that we set the youth meals to a reduced rate, no matter what our cost would be to encourage youth attendance.

**Calendar:** John reported for Kathy Whitmore as to the status of the 2015 calendar / directory. Kathy has been very frustrated this year and has had several issues to deal with. Duane noted that she had expressed frustration in getting the money and copy for the ads. John also noted that she lost a couple of sponsors, so she had to find new ones at the last minute. Then there was a problem with getting the list of Region 14 members from AHA in a usable format. Cindy noted that there are less and less magazines and calendars being published with the advent of the electronic formats and social media. Debbie G still feels like the calendar is important for us to publish. Jean noted that she would help collect the money when Kathy lets her know who purchased pages. Sherri Lewis asked if we could provide the directory via our website if it could be made secure. Duane asked that folks check into alternatives and report back at the January meeting.

**New Business:** Sherri Lewis passed out printouts of a power point presentation about a new endeavor that she, Jeff Caldwell, Jill Robinson-Bailey and Larry Kinneer have developed. It is called the "Mind, Body, Spirit" connection to help introduce new people to the benefits of being involved with horses and fulfill some of the objectives and purposes of Region 14. It involves creating a new website that would provide the information from horse enthusiasts who are experts in yoga, health/wellness, etc. and also to market a promotion via Groupon. She has two (2) farms (one in Ohio and one in Kentucky) set-up that would offer a package of three (3) riding lessons at a reduced rate via a Groupon offer. After those lessons were completed, the person would get a specially designed bracelet. Those who purchased the Groupon offer would also get emails from the experts. She received \$100 each from BAHAA, OVAHA and SAHIBA to have a logo designed by Wendy Humphrey at Cloud Nine. She now needs the funds approved to set-up the website by Denise Mealy (Artistic Expressions). She would like to get this up and running soon to take advantage of the Christmas season. Ellie Troutman is also involved with this initiative by having children help write a book chronicling their experience at Region 14 shows. There was a lot of discussion on this topic and ~~it was~~ Cindy moved and John seconded a motion that the region provide Sherri with \$1000 to move forward with this (\$400 could come from the 2015 budget for the Kentucky Round-Up that has been discontinued). *This passed unanimously.* Duane also noted that this would be put on the agenda for an update at the January meeting.

**2015 Arabian Celebration:** This year, 2014, OHAHA held their fall show on a weekend other than Labor Day (first time in over 10 years) to put some time between their show and the 2014 Arabian Celebration. Due to decreased participation, the Celebration was cancelled. Now the Celebration group have gone to USEF to get show approval for the 2015 Labor Day weekend dates. Cindy and Dave have had discussions with Bob Battaglia as to how to revolve the issue of getting Region 14 approval for their show. There was a lot of discussion on this issue. We agree we need more options for showing our horses and that the show would have good and bad consequences to our current clubs' shows. Neil Henderson made a motion to approve the 2015 Arabian Celebration and Cindy seconded. The results of the motion were 4 - Yes and 10 - No, with 3 who Abstained.

**Resolutions:** Debbie G moved and Donna seconded a motion to dispense with reading of all of them. Joe led the discussion of the 30 resolutions being considered this year. The delegates reviewed those that seemed interesting and sparked debate.

Donna moved and Lorie Henderson seconded a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart  
Region 14 Secretary