

Minutes from Region 14 Meeting
March 7, 2015 @ 3:00 PM
Great Wolf Lodge Conference Center
Mason, Ohio

Director Duane Esser called the meeting to order, with First Vice Director Jeff Caldwell, Second Vice Director Debbie Glasener, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Jean Hedger in attendance. Ten clubs were represented: BAHA, BAHAA, DBDR, KAHABA, KARABS, NEOAHA, OHAHA, OVAHA, OAATS and SAHIBA.

Minutes: Rick Tosch moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. This passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Jean reported that the amount budgeted to the Mind, Body, Spirit project was changed to \$3500 (instead of \$1000), with \$250 from OHAHA received. She also paid \$647 for the set-up of this program's website. Total regional income so far for the year is \$671.10 and expenses are \$3082.70 so, as of February 28th, we have a negative balance of \$2411.60. Neil Henderson moved and Deneb Thompson seconded a motion to approve the report. It passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Duane will be attending the March AHA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting next weekend in Denver. AHA President Cynthia Richardson has asked that all directors contact their region's club presidents about putting events on the Local Events Bulletin Board on the AHA website. Organized geographically, this is a place to post all local events, including shows (rated or not), clinics, horse related activities, etc. This is located under the Competitions tab, under the Events Calendar. You do have to log in to access this feature.

The Arabian Celebration approval will be decided at the BOD meeting. Also they will discuss the changes to the U.S. National halter classes (age divisions will be preliminary – qualifier classes) with six (6) purebred championship classes. Thanks to private donations, \$100,000 is available for any U.S. National champion (bred in North America) to go to the World Championships in Paris next December. Duane also noted that the 2016 Youth Nationals will be moving to Oklahoma City, OK, at their improved facility, making it in a more central location.

In February, the delegates completed an electronic vote on a request to move the Spanish Arabian Horse Society (SAHS) from Region 14 to Region 8. The delegates voted to approve this request, so this will be presented to the BOD for final approval. It is a small club but international in make-up.

Duane also commented that AHA is promoting the theme of outreach to help grow our breed. Last fall, he took some of his clients and their horses to the Brown County Fair (Ohio) and described the experience. He was inspired by a picture of a native costume horse taken in the setting of this fair (ferris wheel in the background) and that this would be a great outreach article for the Modern Arabian Horse (MAH) magazine on how powerful these shows are. He was amazed that a three (3) year old mare he showed in only her second show, won an open class of 26 others horses. The article will include some history on the Lodwicks and their influence on this show.

Another point that AHA is promoting is how to get the youth involved. More to follow on this topic.

Cindy Clinton asked about the update with the false Half Arabian registration on a Quarter horse situation. Dave Daugherty reported that the U.S. Nationals trophies have been returned to AHA and are being repaired so they can be presented to the rightful winners. There was some discussion of this situation.

USEF Updates: There has been no further information on the resolution presented by USEF on the vaccination record requirements for show horses.

Youth Director's Report: Brinley Swears reported on the upcoming Breyerfest (July 17-19 at the Kentucky Horse Park) that she is working on with Lorie Henderson. Last year was a huge success with over 10,000 attending this event. We are one of the only breeds doing a demo on each of the three (3) days. This year they are planning on again handing out bags, coloring books, etc. to all those that visit the booth. They need volunteers to help (9-5 on Friday and Saturday and 9-3 on Sunday). They are planning on having 14 horses in the presentation demo. It is great when they see the "wild Arabians" being handled by the youth.

Brinley also noted that we need youth to help present ribbons at the Buckeye and Region 14.

Lorie, Youth Director for BAHA, has been in horses many years (in California and now in Kentucky). She is trying to get kids involved, but we also need to get the parents involved too, to help guide the kids. This is a national issue. Try getting families involved with your club meetings, etc. Brinley keeps trying to get youth involvement but is not getting the response we need.

Duane noted that he has changed how he works within the horse industry – looking harder for new opportunities.

First Vice Director's Report: Jeff is urging all clubs to get him their information for the AHA Regional Insider, by the 15th of the month for the next month's email. He needs to submit the info in Word document format, brochures, etc.

Second Vice Director's Report: Debbie G commented that she had worked with Brinley to try and get the youth to attend a meeting for them at this facility.

Region 14 Awards Banquet: Debbie G reported on our change of location. This is a very busy facility. In preparation for next year, she will have the room rates locked in December and January for 2016. But you will need to reserve your room in advance, as we can't hold a block of rooms without a credit card. Also there is a Comfort Inn that is close and is cheaper than the Great Wolf Lodge. She is pleased with the larger turn out, but hopes it will continue to grow. Thanks to Ellie Troutman for her work on the Silent Auction and to Dave for his help. We have almost 100 nominees this year in the awards categories. She has reservations for 140 adults and kids for this evening's banquet. We will see a video presentation with 250 random pictures that were submitted. Our guest speaker is photographer Scott Trees.

Equine Affaire: Wendy Gruskiewicz reported that Sarah Vas is coordinating the breed demo for the April 9-12 event. This is a great outreach event for us. The demo will be Saturday at 1:00 PM and will include a national champion carriage horse, a reserve champion western pleasure horse from the Egyptian event, an endurance horse and a reserve champion dressage horse. She still needs a saddleseat and a costume horse. If you come, you get a free stall and two (2) tickets to the event.

Regional Show Update: Cindy has sent the prizelist to the printer so it should be out in about two (2) weeks. The staff will be staying at the Clarion this year, due to rate increases at the hotels in Georgetown. She has hired all the judges except for the regional carriage classes. She has added AO and ATH sport horse classes. And the regional sport horse classes have been moved to Friday. Linna Sewell led a discussion about how to better handle the presentation of the ribbons in the Sport Horse ring.

Cindy also noted that Angel Heart Farm is sponsoring a "hippity hop" race as a fundraiser on Friday afternoon.

Calendar / Directory: Kathy Whitmore will start working on the 2016 calendar with Jean's help in collecting the fees for the ads.

Web Site: Debbie S reported that the Facebook page is doing well, with the help of Ellie. We will be getting a Facebook icon that will link to the main Region 14 Facebook page. Debbie also sent Jeremy Ball (webmaster) the Excel file that we got from AHA to see how we can incorporate that into a PDF directory that members will be able to access on the website. Duane noted that AHA has approved us putting this on the website as long as it is secure.

Debbie G reminded folks that if you are not getting the eblasts, let Duane or Debbie S know your current email address so that can be verified.

Mind, Body, Spirit Program Update: Sherri Lewis reported that the website is almost finished. They are working on taking authorship on the history of Witez II. This will be a book that will chronicle this horse's life's journey. Show managers are asked to designate a volunteer to work with home schooling groups, and the Boy and Girl Scouts that could come to the show and work on this chapter writing contest. Jeff has gotten a lot of questions but needs help to explain to these groups what exactly this program is about. Sherri explained that it is an opportunity for the children to read about this horse's journey to America after the war in Europe and to write about a character that would have been involved with the horse, including fictional characters like the mice, etc.

Joe Hull asked how the Group-On portion is proceeding. Sherri reported that three (3) barns are participating and about 20 requests. Group-On does the advertising. She needs Jeff to put the info out each month in his Insider article. And the show managers need to be contacted.

Club Activity Announcements:

BAHA has a show April 26th and show bills are available here at the meeting plus this show and the SAHIBA show will be having a \$1000 Egyptian Heritage halter classes.

OVAHA has the Summer Sizzler in July.

There are also tri-folds available for the Buckeye and Region 14 Championships.

The OHAHA Spring show is April 17-19 in Springfield and their Fall show is August 29-30 at Roberts Arena in Wilmington.

Jeff commented that if the clubs can provide him with a condensed brochure about their shows, it would make it easier to submit to AHA for the email Insider.

New Business: Jennifer Tosch Tucker (BAHA) would like to coordinate our presence at the FFA National Convention, October 28-31 in Louisville, KY. An estimated 65,000 students attend this event, so it will provide another outreach opportunity for our breed. She is asking the region to fund the 10 x 10 booth for \$610, if paid by March 31st or \$675 after that date. She has already contacted AHA to get promotional material, plus what other handouts could be done for this event. There was some discussion of how bad the booth was the last time we had supported this. Many spoke to what is needed and how we will improve our presence this time. Citing the first time AHA supported this, we gave out a scholarship and bracelets. It was requested that maybe the clubs could help fund this opportunity. Dave pledged \$100 from OHAHA, Duane pledged \$100 from KARABS, Cindy pledged \$100 from the Buckeye, Deneb also pledged \$100 from SAHIBA and Sherri will get approval from the OVAHA board for \$100. The \$500 pledged will be handled through the regional treasury to BAHA, with Jennifer as chair. Rick moved and Deneb seconded a motion for the region to provide \$750 (from our emergency fund) for the FFA event. This passed. Sherri reminded the meeting that this will have to be added to our regional event insurance.

Darlene Stevens brought before the meeting a proposal that will be presented to Debbie Fuentes at AHA, requesting that the association take over the Shagya Arabian registry. This is a 200 year-old registry, mainly

based in the Eastern European area. They have the third largest stud book (Arabians have the largest and then the Thoroughbreds). About 200 registered horses compete in the United States, mainly in endurance. They are asking AHA to form an exploratory committee. She is asking for Region 14 support and Duane has agreed to help propose this to AHA.

Sherri asked about our representation at USEF. Duane and Cindy attend some meetings, but Shirley Nowak was on the board. Now Lance Walters (AHA past president), Glenn Petty (AHA Executive Vice President) and Cindy represent the Arabian breeds with USEF.

John Morici moved and Neil seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Swigart".

Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary