

Minutes from Region 14 Meeting
March 5, 2016 @ 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. Nine (9) clubs were represented: BAHA, DBDR, KAHABA, KARABS, NEOAHA, OHAHA, OVAHA, OAATS and SAHIBA.

Secretary's Report: Joe Hull moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to accept the minutes as submitted. This passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Jean reported that she has sent in the paperwork and paid for our incorporation with the Ohio Secretary of State, which will be good for five (5) years. She has also paid the annual fee for our website, the Breyerfest booth and the AERC sponsorship for the exchange of youth endurance riders. We have a negative net balance of \$1137.68 at this time. One correction was made to the budget (at the end of the report); it should be a positive \$1005 for the proposed budget net income. Debbie G moved and Joe seconded a motion to approve the report. It passed unanimously.

Jean also presented the meeting with the final report on the 2013 AHA Convention that we hosted in Lexington, KY. There were many things that we could not verify the costs due to no itemized paperwork from AHA or the Hyatt Regency. Jean and Duane had met with Brad Short, Controller at AHA on more than one occasion but never got any definitive answers. We did finally get re-imbursed for the AHA staff Spindle Top meals that we were charged for in the amount of \$1860.00 in addition to the original check we had received for \$10,841.00 from AHA. Jeff had hired security and then Frank Gaddie told him to cancel them as AHA would take care of it. In the end, we got charged for that expense as well as other items like the President's dinner decorations, entertainment and bar fee. The convention ended with a negative balance of \$19,089.99. After discussion, Cindy Clinton moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to pass the convention report as presented. This passed.

Director's Report: Duane will be attending the March AHA Board of Directors meeting next week in Denver. They are going to be there an extra day for a workshop on promotion and activities of regional events. Duane has checked and anyone wanting to add an item to the AHA website calendar must submit it to the regional director for approval. Cynthia Richardson, AHA President, is pushing to have things put on the calendar for everyone to access. Some of the areas that need promotion are youth activities – to create incentives and to list the Discovery Farms. We need to get those in our region listed – he will send out an e-blast to give the steps as to how to list your farm. When asked what it takes to be a Discovery Farm, Duane said it only takes one passionate person with an Arabian, a paddock, a saddle and a bridle OR you can be an ambassador to the breed with horses that can be petted OR have the Girl Scouts or Boy Scouts come to your farm. We also need items to put in our submissions to the AHA *Insider* e-blast that comes out each month. It would also be nice to become more involved in the county fairs to get our horses out in the public. There was a good discussion and interesting stories were presented. Unfortunately lots of the fairs are eliminating their open horse shows. Jeff noted that at the Kentucky Fair Board meeting there was a discussion that the horse shows are disappearing, being replaced by the truck and tractor pulls which are “cheaper” to put on.

Nominating Committee: This is the year for elections of the regional officers and Duane has appointed the following for the nominating committee: John Morici (chair), Cindy Clinton, Dave Daugherty, Joe Hull, and Lorie Henderson. Jean Hedger moved that this committee be approved by the delegates. This passed.

First Vice Director's Report: Jeff reported he has included an article on the AERC Exchange (with the Australia youth endurance riders) in the AHA *Insider*. Also Lorie H has tickets for a raffle to benefit these riders. She will be available at the banquet this evening.

Second Vice Director's Report: Debbie G gave no report.

Youth Director's Report: Brittney Swears gave a report on an opportunity to advertise to kids. The University of Louisville is having "youth days" April 2nd and 3rd at their Shelbyville, KY satellite campus, where they have their equine program. The BAHA club will have a booth there. There will be exhibits and seminars targeted to the 18 and under youth.

Brittney also reported that we will again have our presence at the Breyerfest, July 15th through 17th at the Kentucky Horse Park. There are lots of kids there and it gives us a chance to show our Arabians' versatility to them. They will again need sponsors for the gift bags.

Region 14 Awards Banquet: Debbie G reported that they are ready for this evening's event. Ellie Troutman has many items for the Silent Auction. We are again having the raffle for the lottery tickets, with two (2) state packages available. She is open for suggestions on how to improve this event and stimulate interest and growth.

Equine Affaire: Mickie Newman could not attend the meeting today but she did send in a report on this upcoming event. They have the demo horses lined up and Tommy Garland will help. Dr. Stacy Taul will present her Grand Prix dressage horse Commander-N-Chief. Mickie would also like to get help with setting this up next year, especially the breed demo. We need good horses that can represent our breed. It is a great venue for presenting our horses to the public.

Regional Show Update: Cindy reported that the prizelist is at the printer and she has the trifolds available. Linda Ferris is the "new lunch lady" in charge of the Bistro, taking over for Donna Kitchel. Thanks to Donna for all her years of service in this capacity. Cindy is working with the horse park on the contract, which will include a new fee of \$10 per horse. This cost will be passed on to the exhibitor. The park states this is to pay for improvements to the park. Other changes include making sure that you cross with your horse in the designated cross-walks and they are now charging for vendors. She is working on getting areas to lunge horses. She always needs help and is recruiting "ribbon chicks." Eric Schultz will be ringmaster and The Hollywood Toi Foundation fundraiser is back again. Debbie G will be coordinating the Sport Horse ring. We will also be giving out Regional Reserve Champion plaques this year. If the trial works for the Buckeye entries, we may try an on-line entry form for the regional show.

Directory: Debbie S reported that the information has been set-up on the website and provided the meeting with a "sneak peek" of the on-line member directory on www.aha14.com. This can be viewed, via a secure access, by Region 14 AHA members who have joined through a club (as of June 30, 2015). You will type in your AHA member number for both the user name and password then you will be prompted to change your password. It is searchable by name, club, etc. Hopefully all the bugs have been worked out and this roll-out will go smoothly. Debbie will send out an e-blast to let everyone know it is available. Also we are working on getting a new header picture for the website.

Mind, Body, Spirit Program Update: Duane noted that Sherri Lewis was not present to report on this program. He stated that we have been told that they need more farms to participate and that he needs to send out an e-blast with details on this program. Michele Reser noted that she has given out 25 bracelets and would like to expand her lesson program at some point. Debbie G commented that we need to tap into the college kids in the equine programs. The question was asked as to where this program is going and who are we "marketing" to.

Breyerfest: Duane noted that we have calendars for them to pass out. Lorie needs the sponsorships from the clubs for the bags. The following clubs have pledged \$100 each: KARABS, OHAHA and SAHIBA. These clubs, as well as the regional logo will be printed on the bags, which will contain AHA and local information. At this time, they have 13 horses slated to participate in the 10-15 minute demo that they give each day. These demos are scripted with educational information and are set to music. This is so well received that it usually takes them two (2) hours to get back to the stalls after the performance because of the interaction with the kids.

FFA Convention: Jennifer Tosch Tucker could not be here today – she just had a baby! We will have to follow-up with her for a report at the next meeting. The convention is in October in Indianapolis, IN this year.

Calendar: With Kathy Whitmore having moved to another region, we are looking as to how we want to handle the calendar without the inclusion of the directory. Maybe we need to check into other possibilities.

New Business: There has been a major blow to the international Arabian horse community – the Polish government has removed all the old directors from the breeding program and new directors have been put into place. The Polish breeding program has been in place for hundred years – a lot of history is out there to read and now it could be lost. Mark Wharton spoke to what this means to the future blood lines of our breed. There is an online petition (through Facebook) and a movement to see if this can be stopped before all of our Polish state studs are lost. A recent demonstration of support was held in Warsaw, Poland with 18,000 in attendance. Go to Polandisnotyetlost.com and follow the progress of this movement.

On September 10th the AHA Registry Commission is meeting in Kentucky at the Peregrine Fine Arabian Bloodstock at the Overbrook Farm. Also, they will have an Open House and the Registry has agreed to have a Q & A session as well.

Joe moved and Debbie G seconded a motion that we adopt a resolution to support this issue in Poland. Joe will prepare this and Duane will take this to the AHA to pledge our support. This passed.

Donna K moved and Deneb Thompson seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary