

Minutes from Region 14 Meeting
July 31, 2016 @ 1:00 PM
Holiday Inn at Cincinnati Airport
Erlanger, KY

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. Eight of twelve clubs were represented by 12 of the 19 eligible delegates. Those clubs were BAHA, BAHAA, KAHABA, KARABS, OAATS, OHAHA, OVAHA and SAHIBA.

Minutes: Donna Kitchel moved and John Morici seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. This was passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Jean Hedger reported that she taken care of the taxes for the year. Per her report, we have a negative net balance of \$3,149.18. She also presented the report on the Regional Awards banquet. We took in \$7,842.00 and expenses were \$7,762.00 so we had a net profit of \$80.00. Deneb Thompson moved and Pepper Proffitt seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. This passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Duane reported on the loss of Bill Pennington this past week (July 26th). The family will be hosting a Celebration of Life on August 11th. Before he passed, a scholarship was being established in Bill's name and he was aware of it and was very happy. The William Pennington Youth Scholarship Fund will be administered by the Arabian Horse Foundation (AHF). It will be promoted at this year's Youth Nationals. Donations are being requested in lieu of flowers.

Youth Nationals had 820 horses (they budgeted for 795). As a comparison, the Quarter horse Youth show this year will have around 1000 horses, so we are having a good turn-out compared to a much larger breed. This was the first year back in Oklahoma City. The facility is 100 times better, with improved stabling, higher ceilings with big fans (that helped with the heat), etc., but there were complaints that the footing was "wet and sticky."

Duane noted that Equine Stress in doing a hoof study and may be proposing changes in the form of a resolution at convention.

The Registry Commission will be meeting September 10th at Peregrine Fine Arabian Bloodstock (Overbrook Farm) in Lexington, KY. In addition to an open house, there will be a presentation of horses and a question & answer session with the commission.

The Second Annual Arabian U.S. Open (brought to us by AHA and Aljassimya Farms) will be held September 21st on *opening night of the* Rolex Central Park Horse Show in New York. One change from last year will be that the performance classes (*except Mounted Native Costume*) will be in the Pro/Am format.

Joe Hull did a great job writing a statement of resolution, suggesting that Poland re-instate the Polish Stud officials. This was sent to AHA, but no action has been taken at this time (due to un-disclosed reasons).

There has been a change in the leadership at USEF with the appointment of a new president but the CEO remains the same.

Cindy Clinton noted that Dave Daugherty is not in attendance today due to police duty with the appearances of the Presidential candidates in Ohio. He has submitted his resume as a candidate for Vice President of AHA, which will be voted on at this year's convention.

There was a lively discussion on the USEF changes in our halter presentation rules, with guidelines available on their website. We also discussed this year's Youth Nationals. The kids are amazing and it is interesting how they "grow" during the show. There were clinics and lots of activities. There will be a review as to how they may change the Select classes. They will be rebalancing the points at the AHA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting next week. Also they may change the criteria for Hunt Seat Equitation, since most are judged by main ring judges at local shows, then at Youth Nationals, they are judged by the Sport Horse judges.

Budget Committee: Duane appointed the following: Jeff as chair, Joe, Dave, Jean and John. They will meet during the AHA convention.

There was also further discussion on Bill's scholarship. Details are still being finalized. The AHF requires \$5,000.00 to activate a scholarship. Cindy stated that that amount could come from the Region 14 show profits. Duane noted that, at the AHA convention, clubs could announce their pledges from the floor. Donna feels that we should definitely activate this now, to honor Bill and all he has done for Region 14. Debbie G moved and Deneb seconded a motion to fund the \$5,000.00 activation fee from the Region 14 show profits. This passed unanimously.

Linda Laufer questioned whether this would be awarded to youth for either participation at Youth or Sport Horse Nationals vs. an educational scholarship. Donna would like to see this discussed with Bill's family and then the details would be addressed in the application process. Duane will discuss the details further with them.

One other item that Duane reported on was a discussion from the March BOD meeting. At the Arabian Horse Gallery in the Kentucky Horse Park (KHP) there is no money to keep promotional literature available for visitors. A letter was sent to Howard Shank and Cynthia Richardson suggesting that promotional materials could be funded by the regions. A post card was developed that lists all the information about the regions and the Discovery Farms. This is still a work in progress to get all the regions on-board.

First Vice Director Report: Jeff got a nice email from Dana Belcher (AHA), complementing his diligence at submitting information for the AHA Insider e-blast every month for the past two years. We need to include information about the scholarship in his next submission. John wanted to thank Jeff for all his work on this and commend us as a region for all the things we do. Jeff also reported that a group of Kentucky clubs' members were involved in a presentation at the Breeds Weekend for Arabians, which just happened to be held at the same time the KHP was hosting the Egyptian Event. There were about 300 attendees who "fell in love" with our Arabians.

Second Vice Director Report / Regional Awards Banquet: Debbie G gave a report on the Regional Awards Banquet, which was down this year (approximately 120 attended). She has investigated other facilities to try and lower the cost, while making the event better. She checked with Roberts Center (on I-71 near Wilmington, OH), another Cincinnati-area hotel and the Great Wolf Lodge. We would like to have a package deal, but most seem to prefer to only offer contracts where all costs are itemized. There was also a discussion as to whether we want to continue this program – a straw vote was "yes" so further investigation will go forward. Duane will get with this Holiday Inn and report to Debbie G. LaDon Donohoe also reminded those present to send pictures from all our events to Region14photos@yahoo.com for the slide show we present at the banquet. We will try to send out an e-blast as the banquet time gets closer.

Regional Show Update: Cindy reported we had 518 horses this year (**up about 25**). Tony Conner was recovered enough to help out for a couple of days. Lori Foster coordinated the Hollywood Toi Charity event which was a donkey race. Donna was missed as the Patron lounge "lunch lady" but Linda Ferris did a nice job. Cindy received good comments on the new patriotic backdrops that were purchased (and tried to make sure they didn't get torn). These hung on the side of the arena where the champion pictures were taken. Also the new photographer was well received. The dates for 2017 are Silverama on June 28th and Regionals

June 29th to July 2nd. The schedule went well, but she may be adding back classes on Thursday. There were questions about the new \$10.00/horse charge that the KHP added. She is also considering moving the youth show to the side ring (next to main covered arena), but then they would have move the trail classes and Jeff noted there were complaints that there was no trail practice ring. Other complaints were that improvements were needed in the lighting, that the rest rooms were dirty and inadequate, and about the main ring footing. If we get formal complaints filed on the lighting, maybe we can use that in future negotiations. We changed our champion trophies and added plaques for the reserve champions. There were fewer complaints about the Sport Horse classes. Unfortunately we cancelled the carriage classes as we had no entries.

Breyerfest: Lorie Henderson reported they had 12 horses from 10 disciplines at the demo, which was held at 2:00 PM each day. They spent at least two (2) hours at a “meet and greet” after the demos. Those horses were from four (4) states and represented 38 regional champions, 22 regional reserve champions, regional Top 5’s and some with national awards. They would also take some of horses out for a morning “walk-about” to meet some of the over 10,000+ attendees. The girls who showed their horses were even recognized at the hotel and in parking lots. Lorie noted that she a hard time getting sufficient promotional material from AHA. She called them in March to get material to hand-out at both Breyerfest and the Breeds Weekend. She ended up having an additional 3,500 copies made of the AHA coloring page because they were running out. All of that was gone by Saturday, so there was no literature left to give out on Sunday. Also, to get the material, Lorie had to pay the postage from Denver. They have done this for seven (7) years now and she feels that the other breeds are out-doing us when it comes to promotional literature. Lana Chaffin noted that 4-H advisors were asking her for the sheet that has all the information about the colors and confirmation, etc. Lorie made up trading cards about the kids and their horses that they were showing and these were a big hit. Donna commented that at convention they tell us how we need to get out and promote our breed, but don’t provide the tools for this. Duane will take this to the Market Development and Promotion group at AHA and Lorie will be sending a letter to Cynthia Richardson about the problems she encountered. This event is unique and one of the largest in the nation. And it is amazing that this whole event is centered on a horse toy that is targeted to the youth, yet it has the potential to get those youth involved with real horses.

Nominating Committee: John thanked those that served on the nominating committee (Cindy, Dave, Lorie and Joe) and was pleased with their communication. He presented the following as the slate of nominees for the Executive Board:

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

He proceeded to ask for nominations from the floor-three (3) times for each office. There were no additional nominations so Donna moved and Pepper seconded a motion to accept this slate of names by acclamation as the regional officers to serve for 2017-2018. This passed unanimously.

Mind, Body and Spirit Program Report: Duane reported that Sherri Lewis had sent him a text on the status of the program. There were three (3) farms that participated but she would like more farms to join. She expressed a desire that someone take over the management of the program. Duane has seen the website (that was on a temporary server, so it is not live). Pepper feels that if Sherri can’t come to provide updates, maybe the program should be cancelled. These sentiments were echoed by Donna and Debbie G. Duane feels the program is needed but there needs to be “energy” put into it. Jeff commented that those on the committee: himself, Jill Robinson-Bailey and Larry Kinneer have not had much luck working with Sherri. Jean noted that we have paid \$1,100.00 for bracelets but where are they? Also OHAHA paid \$250 towards the approximate \$700 that was paid for the development of the website, yet she still has not received an invoice even though she has requested one for two (2) years now. Debbie S noted that we have a page on the regional website that has an explanation of the program that speaks to its goals but never received information for a website link. The consensus was that, at this time, no more money will be budgeted for this

program. Jeff will talk with Larry and Jill as to where they should go from this point forward. Lorie, one of the farms that participated in this program, reported that she got a few contacts but only one participant (a small child) followed through. She posted a cost for a lesson as \$99 but she was only paid \$7.50, so Group-On got the rest. The program wasn't activated until after Christmas of 2014 and was to be active for only 60 days, yet they were contacted well beyond that timeframe. It was noted that Michele Reser had 15-20 participants, but we have no report as to whether Tammy Hawkey (Tiara Arabians) had any participants.

Old Business: Cindy reported that the Thanksgiving show she manages in Florida would like to be concurrent for Region 12 and 14. Pepper moved and Deneb seconded to approve this show. John asked if we are hurting our local shows and there was some discussion on this topic.

New Business: John reported that former director Frank Gaddie is very ill. Duane will contact him.

John moved and Donna seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting will be our caucus at convention in Denver, CO on November 17th. [**POST MEETING NOTE: AHA has moved the convention to Tulsa, OK – same dates.**]

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary

** amendments are in RED*