

Region 14 Meeting Minutes
March 1, 2025 @ 3:00 PM
Holiday Inn at Cincinnati Airport

Director Dave Daugherty called the meeting to order with First Vice Director Jackie MacLaren, Secretary Debbie Swigart and Treasurer Terry Schafer in attendance. Second Vice Director, Kara Hatzai was absent. Nine (9) clubs were represented: BAHA, BAHAA, DBDR, KAHA, KAHABA, KARABS, OAATS, OHAHA and SAHIBA.

Minutes: Pepper Proffit moved, and Debbie Glasener seconded a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. This passed unanimously.

Treasurer's and Budget Report: Terry presented an end-of year summary which noted that both the general fund and our show account were down, but that it was better than what we budgeted for 2024. This was partly due to a late WEC bill for the show.

He reported that after further review, it was decided that there will be no changes to the 2025 budget that was presented at the January meeting. Key items are that we can expect are increased income from the Fidelity account interest, a new line item for the Joe Hull Law Scholarship, and a new line-item for Duane Esser as our "immediate past director. Basically, we are looking at a break-even budget for the coming year. Cindy Clinton moved, and Pepper seconded a motion to approve the budget as presented. This passed unanimously.

Terry reported that the treasurer's report showed little activity. There was an expense from last year that we were not billed for – garlands for Nationals. Turns out that Cindy C paid that bill from the show account. Also, we've had some additional cost with our website host – HostGator. Jeff Caldwell thanked Terry for his proactive steps on investing in the Fidelity Money Market and Terry noted that this account is linked to the checking account so the money accessible, if necessary, unlike a CD. Pepper moved, and Debbie G seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as submitted. This passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Dave noted that his AHA Board of Directors (BOD) meeting is in a couple of weeks.

- He reported that Mike Miller will represent the APAHA on the U.S. Nationals commission and is working on schedule changes.
- The work ring tent at the Tulsa Fairground, out by the cell tower, is now a permanent building that will be bigger and more secure than the tent was. Dave will get a copy of the artist renderings out to the membership.
- Dave tried to follow-up with Ron Gekiere (Region 13) about moving our Region 14 Hunter Jumper classes to their Sport Horse Regionals at WEC in June. Since January, he had sent three (3) emails with no response. Dave did check with the Tryon show and last year they had 54 entries, with no expense to us. He also spoke to the Region 13 show manager, and they wanted Region 14 to pay expenses estimated at \$6000-\$7000. There was discussion as to why this was being pursued in the first place, since there has been no problem with Tryon group handling the classes. Cindy C fielded calls from them as to what was happening. In the future we need to ask before considering changes. [ADDENDUM: Our Region 14 Championship Hunter Jumper classes will remain as part of the Magnolia in the Mountains Sport Horse Classic (formerly the Palmetto Sport Horse Classic) in May at the Tryon International Equestrian Center (TIEC) in Miller Springs, North Carolina.]
- Dave updated everyone on the four (4) Vice Presidents-At-Large, appointed by the Purebred Arabian Trust (PAT): Elizabeth Haar (R13), Jim Hagale (R11), Susan Racey (R14) and Ralph Manning (R9). And he also noted that they are all working towards revising the AHA Reorganization Resolution to be presented at this year's convention.
- Duane Esser presented a report from the USEF Annual Meeting that was held in Lexington, KY, January 23-25, 2025. The theme was "All About the Horse" and one of the main themes included the well-fare of the horse, emphasizing the presentation of schooling of horses on social licensing and positive representation and constructive content on social media.

He reminded us that as of December 1, 2025, the activation of the biosecurity chips will be required for every horse that shows at USEF events. It must be a 15-digit model, and he would like folks to consider getting the one that allows biothermal monitoring. (There is a video of FAQ on their website.) He reported

on a 100-horse farm, on east side of Cincinnati, that had a Herpes virus outbreak that required a three (3) week quarantine and horse temperature records were collected twice a day on all horses. Dr. Stephen Schumacher had told him that horses can have a change of temperature before they start “shedding the virus” and that detection can prevent the spread by isolating that horse.

Dr. Schumacher did an extensive presentation at the USEF meeting on the use of drugs and reviewed the timing of use and the build-up in the horse’s system, which can accumulate and if tested, you might be out-of-compliance for an event.

Duane reported that our breed was well represented, and he mentioned some of the winners of the USEF awards from our Arabian industry: Larry Jerome (breeder) and Tom Sayvetz (breeder of Endurance horses). Duane noted that Tom had been surprised by a large group of endurance riders who have done well, both nationally and internationally, with his horses and that came to support him. Later when Duane was introducing himself as Vice President of AHA. Tom was stunned because he was under the assumption that AHA didn’t think that they were important. Duane assured him that they are important to AHA and we need to change that perception. Other winners were Hannah Hiiva (Youth Sportsmanship), Cynthia Richardson (Sportsmanship), Andrew Sellman (Norman K Dunn Trophy), and Ashton Kiesner (C.J. “June” Cronan Trophy), Colby Powell (Barbara Worth Oakford Trophy) and Kristin McKilliop (Vaughn Smith Trophy). Overall, it was a very good meeting.

First Vice Director’s Report: Jackie did not have a report at this time.

Second Vice Director’s Report: Kara was absent due to a scheduling conflict with her job.

Region 14 Youth Scholarship Program: Jeff reported on our two (2) scholarships and wanted to thank all the work done by the committee. We did award all three (3) levels of our Youth Scholarships (\$3000, \$2000 and \$1000) in 2024, for first time in three (3) years. Jackie asked that we send out an eBlast to inform the region about the Joe Hull Law Scholarship.

Youth Director’s Report: Ella Duncan introduced two (2) additional youth that are helping her – Abigail Brown and Sophia Blankley. They will not have the ice cream social at the regional show (Ella will not be attending the show this year). They will make sure that the Golden Horseshoes, coloring sheets and T-shirts will be available this year. They are also checking on the High Point. Ella will be attending the upcoming AHYA Board meeting in Denver, the same weekend as the AHA BOD meeting. Pepper requested that the girls present plans as to who will be at the show, especially if Ella can’t be there. Terry noted that we don’t have the T-shirts listed in the budget (about \$1200) but that they can get sponsors for them. Currently, Ella says she has pledges from a construction company and a health company for a total of \$1000 for the T-shirts. There was further discussion as to how to help our youth and Jeff mentioned to budget for future activities, the girls should get list of costs to Terry. Duane questioned about ice cream social, and Cindy C noted WEC limitations. Pepper will meet with the girls after this meeting to go over details.

Awards Banquet: Debbie G. noted that the Holiday Inn offers “park and ride” to the airport, which explains why the parking lot is so full today. She is still going to investigate other venues like the Radisson at the Ohio River / I-75 bridge. She’d like to keep it in Cincinnati as it is somewhat central for our region. We added a Region 14 Venmo account this year which can be used for dinner reservations and for the auction. She has 116 or 117 reservations. We need to try and keep it on the first Saturday of March. Dave noted that folks need to make sure their info is legible on the bid sheets, and he thanked everyone who sponsored the trophies – they are all paid for this year. Dave will have a Power Point this year. Also, Jeff has compiled old photos for a Power Point to be shown during dinner.

Equine Affaire: Jackie noted that this year the event is the same weekend as shows put on by OHAHA and BAHA, so we don’t have a way to have a booth this year. Duane asked if AHA would have a booth presence. Jackie doesn’t believe they will be present. Duane will follow-up. Also, Cindy C noted that the Expo Center is undergoing construction, and it may be a mess this year. Hopefully they will be done by next year.

Breyerfest: Deneb Thompson reported that this is the 75th Anniversary of Breyerfest and we will not be doing a demo this year as they are scheduling the presentation of past horses who were used as models. They are offering a new limited-edition Arabian Endurance horse model, and that horse will be there. Breyerfest is expanding their

booth space too this year, but she believes we are still going to have our booth but won't have confirmation until late April.

Regional Show Report: Cindy reported she is making some changes this year for the August 13-17 show. Be sure to read the prize list – lots of new rules. WEC costs have increased, and that is how they are paying for their improvements. Below is the list of the judges she has so far:

- PRE-SHOW: Mark Himmel (Performance) and Bill Melendez (Trail and Ranch). The Dressage and Sport Horse judge is TBA. The hardest part is getting someone who can judge Western Dressage plus 'S' judges needed for all levels of Dressage (*Intro through FEI levels*).
- REGION 14: Joel Gangi, Bill Melendez and Gordon Potts (Performance), Mark Himmel (Trail and Ranch), and Susan Posner (Dressage and Sport Horse).

She stills needs a Pre-show Halter judge. She is also looking for sponsors for the pizza party and Saturday dinner. She has a new Technical Delegate (TD) for dressage – Susan Moran. She may be eliminating the 3-year-old classes for the Youth Scholarship due to lack of participation. Cindy C said we had the best volunteers last year.

Dave will be handling the stalling this year. The reservations will be handled through email – no texts or phone calls. Once you order your stalls, you will pay for that number. And once bedding is ordered, there will be no returns. He will be recording what bedding is delivered to the stalls via pictures so if there are any disputes.

Old Business: Dave noted the following:

- Ablackhorse Arabian Horse Association (ABHAHA) has only two (2) members so they will lose their charter with AHA.
- Ohio Arabian & All-Breed Trail Riding Society (OAATS), with 22 members, has informed AHA via letter that they will no longer be an AHA affiliate club effective December 1, 2025. This is due to the lack of members who own Arabian horses, as most of the members have other breeds and are dissatisfied with having to get their OAATS membership through AHA. It was also noted that the AHA Distance Nationals are held as part of the AERC show. There was a discussion about how the AHA needs to be a presence at the Endurance events.

New Business:

- Debbie S reported on some issues with our website. Two (2) years ago we had a big problem in that we lost our Calendar of Events from the website. She was able to contact our former web master – Jeremy Ball – and he was able to solve that problem and check on some other issues. He is no longer a web master and was living in Texas but has now moved back to Cincinnati. Part the problem is that our website's platform, Word Press, does periodic updates of their "plug-ins" (i.e. like apps on our phones) and most of the time, we don't have an issue. In January of this year, the problem was the website was down. Per technical service with HostGator (our hosting server) we were over our allowance of 150GB plan. For a fee of \$160+ they could fix it. Debbie found out later that this 150GB plan should be more than enough GB's for our type of website. Then when she tried to load the Awards Banquet bios, she couldn't do it. She tried Tech Support but that was a dead-end. So, she contacted Jeremy again and he found that when one of the plug-ins updated, our "error log" which he had set to periodically clear, wasn't, so again we were using too many GB's. These error logs were being generated through our Calendar of Events, which runs on a sub-program called TIME.LY, which used to be free of charge. To solve this, we may need to pay \$108 per year. Deneb moved Martha Rattner seconded a motion to pay for the TIME.LY update. Dave asked how old our site is, and it was thought it originally was activated around 1999-2000 and then it was upgraded about 12 years ago. Dave wants to form a website committee to investigate our options: Debbie S as chair, Danny Thompson and Kara. Dave will also make some contacts of who we can work with.
- Dave told the story of a family from California who moved to Kentucky 22 years ago. The Hendersons established Firelight Arabians, and they have been a great resource of outreach for our breed in our region. We want to thank them for all they do.
- Brinley Creek read a report from Jennifer Tucker and Hillary Hoffman (both on MVP committee with AHA). They have been working with PAT and the Kentucky Horse Park (KHP) International Museum of the Horse and the Al-Marah Gallery to rejuvenate and update it, with emphasis on how we capture visitors

information. They are also reviewing the artifacts and memorabilia that are in storage and how best to display them. Cindy C noted that is good to hear.

- Cindy C reported that the OHAHA Spring Show has a completely new schedule, with the Youth classes being held at the end of the show (Sunday). The judges are Chase Harvell and David Mikosz and the dates are April 11-13.
- Then she announced that the Buckeye is being revamped to just three (3) days – Thursday through Saturday May 15-17. Cindy C plans on hiring just two (2) judges so it will be a concurrent show. There was considerable discussion.
- Dave wanted to thank Dave Cusac, who retired from training and is now volunteering to help Cindy C and Dave run the Spring Show, Buckeye and Region 14 as well as volunteering at our Arabian national shows. Cindy C also wanted to thank Sherry Hull who is now volunteering at Region 14.
- The schedule for this evening's Awards Banquet: cash bar, dinner, three (3) BINGO games, guest speaker and finally the awards, including two (2) Hall of Fame recipients and the Breeders of the Year.

Jeff moved and Jackie seconded a motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary