

Minutes from Region 14 Meeting
March 17, 2018 @ 3:00 PM
Holiday Inn at the 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 Joe Hull in attendance. Ten (10) clubs were represented: BAHA, BAHAA, DBDR, KAHABA, KARABS, NEOAHA, OHAHA, OVAHA, OAATS and SAHIBA.

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

Treasurer's Report: Joe reported that there have been no major changes in his report since January, other than channeling the money that has been donated towards Equine Affaire and Breyerfest through the regional account. Cindy moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to approve the treasurer's report as presented. It passed unanimously.

Director's Report: Duane reported on the status of the litigation pending between AHA and the Purebred Arabian Trust (PAT). The hearing was postponed due to an illness in the family of an AHA lawyer. At this time, the court date has been moved to late August.

The Competition Advisory Committee is working on how to cross check qualifications for Select riders. This was a problem at the Scottsdale show. They are considering adding some type of info to a rider's AHA competition card. There has also been some discussion as to using concurrent judging for the specialty classes (ranch riding, reining, etc.) at regional shows. This may be proposed as a resolution.

Due to the increasing complications in our rules, Vice President Deborah Johnson will be looking into reorganizing the AHA Handbook.

Duane reported that Breeder Sweepstakes nominations are up and that there is about \$7 million in the fund. Currently there are 29 trustees (the Board of Directors). They are considering a motion to decrease the trustees to 6-9, which means decisions could be made faster.

Region 14 is being asked to give permission to two shows to be concurrent regional qualifiers:

- April 26-28, 2019 – Lone Star Classic, being held in Texas, which is Region 9. We have approved this show in the past. They are under new management and at a new facility. It should not impact any of our local club shows. Dave Daugherty moved and Cindy seconded a motion to approve this show. This motion was approved.
- Early June, 2018 – West Palm Beach, Florida “Summer by the Beach.” We already have four (4) Region 14 qualifying shows in Region 12. After some discussion, Deneb Thompson moved and Dave seconded a motion to disapprove this show. This motion passed.

Duane shared some statistics: Purebred registrations are up 5.1% and Half-Arabian registrations are up by 0.6%. Sweepstakes entries are up but Membership is down.

Youth Nationals have increased fees - \$20 per entry and \$30 per stall. AHA has signed a four (4) year contract with Oklahoma City for this show. Canadian Nationals have a five (5) year contract with Brandon. Also Canada will have new trophies designed by Karen Kasper.

At U.S. Nationals, the fairgrounds must clean up after their state fair ends Sunday, over 10 days before our show starts. In the past, folks have come in for the show over a week before the show starts, many on Wednesday. Per our contract, we are officially allowed on the grounds starting at 8 AM the Saturday before our show starts on Thursday. Charging early arrival fees has not deterred this so enforcement changes will be made this year. No one will be allowed on the grounds to decorate and/or prepare stalls before that Saturday. In April, the commission will be looking into a layover facility with 400-500 stalls that is about 20 minutes away from fairgrounds. Classes are also being added this year: Purebred Yearling and Ranch Riding. Also, the Purebred and Half-Arabian yearlings don't have to qualify for regionals. And the Oklahoma fairgrounds have opened a new barn with 400 stalls.

This year's Judges school will be held in Tampa, Florida, November 30th - December 2nd, around the time of the Holiday show. And the AHA convention, November 14th-17th, will be back in Tulsa this year. Sport Horse Nationals will try a new facility for its East coast rotation in 2019 – Balmoral, Illinois - south of Chicago.

The AHA magazine, *Arabian Horse Life*, operates at a \$150,000 loss. They are considering dropping it from six (6) issues per year to four (4). A straw vote indicated that the room was split 50/50 as to who reads the magazine and considers it important. There was a lot of discussion about this publication. Joe noted that since AHA budgets the magazine at a loss, they can report that they are "not losing money" on the publication. Debbie G commented that they need to address their mailing list, with many duplicates and triplicates. Have they considered going to a digital format? USEF did that and now they are going back to a print magazine. Joe also commented that once the financial report is approved by the BOD, it should be made available to the membership and not wait to hand out an annual report at convention. Currently it is only available to BOD. Others asked about social media like Facebook, etc. Unfortunately there is "untrue" info that is posted and the Ethical Practices Review Board (EPRB) will start to investigate for member violations. Carl Malicote noted that when you sign a contract to work at any of the national events, you agree not to publish anything bad about AHA.

Duane reported on the Regional Directors Caucus, held the day after the BOD meeting. Region 14 is "the bomb" when it comes to the promotion of the Arabian Horse. Many regions are just concerned about their show and its finances. We are a group of special people that take on special events. To highlight our outreach, Duane presented a DVD of the YouTube video from Breyerfest to AHA President Nancy Harvey who sent it to the Marketing and Development Program (MDP).

Region 14 Arabian Horses for Humanity Project: As part of our outreach, Duane also updated us on the status of our horse. He is working with the Art Institute of Cincinnati students, who are refining the design. Some of them came out to his farm and even rode horses and many also watched the Black Stallion for inspiration. Cincinnati Children's Hospital is excited about this and they want to go straight to auction with the statue. Also, Duane has been making a video of step-by-step plans as to how to go about taking on a project like this. It was noted that at Scottsdale, the horse statue "Legends" went for \$200,000 for leukemia research.

Nominating Committee: Duane appointed the following: Dave Daugherty, Cindy Ryan, Cindy Clinton, Rick Tosch and Eric Schultz. Donna Kitchel moved and Debbie G seconded a motion to approve this committee as presented. This passed. [NOTE: *post meeting, it was noted that Eric and Dave both belong to OHAHA, so Wendy Gruskiewicz (NEOAHA) was appointed to Eric's position on this committee.*]

By Laws Update: Joe noted that we need to update our Bylaws to reflect changes in the AHA delegate structure and also to clarify the date that regional dues need to be sent in to the treasurer.

- Change our delegate allocation from one delegate for every 50 AHA full members, to one delegate for every 35 full AHA members as of June 30th of each year.
- Regional dues: \$1 per full AHA member as of June 30th, change from due July 1st to July 15th.

- Joe also noted that AHA has also changed how they charter clubs. It now will keep clubs recognized if they only have three (3) members, but they must have at least 10 members to qualify for a delegate. We may need to change how we recognize delegates for AHA convention vs. our Region 14 meetings.

The exact wording will be sent to the delegates and alternates at least 30 days prior to our Annual meeting. Joe moved and Cindy seconded a motion to have these changes voted on at our Annual meeting in August. This passed.

Life Membership: Dave noted that this is Duane's last year as our director and in the past, we have given the outgoing director an AHA Life Membership. Normally this is done at convention, however the life memberships are going up from \$1000 to \$1500 as of April 1, 2018. Dave moved and Joe seconded a motion to go ahead and pay for Duane's life membership prior to April 1st and then to revise future budgets to \$1500 for future directors' life memberships. This passed. It was noted that clubs can donate to offset the cost of this membership.

First Vice Director's Report: Jeff doesn't have much to report, other than putting Region 14 news in to AHA for the Regional Insider. Carl reported that Mollie Krumlaw has proposed that we have a Region 14 Recreational Trail Ride again at Elkins Creek, near Ironton, Ohio. The potential date is July 28-30, 2018, since there are no shows on that weekend. We could have a Pig Roast, Band and trail rides. Jeff and Carl are willing to help get this set-up. The facility has open cabins and a few furnished rooms. Jeff read an email from Mollie on making the reservations, food and t-shirts. We need to see how much interest there is within the region, so maybe we can send out an e-blast in March, as well as announce it at this evening's banquet.

Second Vice Director's Report/Awards Banquet: Debbie G reported that we have 123 pre-registered for the banquet, up from the average of 50. The post cards really help get the word out, as well as Facebook. Carl and Jeff are handling the Silent Auction this year. Dave has taken care of the balloting. Debbie G wanted to thank all those that have helped make this happen. It was noted later that we will again have the lottery ticket package raffle and also, since it is St. Patrick's Day we have a special "Pot of Gold" jackpot of 40 "gold" coins, costing \$20 each.

Carl noted that Ralph Brown will be auctioneering the live auction items. There will be door prizes and also live items are on some of the tables. If it is okay with the donor, any items that don't sell will go to the silent auction held at the SAHIBA Spring Show (SASS) in May.

Youth Director's Report: Brinley Swears reported that Region 14 has a Tournament Team with four (4) riders who will compete against other regional teams by earning points at shows. This is part of the AHA Youth Team Tournament program.

Equine Affaire: (It was noted earlier in the meeting that the OAATS club will not be participating at Equine Affaire this year, so it will be up to the Region 14 clubs to support this endeavor.) Jennifer Tucker-Tosch is handling the event this year. Thanks for the donations from the clubs. We have been moved to a better location this year, since AHA's "Goldie" will be on display. We have 13 stalls available for our horses for the demos, which will be similar to the one at Breyerfest, and also a booth stall. Pegasus Arabians and Ellie Troutman are also helping. This is Equine Affaire's 25th Anniversary. Our booth space is 10 feet X 30 feet. She needs booth volunteers. We will also present the 8-9 minute film called "O! Arabian" created by Horsefly Films. We will have Facebook coverage through the page Jennifer created – Equine Affaire-Meet the Arabian. Cindy asked if more funds were needed. Jennifer also said she will put together some footage of the event to use for future promotion. Duane also noted that we should be getting some magazines from Lara Ames at the Arabian Horse Times.

Regional Show Update (June 27th-July 1st): Cindy reported that the prize list is out. It looks like it is going to be a great show. She has indications that stalls will be up. She has hired the 13 judges needed and we are giving out halters again to all the champions. There will be no scorecard used for halter classes. For Sport Horse In Hand, we will again have two (2) judges – one for Dressage-type and one for Hunter-type. Lori Foster is working on another fund raising event. Jeff wants to have the trail coarse set-up for practicing on Tuesday. Bill Fairchild has some patterns and an order of go for English, etc. if we need them. As always, we don't have Patron fees and there are no increases in any other fees for this year. Cindy again thanks everyone who helps make this a great regional show.

Region 14 Directory: Debbie S noted that she has had questions as to how to access the member directory which is under the Clubs tab on our website – www.aha14.com. First, you must be a member of a Region 14 club. Your User Name is your AHA member number. Click on “forgot my password” and you will then put in your email address and a link is sent to you. Follow the directions in the email but instead of using the “crazy” password that the computer assigns, create your own, then you should have not problem getting into the listing. She will try to put instructions on the website, maybe under the FAQ tab.

Breyerfest: Lori Henderson noted that she received Envision magazines (from the Arabian Horse Times) that Fed Ex charged \$55 to send. She hopes to get more of them brought to Breyerfest, which is July 13th-15th at the Kentucky Horse Park. She showed us an example of the bags they give out. For all those who have donated towards the bags, you can send your club logo to Deneb so it can be printed on those bags. The new model this year is Empres++++//, who will be at the event, as well as an Arabian race horse since this year's theme is “Off to the Races.” We have had wristbands made as well as the trading cards. Empres' owner, Prue Critchley, has helped with the cost of these items. A girl who attended a couple of years ago and fell in love with our Arabian horses at the demo, now owns an Arabian horse and will come up from Georgia to be part of the breed demo this year. We will have 13-15 in the demo, which will be held on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

It was suggested that we give Prue a gift basket as a ‘thank you’ from Region 14. Debbie G moved and Deneb seconded a motion to spend around \$200 for the gift basket. This passed.

Lorie also started working in February with a Girl Scout troop, arranging for an outing to her farm for 60 girls (ages 6-12 years old) over two (2) days. They will groom and maybe ride some of the horses.

Old Business: none

New Business: Duane has spoken with Ellie Troutman and she would like to host our Annual Region 14 meeting at her facility – Windy Meadows Equestrian Center, in LaGrange, KY. The tentative date is August 12th.

Also, the meeting was reminded that as of April 1st, AHA dues will increase.

Dave moved and Rick seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Swigart

Debbie Swigart
Region 14 Secretary