

News from your director

August 2011

Where has the summer gone? Time goes by so quickly. I hope each of you have had an enjoyable summer. And for those of you who have been showing or enjoying your horses in any way, I hope you have had memorable times. My summer has been one filled with many opportunities of seeing wonderful horses in my travel to many places. One of the best times was visiting the Minn-I-Kota club and being a part of their Community Shows. They had a great turnout and the club really knows how to put on a fun show. Brings back memories of times long ago when all our Arabian shows were lots of fun to attend and everyone had a close association with each other and helped out to see that the show went well and fun was provided for everyone. My next Arabian show will be the Nationals in Tulsa. I will get to visit Tulsa twice this year, since I will be there in September judging the National Welsh/Cob Show.

The Board of Directors of the AHA held their 3rd Meeting in Aurora on the 5th and 6th of August. On Thursday preceding the board meeting, I met with the Competition Advisory Committee with regards to the declining numbers at our Region 6 Championship Show. I gave the report that we had only 102 horses that competed and I felt that this certainly had a great deal to do with Region 4 being allowed to move their dates to our dates when they went to Idaho from Salem, Oregon. It was made very clear to this committee that Region 6 has 4 states in this region that represent four of the five most sparsely populated states in the United States. Certainly, mileage wise, AHA was not in violation of the mileage rule but by the number of horses in Region 6 and the population of people, it certainly affected our show. It is true that many Arabian and Half-Arabian horses that reside in Region 6 do not show. We must rely on horses from other regions to support this show. I also asked if they had ever discussed just how many horses should be required to attend a regional show if it were to be classified as such. They had never had to discuss this before. I reported our show had 64 one-horse classes and 102 two-horse classes. Our largest classes had only seven horses and that was only two classes in the entire show. The suggestions that were made were the following: Change the date; move our location to an area that could draw more horses from other states. Change of some sort was deemed necessary. It was suggested that we join with Region 4 and hold two regional shows in the same location (Idaho) back-to-back. They had over 400 horses this year. Peggy Weems, Region 4 director, checked and dates are available for us to do that as an alternative. The dates we now hold the show on are also available in Lincoln, Neb. It was checked and only about half of the horses that showed at our show this year were from Region 6.

While in this meeting I became aware that the Competition Advisory Committee affirmed that having two class lists are confusing to members and staff. The delegates would have control over which classes are added to the list by approving class specifications, which exist in

USEF/EC or other rule books such as NRHA, and NCHA. THE AHA WILL GO TO ONE SINGLE CLASS LIST, WHICH WILL BE REFERRED TO AS THE AHA CLASS LIST. THIS IS EFFECTIVE DEC. 1, 2011, FOR THE 2012 SHOW SEASON. IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS, CONTACT LESLIE AT AHA. ANOTHER MOTION PASSED THAT REGIONAL SHOW MANAGEMENT WILL HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO OFFER CLASSES THAT ARE DESIRED BY EXHIBITORS. TBA CLASSES ARE ALLOWED. AHA ARTICLE 204.9 WILL BE MODIFIED TO READ ACCORDINGLY. EFFECTIVE 2012 SHOWS.

REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES IN EACH REGION SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE REGION, WHICH MAY INCLUDE REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP CLASSES THAT DO NOT CORRESPOND WITH CLASSES OFFERED AT THE U.S. NATIONAL SHOW. PASSED BY THE BOD, AUG. 2011.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THE COMPETITION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ASKED THAT POSSIBLE EXEMPTION, OR A SINGLE-EVENT MEMBERSHIP, OR SOME TYPE OF REDUCED RATE BE GRANTED TO ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY PERSONNEL SHOWING AT ARABIAN HORSE SHOWS.

FLAGS ARE WAVING IN FRONT OF THE AHA BUILDING. GLENN PETTY REPORTED AND GAVE A BIG THANK YOU TO THE MANY REGIONS THAT PARTICIPATED IN THIS PROJECT AND TO THE MANY INDIVIDUALS THAT MADE CONTRIBUTIONS. THERE IS EVEN A BALANCE ALREADY FOR REPLACEMENT FLAGS IN THE FUTURE.

DALE HARVILL AND TERRY ANDRESON GAVE THE REPORT ON THEIR PROGRESS WITH THE STRATEGIC PLAN DRAFT. TERRY MADE A MOTION THAT GOVERNANCE BE ADDED TO THE STRATEGIC PLAN DRAFT. THAT WAS ACCEPTED BY THE BOD. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WILL BE THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR THE STRATEGIC PLAN, WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE BOD AT THE NOV. 2011 MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION.

THE AHA/USEF TASK FORCE HEADED BY MYRON KRAUSE MADE A MOTION THAT FEES CHARGED ON AN ENTRY BLANK MUST FULLY DISCLOSE USEF FEES. EXAMPLE: DRUGS & MEDICATION / HIGH PERFORMANCE USEF FEES BE IDENTIFIED SEPARATELY ON HORSE SHOW ENTRY BLANKS OR LISTED IN THE PRIZE LIST. EFFECTIVE WHEN APPROVED BY USEF.

OUR BUILDING HAS JUST COMPLETED HAVING A MAJOR PROFESSIONAL EVALUATION. I BELIEVE THIS IS THE FIRST TIME THAT THIS TYPE OF INSPECTION HAS TAKEN PLACE. IT WAS FOUND THAT THERE IS A LARGE

AMOUNT OF WORK TO BE COMPLETED TO BRING ITEMS UP TO DATE WITH REPAIRS NEEDED. FIRST, AND ONE OF THE LARGER EXPENSES, IS A NEW ROOF. ALL EXPENSES WILL NEED TO BE WORKED INTO THE BUDGET WHEN MONEY IS AVAILABLE.

AT PRESENT, YOUTH NATIONALS REPORTED A GREAT SHOW WITH LOTS OF OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR YOUTH TO RIDE IN A GREAT COMPETITION AND TO PARTICIPATE IN FUN ACTIVITIES AS WELL AS EDUCATIONAL ONES. THE STATE WITH THE MOST OWNERS ATTENDING WAS CALIFORNIA. WITH 103,940 HORSES WAS WHAT THE BUDGET HAD EXPECTED. 863 HORSES WAS THE TOTAL ENTERED ON CLOSEING. CANADA HAS A BUDGET FOR 730 HORSES. (NO FINAL COUNT AS OF YET) SPORT HORSE BUDGETED FOR 500 HORSES. U.S. NATIONALS IS SET AT 1,720 HORSES.

SWEEPSTAKES MONEY PAID OUT AT THE REGIONALS SO FAR.

REGION 1 8,900 REGION 2 9,950 REGION 6 4,450 REGION 7 10,550

REGION 8 7,500 REGION 9 13,000 REGION 10 11,200 REGION 12 12,900

Membership as of June 30th 28,230 members. (down from 30,364)

Youth is 2,850 (a 11% decline from one year ago in June)

A big concern is the clubs. At the close of June there were 17 clubs that have fallen below the necessary 10-member requirement to be a club. That is a very high number of clubs to drop out.

New classes added at the meeting. Competitive Trail Driving and Beginning Novice Level Eventing.

ARABIAN RACING CONTINUES TO GROW. IT IS DEFINITELY ON THE PATH OF REVIVAL. THE FIRST EVER WORLD RACING CONFERENCE WAS HELD. THE U.S. ARABIAN JOCKEY CLUB WAS GIVEN A BEAUTIFUL TROPHY. IT WILL BE PLACED IN THE ARABIAN HORSE GALLERIES MUSEUM AT THE KY. HORSE PARK, ON DISPLAY TO THE PUBLIC. ARABIAN RACING WAS HELD AT CHURCHHILL DOWNS IN LOUISVILLE, KY. THOUSANDS CAME TO SEE THE ARABIANS RACE. THERE WAS A GREAT DEAL OF EXCITEMENT DURING THAT RACE DAY. KEEP WATCHING FOR THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT YOU JUST MIGHT SEE ARABIANS RACING DURING SOME OF THE TRIPLE CROWN RACES IN THE SPRING OF 2012.

DIRECTOR AT LARGE RUSS TAYLOR PRESENTED TO THE BOD A REPORT WITH REGARDS TO THE ANIMAL RIGHTS ACTIVISTS AND THEIR NEVER-ENDING THREATS TO THE HORSE INDUSTRY. VERY OFTEN OF LATE DIRECTLY TO OUR

BREED. IT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR ALL OF US TO REALIZE THEY HAVE A MISSION AND THEY HAD A GREAT AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL BACKING. TWO OF THE MOST DANGEROUS TO THE HORSE INDUSTRY IS HSUS AND PETA.

ONE OF THE CONCERNS FOR ALL OF US IS THAT HORSES REMAIN UNDER THE TERM OF LIVESTOCK, AND NOT EVER BE CATEGORIZED AS COMPANION ANIMALS. PRIVATE OWNERSHIP OF HORSES IS A MUST! ONLY RESCUES WILLING TO DIRECTLY ASSIST PRIVATE OWNERS SHOULD BE FUNDED BY HORSE BREEDERS OR OWNERS. NO RESCUES SPECIALIZING IN GOVERNMENT SEIZURES SHOULD BE SUPPORTED. IF ANYONE OF YOU WOULD LIKE A COMPLETE COPY OF RUSS TAYLORS REPORT PLEASE CONTACT ME AND I WILL BE HAPPY TO SEE THAT YOU RECEIVE ONE. TWO GOOD WEB SITES TO VISIT WITH REGARDS TO THIS TOPIC WWW.ANIMALWELFARECOUNCIL.COM READ Cindy Schonholtz "Are we Sunflowers or Mushrooms" this is filed under News and Web Log. NAIA www.nationalanimalinterestalliance.com title Animal

Rights Wins, Horses Loose.

Hopefully I will be seeing some of you at our Region 6 Trail Ride or at the Nationals in Tulsa. Those of you going to Convention do try and get your convention applications in so you can get the early-bird savings. REMEMBER, YOU NEED A PASSPORT TO ENTER CANADA! Enjoy the rest of your summer.

Cecile

