



# Region 6 News



## SPRING 2011

### Report from your director

As we are now in the third month of the year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of Region 6 who participated in the many activities that were held during the past year by their attendance at pleasure rides, distant rides, youth activities, shows, and of course the AHA Convention in Orlando, Florida. Congratulations to our Volunteer Regional Service award winners Elise Ulmer and Danielle Schmidt, also congratulations to Martha Murdock, a member of MAHA who was awarded the AHA President's Award. The clubs were represented by delegates, alternates and guests from all but two of the clubs. (Minutes of the Region 6 caucus held Nov. 16 is available for your consideration.) It is my hope that each of the delegates shared with their clubs the outcome of the resolutions and the other business presented at this convention.

In January 2011, many Arabian people attended the United States Equestrian Federation annual meeting in Lexington, Ky. Some arrived early in order to visit the Arabian Horse Galleries at the Kentucky Horse Park. At this time this Arabian museum holds the record for attendance of any other museum in the Park. This is without a doubt the finest marketing tool for our breed to the public. The annual meeting is attended by the members of the Arabian/USEF Rules Committee. Bill Hughes was the Vice President of USEF and this year his term was completed but he was elected Treasurer of the USEF. So he remains on the Executive Committee. Also in attendance were Lance Walters, Glenn Petty, Myron Krause, myself, and many other Arabian people who are members of various committees. The awards presentations at the meeting are much like going to the Oscars, as these are made up of most of the breeds and disciplines in the United States. This year the Arabian breed received great recognition. Afires Heir owned by Shirley and Bill Reilich, with trainer

Joel Kiesner, was nominated one of the top 5 horses in the U.S. for USEF Horse of the Year. There are many horses that apply for this award, so to be in the top 5 is a huge honor. The presentation of this great horse on the giant screen in a room of hundreds of people was just spectacular and cheers went up at the close. Be sure to see the story behind this great horse as he appears on the cover of the Modern Arabian Horse Magazine. Speaking of our magazine, it was selected to receive a Media Award as the outstanding breed publication. I believe that is the 3<sup>rd</sup> time we have won. The USEF Breeder of the Year went to Roxann Hart of Rohara Arabians. She was there to receive that beautiful trophy. There are hundreds of breeders of various breeds of horses that belong to the USEF so this is truly an honor to be selected. The Norman K. Dunn Memorial Trophy for the Halter Trainer Award this year went to Michael Byatt. Martha Murdock made several trips to the stage, as did owner Jim Hay for championship awards in performance and halter. One of the highlights of the evening was our own Kelsey Kimbler. Kelsey is the AHA Youth of the Year and she came to accept her honor of being selected as the USEF Youth of the Year. Her acceptance speech wowed the audience and we were so proud to have Kelsey in the spotlight. The entire Kimbler family made the trip to Lexington from South Dakota. Kelsey received her silver tray from none other than David O'Connor, Olympic Gold Medal winner and President of the USEF. In addition to the meetings going on, the USEF held a seminar for competition management. Many of the top show managers in the industry were there to make presentations and answer questions. I spoke to several people who attended and they had nothing to say but how much they learned. One lady told me anyone who is a show manager should have attended this seminar.

February 11 and 12 was the 1<sup>st</sup> AHA board meeting in the new year. We all met in Aurora at the close of a bad snowstorm. We had great weather while we were there and that made for easy travel to and from Denver. Early in the first day we had the approval of the Arabian Breeders and Halter Alliance. This is a new club in Region 10. The Ambassador Award was selected at the 2010 Convention. It was approved at this meeting by the Awards Committee. The winner is KHIST BY THE WIND. There are now specific criteria for the Distance Horse of the Year Award. The AHA AWD 105 has been amended at this board meeting. For information with regards to the changes, contact the Award Sub Committee. The selection for this award will be made at the annual convention.

The Sweepstakes Commission has a new program. This means a considerable addition of classes to the Regional/National Shows. This was designed to encourage breeding and to gain additional payback to the exhibitors was the reason for this program. It is effective immediately. The AHA website will reflect the particulars. Be sure to check this out so you can nominate the mares that you bred in 2010. The deadline to do this is by 3/31/2011. The fee is \$400. To nominate a stallion is \$1,000. This is a discount from \$1,500, to those that were breeding entries. If your stallion was not a breeding entry, those fees were also dropped from \$3,500 to \$2,000. If you wish to nominate a Non-Arabian sire it has been lowered to \$2,500. If you have a horse that is 5 years old and under, the fee is \$10,000, 6 years or older it is \$5,000. Be aware! This has a time limit on it until June 1, 2011. We now have 40-plus

classes for new divisions for halter and a few performance classes at the national level. These additions are for 2011 at the U.S. Nationals, Canadian Nationals and Sport Horse Nationals. Halter championships for yearlings, 2-year-olds, 3-year-olds, with championships and reserves from each of the age groups 4- and 5-year-olds, 6- and 7-year-olds, 8 and over. PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE **NO** QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE YEARLING AND 2-YEAR-OLDS. In addition to all of the above, there are other new classes for Sport Horse, English Pleasure and Reining. Check the AHA website, if you are still confused (I can see why). Here is the person at AHA who would be able to assist you: AHA National Events Director Leslie Lockhard, (303) 696-4521.

Important business for this meeting was the budget. Remember, this budget begins on April 1, 2011. This budget proved to be one that needed hours and hours of work from the Budget and Finance Committee, working with Glenn Petty, along with our Treasurer Dave Corning and our Controller Brad Short. The presentation of the budget gave a comprehensive view of where we stand financially. Brad and Dave were able to give answers to the questions that rose from the board members. With the figures being presented in a clear way tracking this budget can be done with ease and with some luck we should have a balanced budget at the end of the next fiscal year. We commend the staff for their efforts to cut costs so that we could maintain, as costs escalate and membership, shows, horses and registrations decline. It was noted that AHA continues to meet its obligation to pay back the Sweepstakes program on a monthly basis. We are seeing light at the end of the tunnel with this debt.

The HRS date of January 24 given to us at the convention for implementation was missed. STILL NOT READY! The IT Audit Committee was in to work with the problems. Many of us on the BOD feel frustrated, to say the least, for this costly situation. We continue to struggle with now another date for implementation. When will it end?? No one seems to know! The question has been asked, "What will we have when it is completed?" A late report since the BOD meeting is that we are working off two separate versions of Oracle. Eric Rueter, who is a member of the IT Audit Committee, just recently did an evaluation of the HRS and its interaction with Oracle. March 15 has been selected for a conversion period. If this does take place some work will be suspended that was previously done on the IBM. We await completion!!

I heard great news from Scottsdale. Over 2,300 horses were on the grounds and the crowds were up. Vendors were happy and despite the few bad days of rain and cold the show was its usual success. What would we do without Scottsdale?? It continues to hold its prestige and fascination for the Arabian horses, owners, breeders, exhibitors and spectators. As our Region will soon be starting with activities following a long, hard winter for most, may I wish all of you success in your endeavors with your Arabians, Half-Arabians, and Anglo-Arabians. Regardless of your pleasure, foaling, breeding, riding the trails, distance riding, or heading to the shows, may you find joy and peace in the time you spend with your horses. Hope to see you on the trails or at the shows.

## **Region 6 Caucus meeting**

**Nov. 18, 2010, Orlando, Fla.**

The meeting was called to order at 10:20 pm after our group shared a wonderful tour of the Disney Stables followed by a fantastic buffet dinner at the Trail's End Restaurant, all provided by our super special Regional Director, Cecile Hetzel-Dunn. In addition to Cecile, others present were delegates Marjorie Pope, Carlton Huitt, Dannielle Schmidt, Kymry Schmidt, Joan Roseboom, Cheri Clark, Claude Clark, Julie Koch. Jim Carr and Lonnie Arp, plus alternates or guests Dorothe Fisher, Steve Hugus, Cindy Krause, Myron Krause, and Linda Harrison.

Cecile mentioned that she was approached by AHA prior to November for a regional donation toward convention 2010 expenses, since the convention was a non-hosted event. Due to the request, she made the decision to donate \$100 from Region 6. She found out later not all regions made a contribution. She stated that at a previous AHA board meeting, she had made a motion that if a convention has no host, it will be held in Denver to avoid additional costs being heaped on AHA and regions. Discussion from our group ensued mostly negative feedback from this year's convention site primarily due to the expenses attendees have encountered above & beyond the normal travel & hotel expenses.

Cecile gave us more information about the 3 guests from USEF who assisted her in arranging travel from our hotel to the Disney Stables, on to the restaurant and back to the hotel. She said the blonde Lori Rawls is Executive Director, the brunette, Lori Nelson, oversees all national discipline, and Chuck Walker is the Director of Continuing Education, Judges programs for Equine Science and oversees equine clinics in the US. She mentioned that John Long, CEO and head of FEI issues, was not here. We all had an opportunity earlier to visit with these delightful individuals. John Long did attend the last General Session.

Joan Roseboom from MAHA club was introduced, as this was her first convention. She is the new Youth Director from MAHA, since Kymry, formerly in that position is now President of MAHA. Some discussion followed about the exceptional quality of the stallions at the 2010 US Nationals that were made available for the Youth Judging teams to judge. Mention was made about the wonderful presentation of the Gift from the Desert exhibit at the Arabian Galleries at the Kentucky Horse Park. Several of our group had attended the recent WEG games there in Sept-Oct and were more than happy to share their experiences.. A book about the Gift from the Desert can be ordered from the Kentucky Horse Park Gift Shop. This book contains information on the history of the Arabian Horse.

Sue Haden of WAHA, the new Regional Treasurer, was not in attendance but Cecile had the most recent treasurer's report. The current business account balance is \$41,362.79, plus there is \$1,540.72 in a CD. The show account has \$16,028.60 and the general account has

\$23,826.70. Cheri reminded everyone that in year's past at convention all expenses were paid, money has been taken out of the account to bring the general account up to \$15,000, not that \$15,000 was added to the general account. Discussion occurred & apparently that was what had transpired.

### **Reports from clubs as follows:**

**Minn-I-kota:** No delegates attending, they plan to continue their Community Show, which has been a moneymaker. Have tabled the idea about transferring club to Region 10.

**MAHA:** Held their Open Show with Arabian classes Memorial Day weekend. It was a Region 6 & Region 8 show combined. The total number of horses was about 70, only a few extras, after making it a double qualifier. It apparently was in conflict with a Region 6 & Region 8 show held in Denver the same weekend. Unfortunately the treasury lost money due to less that hoped for entries. Probably will try another double qualifier in 2011, though maybe as a 1 Day horse show with fewer fees. Schooling shows usually get over 100 horses, MAHA hosted Open shows get less. Why? Not sure, think possibly because public thinks "Arabian" show.

**AHAN:** New club to Region 6. Warmly welcomed Jim Carr, Vice President, and Julie Koch, Secretary. This club does a mid-May show every year. This year they did a Region 6 & Region 8 qualifier and entries were up from 126 to 166 and profit was \$6,000. An August double judged show was held as well. A County Fair show was done by a county group. A Fun Show was put on hold for 2010 but is planned for 2011. Their Class A shows are held in Lincoln, NE. There are four arenas there that can be used and stabling is available for up to 1,200 horses. A brief mention was made about some comments made on Ablackhorse.com website chat room that were negative toward AHAN.

**NDAHA:** Their 2010 Class A show was cancelled due to finances. They are not planning to have a Class A show in 2011. Perhaps they will put on a 1 Day show or a Community Show.

**SDAHA:** No delegates attending. No report

**SMAHA:** They held a small open show in September with Arabian classes. For 2011 they plan to hold 2 shows, maybe Community or maybe 1 Day. The club sponsors the Region 6 Endurance Ride.

**Tri-Arabian:** No delegates attending. Claude reported though that they plan to hold an Endurance Ride in the Spring of 2011. It is scheduled to be a 3-day, 50 mile/day ride to be held on Liz Daniel's ranch. It may be a Region 6 combined ride.

**Trail Crew:** This group put on the Ft. Robinson ride in Sept. and it took all their time and effort, so there was less time available for recreational rides. They may do a CTR ride in Spring of 2011. They will have a Region 6 recreational ride. Also they will host an ARC (not AHA) ride in the Black Hills during the same time as the Region 6 show.

**WAHA:** Their Judging Team aged out of the group, so no newcomers at present. They scheduled no meetings in the Summer but held a Barn party in September & expected about 10 horses and had 30 showed up! Their annual banquet was last week. They had about 40 in attendance. No new members.

## **2010 Show Report:**

The Ft Robinson Ride made \$1,237.66. The 2010 clinician at Ft. Robinson was Lou Roper. He was well received by participants. The scheduled clinician for 2011 is Bruce Bates. Members who are familiar with him encourage participation. The price to go on the 2011 ride is \$460, which includes room, food, and good stabling for the horses. Rides go out from the barracks for about 6 hours each day, though some people don't/can't ride that much. There are other activities to do on the ground of Ft. Robinson or close by, such as swimming, golf, etc..

The 2010 Regional Show made \$24,600.97. Cheri had printouts available.

## **Youth Report**

Youth of the Year for 2010 is Kelsey Kimbler from South Dakota. She is the second in her family to achieve this honor. Youth AHA membership has decreased in numbers over the past 10 years, going from over 5,000 in 2000 down to 3,000 in 2010. This is a trend seen in many organizations, but we need to encourage youth Arabian owners or exhibitors to join AHYA.

The Regional manual is available for clubs to take with them.

AHA has 3 flags they fly in Denver at the home office: the United States flag, the Canadian flag and the AHA flag. Some regions have donated towards the cost of the AHA flag (suggested donation \$200). Our group discussed whether we should donate as well. Final outcome of discussion was "no".

At the 2009 Convention, when pledges were being made for the Patrick Swayze Scholarship Fund, Deb McGuire pledged \$1,000 from Region 6. No one had authorized her to speak for the region, though some thought she had said she & her husband, Keith would donate \$500 of the \$1,000. No one seems to know what her intentions were, but when AHA contacted Cecile to collect the pledged amount, she felt obligated to honor the pledge and authorized \$1,000 to be sent from Region 6. After discussion, she agreed to contact Deb to about the pledge to see what, if anything, she intended to do about her pledge.

Discussion occurred with Canada's desire to again hold the Region 6 Sport Horse Championship show. Lonnie made a motion to authorize the Canadian club to hold the Sport Horse Show in 2011. Cheri seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Region 6's Domestic Non-profit status is up for renewal. Members agreed the \$20 annual renewal should be paid. Cecile will notify the treasurer of such.

Marjorie made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Steve seconded. Motion passed.  
Meeting adjourned near midnight  
Respectfully submitted, Linda Harrison

# Region 6 Show Commission Meeting

Nov. 19, 2010, Orlando, Fla.

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m. by show manager Cheri Clark. Also in attendance were Cecile Hetzel-Dunn, Danielle Schmidt, Kymry Schmidt, Joan Roseboom, Lonnie Arp, Jim Carr, Steve Hugus, Claude Clark and Linda Harrison.

Jim Carr talked a bit about the Fort Robinson ride, some discussion continued about volunteer support. Also discussion ensued about the working western portion of our regional show. Jim volunteered AHAN as a possible host for the WW regional classes to be held in conjunction with but separate from their Class A show in May 2011. Concern was mentioned about a possible conflict with Region 4 WW classes. Cecile will talk with Elise/Don Ulmer about this. Region 6 needs to keep the WW classes in our region and not lose exhibitors to other regions.

It is possible we may need to hire a different show secretary due to health of current secretary Deb Raszler. Jim mentioned AHAN's DeAnne Allen might be willing to take over.

Cheri asked what we thought about having a double-judged pre-show. After discussion, Lonnie made a motion to do so. Jim seconded. Decision was made to have a large R and a small r judge. Motion passed unanimously.

Previously, the trophies and ribbons have had a budget of \$5,000. For 2011, this amount may need to be raised due to the necessity of ordering a complete range of ribbons (having about used up our leftover odds and ends of ribbons). Cheri feels our cost for ribbons will probably double. Discussion finally settled on a figure of \$6,500 for trophies and ribbons.

Discussion was held about the need to reduce the number of hours Dorothe Fisher will be allowed to work center ring, as long hours are wearing on her. Joan was approached about "shadowing" Dorothe to offer some needed breaks in the grueling schedule. She agreed. Discussion followed about the jobs for Matt Amsden (Central States) to do. Consensus was for him to do less tractor work and possibly be ringmaster and do cattle work.

The sound system was not satisfactory during the Region 6 show, mostly due to the QH show going on at the same time and announcements crossing over into our locations. There was sound distortion and not enough power. We need more power and better quality speakers. Cheri will be in touch with the facility personnel about this.

Everyone with official duties will get a printed contract this year so they will know exactly what their duties will be. The contracts need to be returned in a timely manner, so there are no last-minute surprises.

Cheri wants to send "Holiday" thank-yous to 2010 exhibitors with info on dates and judges for the 2011 show. She will talk with Dorothe, who has a list of such information and Kymry agreed to design the postcards. So far, the only judge under contract is Judy Kibler for the regional show. Others have been contacted, but no responses yet.

Cheri wants to send out an AHA eBlast about Region 6's 2011 schedule. The group agreed that was an excellent idea.

Discussion occurred about the youth of our region and the small amount of participation at shows within our region. It was decided that a set amount (to be determined) should be made available to a youth in each club toward expenses at a show in Region 6. This discussion led to more conversation about the grant monies our region has made available for several years to clubs and/or individuals who promote Arabians through shows, open houses, fairs, etc. Lonnie stated NDAHA got their funds. Claude stated Trail Crew had applied but hadn't gotten theirs for the Region 6 trail ride. They also need \$200 for the 2011 Fort Robinson ride for the regional fee for director. This is for the regional show account for application for show dates for 2011. Minn-I-Kota did an ACS show and got their grant of \$250. Danielle made a motion to establish an account set aside for the grant program for use by application and approval of the region for booths at horse fairs, assistance with 1-day or ACS show expenses, or Class A shows. Kymry seconded. Motion passed. Discussion of the dollar amount for such grants occurred. Decision was made to look to past use in similar situations and to compare that information and final amount will be decided later.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Harrison

<b>AHAN BY THE NUMBERS</b>	<b>Feb. 28, 2010</b>	<b>Feb. 28, 2011</b>
Memberships (all types)	31,073	28,603
Memberships (competition only)	15,721	14,791
Memberships (youth only)	3,326	3,012
Registrations (purebreds)	827	750
Registrations (Half-Arabians)	352	128

As you can see, we continue to decline. The only statistic that showed an increase was life memberships, 764, compared with 740 as of Feb. 28, 2010.