

Regional Directors Report Fall 2008

Wow, we have had quite a year!
We have a very vast Region and a very diverse membership.

1. In January it was brought to my attention that we were in desperate need for Show Secretaries and with the help of Marion Enders we were quickly able to put together a clinic, and start to develop a list of Potential Secretaries for the clubs, we had 13 attend, I am hoping to be able to have this ongoing, for our Region.
2. In March I attended the Equine Canada Convention and assisted in presenting the Stewarts and Judges Seminar. At this time we presented a short intro on Sport Horses, to the Hunter and Jumper Judges and started to compile a list of judges that would be interested in adjudicating our Sport Horse division.
3. At our Regional Spring meeting we re-established the budget procedure, so we are in a better position to go forward and know what funds we have to work with for Breed Promotion, Youth activities, Educational activities, and how much we need to keep for a rainy day, or Disaster fund. To this end we established a Budget Review Committee, which includes Phil Jacka, the Vice Director, Karen Caughell the Treasurer, Barry Padgham from the Show Commission and Lorne Robertson. Lorne has been very helpful in helping establish this committee and assisting with the budget.
4. With the assistance of Karen Caughell the Regional Directories were a great success. They were distributed to all the members, to Scottsdale, the 4 National shows, AHA Convention and the BOD. Some were also available at the shows and Spruce Meadows and other Equine Events.
5. Our Youth Director Jessica Passey, did a good job this year to help promote the Youth. She attended the Youth Convention and competed successfully at Youth Nationals. Anyone interested in any youth programs can contact Jessica. Donna Kavanagh runs our Youth Scholarships; the Region gives \$1500 in scholarships each year. Anyone that may be interested in this can check the website or contact Donna. Philippa Keegan also took a Youth Judging team to Scottsdale and to US Nationals. She has been instrumental in developing Youth judging teams. Our teams have placed very well at both events. If anyone may be interested they can contact Philippa . Kimberly Toye has been instrumental in working with our Regional Youth Teams. Our Region 17 teams have been in the top placings for many years. Congratulations and great work Kimberly!
6. Battle of the Breeds, was again held at Spruce Meadows, in Sept. Our team finished 8th. Sheena and Mike Steinhart have for several years run the booth, if anyone would like to help out or try for a team please let one of them know. They are always looking for Demo or display horses and additional horses for the teams. Great job Mike and Sheena!! I was able to get a meeting with the Prowse family, Susan Fife and the AHA promotional

dept at Sport Horse Nationals and, they are interested in giving us some promotional coverage and possibly assisting in getting team horses.

7. We established the Regional High points 2 years ago and they are gaining popularity each year. With the sponsorships we have received from Rae-Dawn Arabians, Millarcom, Redco Co. and McLean and Shaw Insurance, we have been able to present Jackets to Champions and Reserve Champions and Vests to the top 5. For info on the rules, please check the website or contact Karen Caughell. They must be in to Karen by Dec 31, 2008

8. CALDRA, the Canadian Long Distance Riding Association, contacted me to help get them approved by AHA. I was able to get it approved at the August BOD Meeting so now their rides can be approved. Nan Harrison is on our Endurance commission if anyone has any questions. In 2007 Endurance horses won the greatest Sweepstakes purses. The Sweepstakes commission has now changed the wording so that you are only paid for each Arabian or Half-Arabian horse you beat. AHA has now established a Endurance and Competitive Trail Riding Commission which will work along with the other Commissions in AHA, and be regulated by NEOPS (National Events Operation, Procedures).

9. Sheena Steinhart has become the head of our Investment Committee. It has become obvious that we required knowledgeable advice regarding our investments to gain the maximum return.

10. Amanda Ubell headed up the Stallion Auction this year, bringing in over 17,000 to be split between the Youth and Breed promotion. Great job Amanda! Amanda is now heading the committee to build the Stallion auction into a new Futurity Program.

11. Our Regional Show was held in Red Deer again this year and although we were down a bit in numbers, the show was a success. Dianne Pretty is the show chair and along with the Commission, Kimberly Toye, Marcia Friesen, Bob Sproule, Debbie Storey, and Barry Padgham, worked endlessly to make the show a great success. The 2009 Show will be at Thunderbird Show Park, Langley BC, from July 28 to August 2. **Pomeroy Arabians and Rae-Dawn Arabians have become our Show sponsors for the next 5 years and we truly appreciate their support!**

At our fall meeting we established a new Show Commission Policy Manual. We established a Show Commission several years ago; this will assist them in doing their job, and in decision making, it sets job descriptions, and assists anyone working at the show.

12. We also established a new Judges Selection Committee to assist the SC in doing their job. This committee is made up of Marcia Friesen from the Show Commission and Nicki Muller and Darlene Brower.

13. Thanks to Phil, Gerald, Lorne & Rob, for helping me get the bylaws ratified and filed. It was brought to my attention that this had not been done since 1989. They can be found on the website.

14. The Canadian Registry held the Western Canadian Breeders in conjunction with the Saskatchewan July Arabian Show. Murray Poppelwell and Marcia Friesen made this a great success. They were able to attain a Sponsorship from Masterfeed for a new Breeders Perpetual Champion Trophy. There were about 120 horses that competed.

15. Wendy Don is now running our Website and keeping it up to date so we can keep current on activities. In 2008 the Regional Prize list, and other information was e-mailed out which saved a considerable amount in postage.

16. Phil Jacka is working on a new brochure for our Region that will be available to clubs at the spring meeting. This will include club contacts, Promotion areas, activities that we promote, and contacts.

17. In 2008 I wanted the delegates to share more time with each other, not just in a working session so I have tried to find sponsors for the Regional meetings. Murray and Shirley Poppelwell of Rae-Dawn Arabians sponsored our Spring Meeting in Saskatoon and Carrie and Bob Pomeroy of Pomeroy Arabians sponsored the Fall meeting. They provided a dinner and entertainment for the delegates, on the Saturday after the meeting. This has now given the delegates an additional opportunity to visit with each other and share ideas. Every member is welcome to attend the meetings.

18. In March 2008 the SPCA seized 100 Arabian Horses from a breeder in the Edmonton area. Susan Fife along with other volunteers including the Prowse family stepped forward to care for these horses and re-home them. Susan has since informed me that all 100 have been adopted and that now she is continuing to assist the SPCA in protecting and re-homing other horses. Great job Susan!

19. A committee of the delegates that attended Convention in 2008 was set up , to look into the feasibility of hosting the AHA convention in Vancouver for 2011. The last time it was in Vancouver was 1989. Tourism Vancouver has contacted me in regards to this. We will present our findings at the Spring meeting. Keep tuned.

20. **Remember that EC members are eligible for 30% discounts at Office Depot and 23% off at John Deere and cash back from Dodge and Sherwin Williams.** Also check the AHA website for additional discounts for members.

As you can see it takes a tremendous amount of volunteers to run this Region and without their help we would not be able to run as many programs and shows. We have a wonderful group of **very hard** workers that devote numerous amounts of time, energy and money, so we can all enjoy, support, compete and promote our Arabian Horses. Anyone that would like to help, be on a committee, or attend any of our meetings you are always welcome!! The next meeting is March 21, 2009 in Victoria BC. Please check the website.

www.region17.com

Terry Johnson

Region 17 Director