



President's Message

Dear Membership,

It is December 31st and I am writing the "President's Message". How did this happen? I remember going to a Board meeting and the next thing I knew I was "running" for President (Claire Hanssen isn't a successful salesperson for nothing!) of the Santa Ynez Arabian Horse Association.

So here I am trying to figure out what to say to my fellow members. First of all, I'd like to wish you all a very happy 2008 and that all your goals and resolutions come to fruition. My own personal goals are to get back to riding competitive trail rides and endurance rides. I've been bogged down with family health issues and haven't been able to do what I really love to do for the last three years...here's hoping 2008 is the year to ride, really ride!

In case some of you don't know who I am...I've been a member of SYVAHA since 1994 when my dear friend, Helen Logan, told me I had to join ;) I bought my first purebred Arabian, Harca, from Helen & Henry Logan that same year and I've never looked back...I finished Tevis (1 day 100 miles) the next year and three more times after that and was lucky enough to win several NATRC National championships with Harca as well. The best trail horses I've ever known are Arabians and I believe in them whole heartedly. They are amazing athletes.

Our club has some big goals this year. We'd like to host another show...we have a great venue at the Equestrian Center and it makes sense to promote our wonderful Arabian horses right here in the Valley. We will again host the AHA Region 2 Championship CTR ride in conjunction with NATRC as well as our Sage Hill NATRC Competitive Trail ride in November. We are a very active club and there are many ways you can participate...even if it's just sending in newsletter blurbs or telling us how your horse(s) did at the last horse show...let us know!

If you have an idea for an event or club activity please contact me, or another Board member. We would really like to increase activities, but in the past few years participation has been down at club events. That doesn't mean we aren't open to ideas so let us know what you'd like to see!

I'd like to thank my fellow board members for their hard work and dedication to the Arabian horse. I hope to see you all at the next meeting (see newsletter for details).

Sylvia Beverly
& The Arab Herd (Jazz, Chance, Rio, and Om El Jivarro)
President, SYVAHA 2008

Welcome to our 2008 Board of Directors

President.....Sylvia Beverly
1st V.P.Jay Constanti
2nd V.P.Nancy Eklund
Past President.....Claire Hanssen
Secretary.....Janina Merz
Treasurer.....Kelly Elm
Director.....Bill Porcher
Director.....Alexa Morgan
North County Director....Kathy Stegman
Delegate.....Kelly Elm
Membership.....Alison Crutchfield

Tell Us Your News

Share Your Farm or Arabian Horse News
in the upcoming SYVAHA Newsletter.

Club Members may e-mail information that they
would like to have included in the newsletter to:

dbeverly4@aol.com

(Be thorough, but be brief, please!!)

Join us for Sunday Brunch!

Your Board of Directors for 2008
would like to invite you to join us
for Sunday Brunch at the Marriott
on McMurray Road in Buellton.

The brunch date is set for
Sunday, January 21st
starting at 10:30 a.m.
in the Del Mar Room.

We hope you'll be able to attend
and enjoy good food, good friends
and, of course, lots of talk about
our wonderful Arabian horses!

Please RSVP by calling
Sylvia Beverly at (805) 688-2000
or e-mail dbeverly4@aol.com

See you there!

**The SYVAHA would like to
give a very, very big**

Thank You
To Ron & Mila Hart

Thank you to Ron and Mila Hart of Wind
Horse Farm for opening their lovely home and
offering a warm and wonderful place to share
Christmas Cheer for the club members. We
had a fabulous evening with incredible food,
fun and camaraderie. Martha Stewart pales in
comparison to Mila Hart in the kitchen! Ron
Hart had good cheer and hospitality for all
and the evening was a success. Again thanks
for sharing your home with the Santa Ynez
Valley Arabian Horse Association members.

2007 AHA Convention

As many of you know, the annual AHA convention was held this year in Tulsa, Oklahoma, the home of our 2008 US National Horse Show. The people and businesses were extremely friendly and treated us wonderfully. They are very excited about the Arabians coming to town.

AHA gave the delegates a tour of the Tulsa fairgrounds and the Expo Square people put on a wonderful party for all of the delegates. The fairgrounds are very clean, and they are remodeling several areas to fit the needs of our National show. They are planning on running three arenas, which should help with scheduling conflicts. The main arena is in a beautiful building, but the arena is smaller (even after the expansion they are working on now) than the main show arenas in Albuquerque and Louisville. We were told they will only be running finals in this arena so that there will not be more than 16 horses in the arena at a time. There is also less seating in this arena, so the good news is the stands will be full for a change!

Out of a possible 559 delegates, 401 attended the convention and were present on the voting floor including your SYVAHA delegates Janina Merz, and myself, Kelly Elm. I've included the results of some of the more interesting resolutions below:

Resolutions (partial list)

9-07: Work-Offs in shows with Multiple Judges - Approved.

Work- off will now be allowed at Regionals & Nationals. Effective January 1, 2008

10-07: Line up in Performance Classes - Approved.

When the judge calls for the line up exhibitors must continue in the same direction the class is working when bringing their entries to the line up. Judge's MUST penalize entries that do not comply (this is only for most English type classes). Effective when approved by USEF/EC.

15-07: Up to Two Concurrent Competition at one Show - Approved.

Up to 2 classes with identical AHA class codes may be adjudicated concurrently in a single arena utilizing 2 judges with placings for each judge during an AHA/USEF Recognized Competition.

17-07: Arabian Scoring System to be Optional - Disapproved.

There was a lot of debate on this resolution. The vote was, Yes-84, No-179. The scoring system that was approved at last years convention will go into effect in 2008.

31-07: Return to the Majority Opinion System (MOS) for Regional and National Shows - Approved.

Effective January 1, 2008. We are changing our scoring system again.

For the complete results of the resolutions, please visit the AHA web site www.arabianhorses.org

Reminder

Don't Forget to Renew your
AHA/SYVAHA Membership
To Renew for 2008
or for a new membership
application, go online to:

www.syvaha.com

(Click on "Join SYVAHA")

OR

www.arabianhorses.org

(Click on "Join or Renew")

LOCAL NEWS

- Welcome Western Trainer "Greg Harris" to the Santa Ynez Valley. Greg Harris will be the trainer at the renowned Wolf Springs Ranch, owned by Tom and Carmen Redmond and now located in the Santa Ynez Valley.
- Welcome to all disciplines trainer "Kit Hall" who is also calling the Santa Ynez Valley home to his full bore training operation working out of Crimson Farms in Buellton. Kit trains all Western and English disciplines.
- Welcome to the Redmond family, Greg Harris and Kit Hall. We look forward to having you as members of our club and to good times ahead for our local horse industry.
- Congratulations to David Hunsicker and Nancy Eklund on their recent engagement!!



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