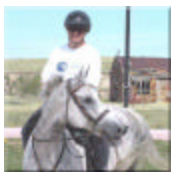




MAHA Express

December 2010



2010 MAHA Awards Banquet & Ray LaCroix Clinic at Cedar Ridge Arabians

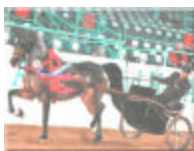
This year's MAHA Awards Banquet is a luncheon and clinic with nationally renowned clinician Ray LaCroix, hosted at Cedar Ridge Arabians in Jordan, Minnesota, from 10-4, on Saturday, January 22. Admission, including lunch, is free to MAHA members.

<http://www.mnarabhorse.com/about/meeting.html>

To reserve a horse/rider spot for the clinic, please contact Hillary Hoffman via email at hillary@shusterpurchasing.com or on Facebook.com/hillarymhoffman

The winners of the 2010 MAHA High Point Program will be announced at this MAHA event.

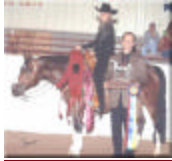
If you have questions about the High Point program please contact Teresa LeFever at lefevertc@aol.com.



Vote in the 2010 MAHA Board of Directors & Officer Election

As of December 1st all voting members of MAHA are eligible to participate in the 2010 election. Election ballots and candidate information were mailed via US Mail on the first of December. MAHA encourages all members to read through the candidate information and then vote for the candidates you feel can best contribute to MAHA's efforts to make the best Arabian club possible.

If you have lost your candidate information you can find it on the MAHA website <http://www.mnarabhorse.com/>. Every year only a few votes separate those that are elected and those that aren't. Please take the few minutes to cast your ballot to make sure your favorite candidates are elected! The ballot's envelope must be postmarked no later than Monday, December 20, 2010.



The Passing of Mary Anne Grimmell



MAHA, Region 10, AHA and the entire Arabian Horse community have lost one of the most influential leaders. The following heartfelt reflections are from Laura Mickelson.

"We have lost a great and gracious lady with the passing of Mary Anne Grimmell. Mary Anne's accomplishments as a breeder, judge, steward, and president of IAHA are too numerous to mention but in all things Mary Anne was an uncompromising champion of the Arabian horse and was willing to stand up to anyone. Mary Anne was the Minnesota version of a steel magnolia--perhaps a frozen magnolia--always a lady with a core of solid integrity.

"I was honored to call her a friend and mentor. Mary Anne will be greatly missed."

The Equine Journal wrote an extensive article on Mary Anne Grimmell's amazing life.

<http://www.equinejournal.com/articles/in-loving-memory-mary-anne-grimmell>



2010 AHA Convention Report

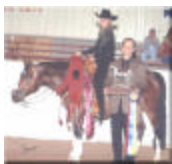
2010 AHA Convention Report
Orlando, FL November 17-20
By Laura Mickelson

This convention, my 29th, centered less on financial issues and more on moving forward. AHA's financial status is reasonably good, on budget, and should improve with the deployment of the new computer system. Most of the money that we owe is to ourselves. All payments back to the sweepstakes and other programs are being made on time and in full. In fact, although fiscal 2010 was projected to be a break-even year, there was a profit of \$150,000.

I encourage all members to view AHA president, Lance Walters, State of the Association speech which can be found at http://www.arabianhorses.org/membership/convention/2010/convention_presidentpres.asp

To read Laura's full convention report please click here:

<http://www.mnarahorse.com/2010REPORTS/AHACONVENTIONREPORT.pdf>



MAHA Gives Back – Open Shows Division

MAHA's support of Arabian owners (members or not) who show in open competitions started with a calendar of open show events in 2005, which led to the Arabian Open Show Championships (AOSC) in 2006. This show, unique to Minnesota, has become a much anticipated event with the quality of the competition increasing every year. An AOSC win is earned and coveted. In 2010, representatives from the M-I club and MAHA created the Arabians Unplugged program, a joint promotional effort, and invited other Minnesota Arabian clubs to join. The response was enthusiastic and shows that MAHA has been on the right track all along. The goal of all of these efforts is to build a community of Arabian owners and exhibitors and MAHA will continue to take a leadership role in these endeavors. Complete report and results are found at: <http://www.mnarahorse.com/2010REPORTS/AOSC2010REPORT.pdf>



Arabians Unplugged

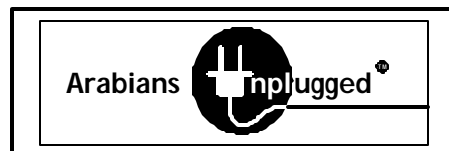
Arabians Unplugged is a group of Arabian clubs dedicated to the promotion of **affordable, fun, family friendly** showing of Arabians, Half Arabians and Anglo Arabians 'unplugged' from the current rated shows scene. Arabians Unplugged qualifying shows allow Arabian exhibitors to show against their true peers and in their own breed with (free) automatic enrollment for the year-end circuit high point.

The first year was very successful with eight shows put on by five clubs:

1. Northern Minnesota Arabian Horse Association
2. Minn-I-Kota Arabian Horse Association
3. M-I Arabian Horse Association
4. Minnesota Half Arabian Association show in Lake Elmo, MN
5. Minnesota Arabian Horse Association

The circuit culminated with the Arabian Open Show Championships in September.

At the High Point banquet on November 6, 2010, an enthusiastic group gathered to take home impressive awards and discuss the future of the Arabians Unplugged program. High Point Results are at this link: <http://www.mnarahorse.com/2010REPORTS/AOSC2010REPORT.pdf>. The awards were sponsored by donations from the clubs.



For a calendar listing all open shows with Arabian classes, go to www.mnarahorse.com Visit Arabians Unplugged and become a fan on our Facebook page. We are working on setting up a webpage. Information about the high point program is already on the various club's websites.

For additional information contact Laura Mickelson at lauramickelson@aol.com or 651-423-5871.



MAHA 2010 Fall Trail Ride Report

By Pat Swenson

What Fun! Picture this: with the fall sun on your face and a breeze ruffles your horse's mane and tail, you gaze across the prairie grasses before you head down the trail to the pond where your horse wades into the water and drinks before going on down the trail. That was a moment in our ride.

What a fun day meeting friends, MAHA members and their horses. As our groups came in from their rides we pulled a couple of picnic tables together to talk and eat the tasty snacks everyone brought. We had some really good snacks to eat...MAHA members know good food!



Crow-Hassan trails are beautiful, following along the Crow River, taking you across the prairie, through stands of oaks and pines. Because it was an outstanding warm October day, the parking lot overflowed, but riders were really spread out on the trails.

Our next ride, in early summer (date to be determined) will be held at Hay Creek State Forest near Red Wing, Minnesota. I am trying to hold the rides around the Cities at different locations that have enough parking. If you have a favorite place where you ride let me know and we can check it out and consider it for a future MAHA Trail Ride.



Laura Mickelson, Our New Region 10 Director

Laura Mickelson is the new Region 10 Director, taking over from fellow MAHA member Van Jacobsen. Laura has been the vice director of Region 10 for a number of years, a Region 10 delegate for MAHA since 1982 as well as serving MAHA in a variety of positions including president, board member, and is the out-going vice-president of MAHA. In addition Laura has chaired USEF and AHA committees.

The Director is the top leadership position in Region 10 and serves on the Board of Directors for AHA. The duties and powers of the Regional Directors are set out in the AHA Handbook at Article 7, section 3, paragraph d. Laura believes that AHA is at a crossroads and needs to make some significant changes and that she has the perspective and experience to take a leadership role. In her non-horse life Laura was particularly good at creating new departments and products as well as hiring and developing professional staff.

In these turbulent times, Laura can count on the support of the delegates and clubs of Region 10. These cooperative and innovative delegates from well-run clubs are able to work for the betterment of all, not just their own specific interests. Region 10 is an innovative region that constantly evaluates what is working and what isn't working and make changes accordingly as well as having a great cross section of interests and expertise to draw on. As a general rule, members should work through their delegates and clubs, but any Region 10 member is welcome to contact Laura directly at lauramickelson@aol.com or 651-423-5871.



MAHA Youth Compete at MHSEA Saddle Seat Team Challenge

By Marcy Eickholt
MHSEA Saddle Seat Discipline Chair

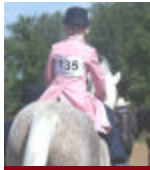
[MHSEA](#) Saddle Seat riders representing Bob Jorgensen Training and St. Croix Training Center gathered at the Octoberfest Horse Show 2010 for a fun-filled weekend of competition and special events.

Mounted on Arabian or Half Arabians Kahlie Kroells, Katie Koosman, Morgan Dezenski, Mary Grace Nelson, and Taylor Meyer represented their high school equestrian clubs. The girls joined riders from other high schools making the 2010 event a record breaker with 14 total participants. Scores from several Saddle Seat Pleasure and Saddle Seat Equitation classes were tallied throughout the weekend. Medals were presented to all riders participating at the team challenge with a special awards reception to follow.



Congratulations to these dedicated youth who promote the Arabian breed and expand their talents by riding other disciplines, organize clinics at their barns, promote equestrian sports and give back through volunteer services.

[MHSEA](http://www.mhsea.org) is a non-profit organization that “promotes equestrian disciplines as a high school team sport with an emphasis on education, citizenship and recognition of equestrian athletes.” For more information about the MN High School Equestrian Association please visit www.mhsea.org



The Business of Horses

This time of year our attention is turned to the holidays. The shopping, the decorating, the parties, the worship, and pure excitement of the season tend to diminish our ability to see the next season – tax season. The IRS doesn't take a holiday break and are most likely preparing for their next audit. It's important for horse owners to be knowledgeable about the industry, the regulations and the risks.

One excellent source of information is the IRS itself. Did you know that you can actually review and read training materials that IRS prepares for their agents? For a starter you can read the [Farmers Audit Technique Guide](#). This guide talks about a wide range of agricultural activities, including horses. One rather eye-opening IRS training guide is called the MSSP, or [Market Segment Specialization Program](#). In this guide IRS agents are educated on the horse industry, from discussing show prizes to the different types of boarding arrangements to discussions on breeding. If you think agents know nothing about the horse industry you might be in for a surprise!

There are national and local equine law experts who willingly share some of their knowledge. John Allan Cohan is published in a number of equine journals (including the last edition of the Express) and has a website full of good information on tax issues related to the horse industry. You can find his website at: www.johnalancohan.com. One particularly interesting article discussed a dentist who had a small Arabian horse breeding operation, producing a couple of foals a year. The woman did much of the work herself but produced minimal profits. The court ruled that the activities were not a profit-making venture. This article and more can be found in Cohan's article section of his website at: <http://www.johnalancohan.com/Horse.htm>

There is a local expert in legal issues relating to the horse industry (as well as general equine issues). Katherine Bloomquist of Bloomquist Law Firm is based in Chaska and is a frequent speaker at equine events. Katherine has an excellent website with some great articles on topics such as estate planning for animals, legal issues surrounding selling a horse, leasing horses, etc. You can find her website at <http://www.bloomquistlaw.com/articles/>



Mark Your Calendars!

December 20, 2010

MAHA Board Ballot Postmark Deadline

January 22, 2011

Ray LaCroix Clinic, MAHA Awards Banquet, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Cedar Ridge Arabians, Jordan, MN

Watch the MAHA website (www.mnarabhorse.com) for details and more information about these MAHA events. The Region 10 website (www.region10arabians.com) also has information on all the shows and events within our region.



Fresh Perspectives

This edition marks my last as editor of the Express, as well as the end of my term on the MAHA Board of Directors. For the past few years I have had the honor to serve the MAHA membership in a variety of capacities. It's been great fun but it's time for the club to get a fresh perspective from new volunteers. I am sure that Janet de Acevedo Macdonald will ably guide the Express in new directions and will keep you informed about all the latest MAHA news. The new Board will certainly keep the club activities and events exciting and relevant to you.

I encourage all of you to consider getting involved with MAHA in some capacity, be it helping at a show, going on a trail ride, writing an article for the Express, or simply casting your ballot in the election! MAHA is a member-driven organization – you just need to help drive it.

See you on the trail, at the show, or in the barn!

Roberta Lembke

MN ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION
MEMBERSHIP FORM



DATE: _____ NEW MEMBER RENEWING MEMBER
AHA# _____ DATE OF BIRTH: _____
NAME: _____
FARM NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____
HOME PHONE: _____ CELL: _____
EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

ADULT MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

_____ \$80.00 - 1 YEAR AHA/Affiliate/WITH a COMPETITION CARD & WITH MAHA Voting
_____ \$45.00 - 1 YEAR AHA/Affiliate/MAHA Voting Membership. NO COMPETITION CARD
_____ \$20.00 – 1 YEAR MAHA Associate - NO Voting/ NO AHA Membership/ NO Competition Card

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES (17 years or under as of December 1st)

_____ \$45.00 – 1 YEAR AHA/Affiliate WITH a COMPETITION CARD & WITH MAHA Voting
_____ \$20.00 - 1 YEAR MAHA Associate WITH voting rights – NO AHA/ NO Competition Card

**All MAHA Memberships include the MAHA EXPRESS Publication and WSCA Membership.

***Online Membership is available at www.arabianhorses.org, designate club # 10063 MN Arabian Horse Association or download a form & visit our website at www.mnarabhorse.com

* For more WSCA information, please contact: LauraMickelson@aol.com or 651-423-5871

* For more MAHA Information, please contact: Lori@ConwayArabians.com or 507-867-2981

MAHA is an organization operated entirely by volunteers. Your help is greatly appreciated in any capacity. We want to know about you and what MAHA can do for you and where you could help us. Please circle what your interests are:

* Trail/Competitive Riding * Local Horse Show Competitions (4-H, WSCA etc) * Class A Shows

* Attending Clinics * Regional &/or National Shows * Horse Expo * Membership

* Horse Show Management &/or Involvement (Ribbons, Announcing, Gate, Barn Manager)

* Promotions &/or Club Publications * Other : _____

* Circle all that apply: Owner * Trainer * Amateur * Parent * Youth * Non-Owner

Do you want to be contacted as a Volunteer? YES or NO

To complete this form via mail: Please make checks payable to MAHA and mail to:

* Shirley Theede * 2341 Itasca Ave. S, Lakeland, MN 55043 * slick332@aol.com * 651-436-7151

THANK YOU FOR JOINING MAHA. THE CLUB THAT "GIVES BACK"!