



MAHA Express Newsletter February 2014



Join Our Mailing List!

President's Letter

February 14, 2014

Happy Winter MAHA Members!

A club is only as good as their membership and MAHA is one of the best! Did you know that MAHA is 60 Years old? We are the second largest club in AHA and the largest club in Region 10! Thank you for joining MAHA and please know that your input, suggestions and support are always welcomed. Our motto is "The Club that Gives Back" to our members and we plan to continue on doing just that for you.

If you were at the Gene LaCroix clinic last month, then you know what a success it was and how informative he was for every level of rider and their interests. Gene LaCroix is a great trainer, clinician and historian and a great time was had by everyone there. I am grateful that Cedar Ridge Arabians and MAHA members Lollie, Dick and Lara Ames graciously allow us to hold our event there every January.

Our next event, the MAHA Spring Fling is coming up fast. I look forward to seeing you there. As always, we are looking for volunteers, sponsors and patrons. It will be a great show with a wonderful judge, Corky Sutton.

I am lucky to have a wonderful board and Annie, Jill, Anita, Toni Marie, Nathan, Teresa, Van, Becky & Pat, thank you for serving year after year. This year, we have a couple "youngsters" that you elected to the board and I am really excited about their fresh ideas and technological talents. Liz Steffes, as our Membership Chair has a big job since our club is growing bigger all the time, and Brook Matthiesen, our Secretary and Newsletter Coordinator has really big shoes to fill. Our other new addition is Laura Shaffer . As the Region 10 volunteer coordinator, Laura is

no stranger to working hard for her club and the betterment of the Arabian breed.

Soon our website will be getting a new look. Tammi Stoffel is heading up this project and I can't wait to see the upgrade that MAHA's website has been needing for several years.

The Facebook page is a great place to stay on top of news and announcements, so don't forget to "friend" us and stay up to date on our news.

Remember, MAHA is open to suggestions and new ideas and we will never turn down an offer of you wanting to volunteer!

Thank you for allowing me to be your President. It is a job I do not take lightly and I am proud to be involved with you and the Arabian breed.

Sincerely,
Lori Conway



ENROLL In The MAHA High Point Awards Program by June 1, 2014

All MAHA members are eligible for the MAHA High Point Awards program. Cash awards are given out at the January clinic based on points accrued through the previous year. To be eligible for the awards program, enroll by June 1st. Complete and submit the entry form on the MAHA website, <http://bit.ly/maha-hpp>. Contact Teresa LeFever, lefevertc@aol.com, for more information.

Plan To Volunteer!

The June 11-15 Region 10 show will be here before you know it. The show has been successful and has experienced continued growth, in part, due to the volunteers who work the show-all of you! Look for emails coming soon for information on how to sign up online to become a volunteer at the show. Questions? Contact Laura Shaffer, lshaffer3@gmail.com.

MAHA Spring Fling Show Announcements

Corky Sutton will be the judge for the MAHA Spring Fling show. In addition three new classes have been added to the schedule: Showmanship at Halter AATS, Hunt Seat Equitation not to Jump AATR, and Western Seat Equitation AATR. Also planned is a Walk Trot Championship class for the little ones.

There will be lots of cash prizes awarded: \$10 for first place, \$5 for second place. And MAHA member jackpot classes with added money up to \$250 for youth classes and \$100 for adult classes. Download the premium book and entry form below or on the MAHA website, www.mnarabhorse.com. Contact Teresa LeFever with questions at lefevertc@aol.com or 612-965-4121.

[Click here to download the 2014 MAHA Spring Fling Premium Book](#)

[Click here to download the 2014 MAHA Spring Fling Entry Form](#)

[Click here for ALL information regarding the 2014 MAHA Spring Fling](#)

MAHA Youth News

Region 10 Youth Vice Director:

Region 10 has an opening to fill the Youth Vice Director position. If you are interested in getting more involved with your local clubs, Region 10 and the Arabian industry this may be something you would like to apply for. Refer to the MAHA website,

www.mnarabhorse.com, for a list of responsibilities, and an application. **Act quick: The deadline to apply is March 1.**

Judging Contest:

Region 10 was the only Region to sponsor a judging contest in 2013. Once again in 2014 Region 10 will sponsor a Judging Contest for 4-H, FFA and AHA Junior Judging Teams. The contest, hosted by the Sahara Sands Club, will be held May 3 in conjunction with its spring show at the State Fairgrounds in St. Paul, MN. The contest will start at 3 p.m. and have two halter and three performance classes with reasons given on one halter and one performance class. Awards and ribbons will be given to top ten individuals and top five teams in Halter, Performance, Reasons and Overall. Come and join the fun. Any team is welcome to participate and expand its judging skills on some beautiful Arabian horses that are competing in the show.

If you are interested in forming or joining a team contact Joan Rose at joan@rosesarabians.com or 608-435-6405.

Regional Youth Team Tournament:

The youth must be members of AHA, the horse must be registered and they must sign up by May 1 of the current year. There can be as many as 6 members on a team. Youth may show more than one animal, but must be on different teams. There are 2 divisions and they are AHA Recognized Event and AHA Non-Recognized Events. The recognized events are any Arabian only events such as shows or rides. The non-recognized events are open show, 4-H shows, etc. The complete rules are in the AHA handbook on the AHA website. There is a \$10 fee per team and you may contact Heidi Elmer, the Regional Youth Team Tournament Secretary, at 4937 W. Walker St., Evansville, WI 53536, 608-290-2641 with any questions and to send in entries. For official registration form and official tally sheets go to AHA website. Great year-end awards from AHA and also Region 10.

Awards for Youth Team Tournament 2013:

With 18 teams participating, Region 10 had the greatest number of teams of all the Regions. There were 11 AHA Recognized Teams and 7 AHA non-recognized teams. The team "SPT Cedar Plus" won the Recognized contest with team members Paige Nolte, Alexa Tiziani, McKella Tiziani, Jenna TeKolste, Mallory Arndt and Emily Pate. The "Shining Stars" team won the AHA Non-Recognized contest with members Katie Treadwell, Emma Domino, Rachel Bohlen, Paige Nolte, Katharine Herrlichk and Felicia Shall.

Awards will be distributed at the Region 10 Championship show on June 14, 2014. Region 10 also gives out awards for the top ten individuals that participate in this program and out of 54 youth that turned in points for the tournament the following will be recognized:

- Champion from the AHA Non-Recognized team of "Shining Stars" Rachel Bohlen
- Reserve Champion from the AHA Non- Recognized team of "Shining Stars" Katie Treadwell
- Top Ten from the AHA Non-Recognized team of "Horse Fun in the Sun" Jocalyn Carpenter
- Top Ten from the AHA Recognized team of "Golden Ridge Superstarts" Eliza Mikunda
- Top Ten from the AHA Recognized team of "Arabians Rule" Molly Schwister
- Top Ten from the AHA Non-Recognized team of "We Love Horses" Mai Ling Ness
- Top Ten from the AHA Recognized team of "Arabians Rule" Amber Wyman
- Top Ten from the AHA Recognized team of " LeFever

Believers" Emeila Farago

- Top Ten from the AHA Recognized team of "Golden Ridge Rock Stars" Mia Gifford
- Top Ten from the AHA Recognized team of "SPT Cedar Plus" Mallory Arndt

Scholarships:

MAHAMembers may be eligible for these scholarships. They include the Region 10 Mary Ann Grimmell scholarship, Wisconsin State Horse Council, Arabian Horse Foundation, Western Saddle Clubs Association and Mark Larscheidt scholarship. The deadline for these scholarships and applications are on the website www.region10arabians.com. Questions contact: Gay Jeanne Bower, PO Box 6, Johnson Creek, WI 53038, 920-699-3690.

Equine Club Formation

Horse clubs and associations are formed for the benefit of the member's common interests, horses! Most clubs are formed as some type of a corporation, without a pure profit motive beyond the support of their group and its events. Some equine clubs support charities such as a foundation. Typically, they have both corporate status in the state of their filing and may be a registered non-profit in their state. In practice, the responsible parties in a club often change every few years. Typically, each President passes on a box of information or binders from one to the next. The club continues to grow and operate, add events and activities, contract for services often for years without anyone verifying any legal compliance. The corporate formation and compliance issues are usually forgotten. Very often clubs fail to maintain their legal entity, and with it, the protections it provides and the legal compliance that it requires. If a club's legal status has expired, the club's officers could potentially be held liable in case of an injury at a show or event. Some clubs own or lease land for the club's use. If property has purchased in the club's name, it cannot be transferred to an individual. Property transferred to corporation stays there; if corporation ends, property must go to another nonprofit. (<http://www.irs.gov/Charities-&-Non-Profits/Charitable-Organizations>)

Having an attorney to monitor your club's legal status is important. This is what I do for several equine clubs. It's fun and I get to mix business with pleasure-the best of all worlds!



Rebecca Bell, Attorney at Law
rb Legal LLC
763-582-1414
www.rblegalmn.com

Regulatory News

Favorable Tax Provisions Expire; Extender Bill Introduced

According to a news report published by American Horse Council, during 2013, horse owners, breeders and businesses enjoyed a number of favorable tax provisions that have now reverted to lower levels or expired. Over sixty tax provisions expired, some applied to all businesses, including the horse industry, and one was specifically applicable to owners of race horses.

While the Tax Extender Act of 2013 has been introduced to extend these various tax provisions, such legislation will not be passed quickly or easily. Opposition has already been expressed by some. In addition, any such extension is affected by the stomach in Congress to deal with broader, fundamental tax reform involving much of the current tax code.

For the last few years, the so-called Section 179 business expense deduction was set at \$500,000. This meant that anyone in the horse business, or any business for that matter, could immediately depreciate up to \$500,000 of the cost of any investment in business assets, including horses. The deduction was reduced dollar-for-dollar once investment in all one's business activities hit \$2 million. It applied to horses and other depreciable property purchased and placed in service in the horse business.

This provision was not extended by Congress and has now reverted to \$25,000 for 2014.

Anyone in a business could also write-off up to 50% of new property purchased and placed in service in 2013, including assets used in the horse business, such as horses and other

equipment. This was known as "bonus depreciation." It was restricted to new assets, which meant that the first use of the horse or other property had to begin with the taxpayer.

This was also not extended and has expired completely for 2014.

Finally, from 2009 through 2013 all race horses could be depreciated over three years, regardless of when they were placed in service. This provision was passed in 2008 through the efforts of Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY). The change, which eliminated the 7-year depreciation period for race horses and made all race horses eligible for three-year depreciation, expired at the end of 2013. Beginning in 2014, the pre-2009 rules will have to be used, meaning owners will have to decide whether to place a race horses in service at the end of its yearling year and depreciate it over 7 years or wait until it is over 2 (24 months and a day after foaling) and depreciate it over three years.

The tax extender bill would extend over 60 expired tax provisions, including:

- * Reinstating the expense deduction at \$500,000;
- * Reinstating bonus depreciation at 50%; and
- * Reinstating the depreciation of race horses at 3 years.

Whether these provisions are extended depends on whether Congress can come to grips with a real tax reform package. If it can, the various expired tax provisions will be dealt with in that package. If it can't, it's more likely that a simple tax extender bill will be passed. But as mentioned earlier, even that will not be done easily or quickly.

In addition to the tax extender bill, a stand-alone bill has been introduced by Congressman Andy Barr (R-KY), the Race Horse Cost Recovery Act (H.R. 2212), which would make permanent the ability to depreciate all race horses over three years regardless of their age when placed in service.

Senate Passes Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act

According to a recent news report published by American Horse Council, the United States Senate passed, the Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act (S. 1171), sponsored by Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS). The bill was passed unanimously without amendment and has been sent to the House of Representatives where it awaits further action.

The Veterinary Medicine Mobility Act amends the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) to clarify that veterinarians are allowed to transport, administer and dispense controlled substances and medications outside of their registered offices and hospitals. It

would ensure equine veterinarians have the ability provide mobile or ambulatory services in the field to the horse community.

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) recently changed its interpretation of provisions within the CSA regarding what veterinarians may carry with them and has stated it now believes it is illegal for veterinarians to transport controlled substances and medications for use outside of their registered locations, such as an animal hospital.

Equine veterinarians often provide mobile services and treat horses at farms, training facilities, horse shows, or racetracks. In many cases it is not possible for owners to bring their horses to a clinic or hospital. For this reason, veterinarians have for years carried any medications they may have needed with them secured in their vehicle. However, their ability to do this and provide care to horses in the field is now in jeopardy.

This legislation would allow vets to continue to treat horses as they always have. The AHC supports this bill and hopes the House will pass the bill quickly.

Arabians Unplugged

The first show of the year for our Arabian Open shows will be April 12 at the AG Star Arena at the State Fairgrounds. This show is hosted by the MAHA and offers classes for everyone. Please contact Jeff Rutz (651-784-3703 or 651-792-5851) for stalls and show info or go to the Arabians Unplugged FB page or Website, www.ArabiansUnplugged.com for more information. Remember there are 6 qualifying shows for the Highpoint and it is free to join in the fun. Arabian judges and most entry fees are around \$5.00.

MAHA hosts the Championship Show in September, complete with Neck garlands! Feel free to contact Anita Grant at anitaagrants@gmail.com or 507-663-1977 for any other information.

[Forward this email](#)



This email was sent to mahaarabs@gmail.com by mahaarabs@gmail.com | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

MAHA | 18080 Cty 2 | Chatfield | MN | 55923