



MAHA Express

November 2011



President's Letter

November 26, 2011

Hello MAHA Members,

I hope you all have a happy and uneventful holiday season.

MAHA is gearing up for another year of great clinics and horse shows that are just around the corner. **The first clinic will be on January 29th (Sunday), all day at Cedar Ridge Arabians. Rob Bick & Carolyn Schroter of RBC Show Horses LLC** will be our clinicians. To read more about this dynamic duo, go to their website at www.rbcshowhorses.com. We are currently taking reservations for horse and rider combinations for the clinic. Western, English, Hunter, or Halter, these two do it all and do it well! **Penny Gute** has already signed up with her Western horse **Pistalorro WLF**, so we have only nine more spots available. Contact me if you are interested in participating. Things are looking great in the education department for our MAHA members. If you know someone that does not belong to our club yet, it is never too late to join us!



The **MAHA Spring Fling is March 23-25, in Winona, MN**, so mark your calendars. A National judge will be hired for this show, so stay tuned to see whom it will be.

The Convention is behind us and you can be proud of your MAHA Delegates. We were well represented with people of varied interests and talents, but a mutual love and respect for the Arabian horse. Each delegate is required to give a report and these will be coming soon. This gives you an opportunity to read first hand their experiences and perspective of the Convention.

A few reminders for our members that show & breed horses: On December 1, 2011 **the new Drug and Medication rules go into effect**. Go to <http://www.usef.org/> for more information. For those lucky people that have foals coming next year, remember your **mare nominations are due by Dec. 31 for Sweepstakes and MN Medallion Stallion**. You do not want to miss out on these programs!

One final message that is a concern for all of us is protecting our horses and barns from fire this time of the year. **Heaters are the number one cause of barn fires** and I just would like to direct you to a great website where you can read up on ways to protect your beautiful animals. For more information, go to: www.humanesociety.org/assets/pdfs/Horse-Barn-Fire-Publication.pdf.

President's Message continues...

I would like to thank everyone that volunteered to make MAHA such a success in 2011. I really do appreciate it. Every year we have an election for our officers and board members and this year we will be doing it electronically. This is less expensive for our club to do it this way vs. mailing ballots, but more importantly, I hope we will get more voting participation. Let me know what you think of doing it this way.

As always, thank you for allowing me to be your President and if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Happy Holidays to you all,

Lori Conway



Upcoming MAHA Year End Awards Banquet & Clinic

Please mark your calendars to attend our Year-End Awards Banquet on Sunday, January 29, 2012, at Cedar Ridge Arabians from **Rob Bick & Carolyn Schroter** of **RBC Show Horses LLC** will be our clinicians. To read more about this dynamic duo, go to their website at <http://www.rbcshowhorses.com/>.



Obituaries: Bob Fischer and Ray Stoklasa

Obituary: Bob Fischer

By Anita Grant

This past Feb. 22, 2011, MAHA lost one of its treasured members. Bob died at home watching TV with his wife Pat, of a heart attack.

In 1957 Bob and his wife Pat became members of the Minnesota Arabian Horse Association. Bob and Pat were dedicated Arabian horse owners and members of MAHA. Bob was tall and slim and always had a huge smile on his face and a laugh that was very infectious. Most of all Bob was known to be a loyal friend and always available to help out in any situation.

Bob served on the Board of Directors for MAHA and was also a delegate to convention during the 1960s.

Bob & Pat purchased their stallion Raskel from Richard Newman in Golden, Colorado in 1960. Bob did all his own training and would go on to show Raskel in Western Pleasure, English Pleasure and Native Costume. They showed Class A to National shows and Tri-State throughout their career. At one of the very early National shows in Springfield, Ill. Bob won 2nd out of 62 entries in an AOTR Western Pleasure. The first place winner went on to win National Champion Western Pleasure Open. This was said to be his most cherished and treasured win!



Bob and Raskal showed in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio and New Mexico. In those days, each state had one show. Unlike today you didn't have a multitude of shows close by to choose from. Bob and Pat estimated they put on 100,000 miles winning over 60 trophies and 600 ribbons.

Bob and Pat also owned Bint Gessakla, a National Top 10-producing mare. Some of her offspring included Gigi Rose, Pistolero, Bint Raskel, Bintigo, Baskette, and Symphonette. They also owned and showed Bint Anita, Febe, Ibn Raskal and Bintigo

Bob and Pat were the Show Chair and Secretary for what was MAHA's largest Horse Show of 750 horses entered. This show would go down as the largest Arabian Show in the country at the time.

Bob believed in mentoring, before the word became popular. He gave of his time to teach any and all who cared to learn about riding, and the care and training of horses of any breed. Bob dedicated much of his time to the young 4H equine enthusiasts of Steele County. For many years Bob assisted my father; Lyle Anderson as Asst. Superintendent of Horses at the Steele County Free Fair (SCFF) and after my father's death, took his office as Superintendent of Horses. In 2009 Bob and Pat were inducted into the SCFF Equine Hall of Fame.

As Mary Ann Grimmel used to say, the 50s and 60s were the golden years of Arabian Horse Showing and they were. Bob was a very important part of those times and I can attest to the fun, camaraderie and family we all felt for one another back then. As I write this I can hear his laughter... The Arabian Community was indeed blessed to have Bob involved on all levels of showing, raising Arabians and helping out with all aspects of a horsing. This world has lost a very special person and one that is held in the highest of esteem by me and others. I am certain that Raskal met him as he came across and they are riding across a beautiful field with MAHA friends and dogs that have gone before him. Happy Trails Bob, not sure when... but we will all ride off into the sunset again!

Survivors include his wife Pat of Hope, Minnesota, and daughter Candee of Rochester, MN.
Pat Fischer can be reached at: 8727 S.W. 37th Avenue, Hope, MN. 56046

Obituary: Ray Stoklasa

By Maxine Gallett

About a year ago the Arabian community lost one of its early breeder's, Ray Stoklasa of Frederic, Wisconsin. Ray was born April 8, 1932 in Clam Falls, Wisconsin, a small town 15 miles from Luck. He passed away on November 14, 2010 from an apparent heart attack.

Ray was a logger by trade and Arabian horseman by love. A real prankster and a laugh that could be heard often, he added a lot of life to any conversation or gathering. He and his wife, Ruby, bought their first Arabian in the late 1950s. Two special horses were acquired from Ray and Gert Nelson of St. Croix Falls; a colt, Alimar, and a full sister, Aliza, who was one of Ray's foundation mares. Marreyn was his other mare.

Alimar became Ray's friend and mount for the next several years. About every Saturday and Sunday the trailer would leave the yard to show at an area Arabian show. The shows mimicked the Arabian Unplugged Horses Shows held now. It was not uncommon to attend over 20 shows per season. He was an excellent and tough-to-beat competitor in Western, Trail, Driving, and Native Costume. All the Native Costumes were made by the wives and were quite the winter project. His most memorable win for Ray was at the 1962 Minnesota State Fair Western Pleasure class with 32 entries the first year Alimar was shown. The State Fair and the MAHA shows were the highlight of the year.

Ray bred his mares to the best in the area, including Gazon, Azke, Gamaaar and Garis. The fourth generation proved to be his best in halter. Ray had four full sisters, all Gamaaar daughters that were almost unbeatable in Class A halter competition and Ray always showed them himself. Ray also bred Top Ten Stallion Gamas, a Gamaaar son, owned by the Ries of New Richmond, Wisconsin when he went Top Ten.



After retiring Alimar, Ray bought an Azraff son, Radraff, that he showed in halter and driving.

Ray and Ruby were members of MAHA for many years. As Ray's herd increased so did the hauling capacity that was needed. In the mid-seventies, he had to build a second 4-horse gooseneck trailer during the winter to accommodate all his halter horses. Now there were two trailers going to every show.

1979 saw the last of Ray in the show ring. His wife, Ruby, had a brain tumor and surgery at the U of M, and Ruby's recovery took a long time. He continued to breed, but never showed again. Alimar died at 30+ years of age. The other horses were sold in time or lived out their life on the farm.

Ray is survived by his wife Ruby of Frederic, Wisconsin, Cathy Stoklasa of Siren, Wisconsin, Donna Nystrom of Cumberland, Wisconsin, Steven Stoklasa of Luck, Wisconsin, plus 6 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren.



2011 MAHA Trail Ride Report

By Pat Swenson



Saturday, October 8, was a beautiful day for our trail ride, even though scattered showers had been predicted. The wooded trails at **Lebanon Hills** wind around the lakes and are colorful this time of year. The crunch of the leaves under the horses' hooves reminded us the seasons are changing and winter is coming. The wind we had the previous calmed to a comfortable breeze on Saturday and it was very welcome as we were warm riding in the 80 degree weather. No complaints, it was great!

This year's MAHA trail rides were held at **Hay Creek State Forest** near Red Wing and **Lebanon Hills County Park** in Eagan. Last year we rode at **Lake Elmo Regional Park** and **Crow Hassen Park** near Rogers. I have been trying to arrange our MAHA rides around the Twin Cities area to encourage riders to get out and ride on the trails for an afternoon.

Is there a trail/park that you would like to ride? If so, let me know! Would you like to me schedule a camping trip to **Forestville State Park** or **Fort Ridgley State Park**? Those that would like to camp can reserve camping spots and riders that would like to participate in the usual afternoon trail ride can come along just for that.

The MN Department of Natural Resources (DNR) issues daily (\$5) and annual horse (\$21) passes for its parks and forests. It can be purchased online. For information on finding a horseback riding trail, the DNR's horse pass and much more, please [click below](#).

http://www.dnr.state.mn.us/horseback_riding/horsepass.html

Regarding trail rides, what do members want to do in with your horses? Short, 2-hour trail rides at local parks? Longer trail rides with overnight camping options in our beautiful state parks? Or some of each? Please email me your preferences and ideas at swens@earthlink.net.



Avoiding a Dispute When an Equine Lease Ends

By Rebecca Bell

Today is the last day of the lease of your horse and it's time for him to come back to your barn. But wait...did you make any arrangements up front on how that was supposed to happen? When the lease started, the lessor made arrangements to pick up the horse and have it delivered to their barn. Now that it's over, do you go get it, do they deliver it back, who pays for the cost of getting the horse back to your barn? What if they don't respond when you try to contact them? Can you just go and get the horse? Have they moved it? Oops, did you think about any of this up front?

What is your liability if you just go into someone else's barn and pick up your horse? Can you do that? Repossessing a horse is an issue to undertake with care. If the horse is in a boarding or training barn, you may not be allowed to get him. If you enter the barn to take the animal it might be considered trespassing or possibly even theft of property. Those raise another big can of worms.

Problems can and do happen, especially when a lease agreement is not in writing or worse yet, it is but you didn't really read it or think it through thoroughly when you signed it. There may even be confusion about the length of the agreement, a lease to purchase discussion you might have had or even shared winnings from a show season.

To me, the best way to solve problems is to put a plan in place beforehand so you don't run into the problems in the first place! So of course I'm going to suggest you consult with a lawyer up front to prevent problems from happening. If you didn't do that up front and you've got a problem now, you may need to contact an attorney and file a civil suit to address the issues to get the horse back into your hands...and barn. Lawsuits, in my opinion mostly benefit the lawyers; that being said however, they often may be the best or only option if the other party refuses to cooperate or talk.

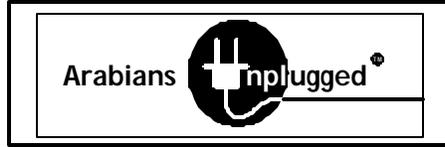
Leases can be simple or quite complex, depending on the nature of the arrangement and the interests of the parties involved. The legal fee to prevent disputes through a lease agreement is a small fraction of the legal fee to resolve a dispute.

If you have any issue with an equine lease or have any questions, please give me a call. 952-473-1212



MAHA, WSCA & Open Show Calendar

The Open Show Calendar, started in 2005, is a MAHA project that is emailed to an ever growing list of people who are interested in open shows. If you are interested in being added to that email list or if you are on the list but have a new email address, please contact Laura Mickelson at lauramickelson@aol.com or 651-423-5871.



By Anita Anderson Grant

Our second annual Arabians Unplugged (AU) Awards Banquet was held in Lakeville, at the Pizza Ranch on Saturday, November 5th. We were overjoyed at the 60+ attendance, which more than double from last year.



We started with an Arabian History Quiz from the AHA and had two winners! Doug Peterson of Regent Arabians won the Adult division, which was a bottle of *14.1hh Hot to Trot* Wine and Nico Vecchio was our junior winner of a bottle of Welch's Sparkling Grape Juice. Moving right on into our Awards everyone was ecstatic at the plaques they won and the choices for Top 5 awards.



Thanks to Swanson's Arabians, Mrs. Ken Swanson, Rachel and Jake, Jason and Devon Schuster for the generous donation of plaques for the highpoint awards.

Please visit the MAHA site to read the 2011 AU High Point results: <http://www.mnarabhorse.com/openshows/>

Laura Mickelson and I would like to thank all who attended and helped to make this such a huge success! Get involved next year, you will be glad you did. Contact me (anitaagrnt@gmail.com) or Laura Mickelson and we'll get you all the info you want!



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.

For a calendar listing all open shows with Arabian classes visit Arabians Unplugged at its website <http://www.arabiansunplugged.com/> and/or join our Facebook group page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/293050384202/>

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



MN State Fair's New AgStar Arena

This exciting news is shared from the MN Horse Council newsletter:

With private contributions, the Minnesota State Fair and State Fair Foundation are building a new arena for equine and livestock shows on the fairgrounds. The facility will be used by 4-H, FFA and State Fair open class participants and equine and livestock exhibitions. Thanks to the generous support from AgStar Financial Services, the new arena will be called AgStar Arena. Stay updated with construction progress on [Facebook](#).

Built in the 1960s, the existing Judging Arena and Annex are in dire need of replacement. The State Fair strives to provide the best in animal agricultural programs while also providing facilities that meet quality standards for shows.

AgStar Arena will complement activities at the Lee and Rose Warner Coliseum and the Horse and Cattle Barns, as well as use by the Minnesota Horse Expo and other shows.

Arena Features

- ? Overall 27,000 square foot structure with a 15,000 square foot oval show ring; arena floor of layered footing of sand/clay mix with clay base
- ? Multiple entrances for exhibitors, animals and the public for improved access
- ? Enclosed structure combining wood, metal and brick for extended seasonal use; enhanced lighting, fire suppression system and audio system
- ? Exhibitor amenities including wash racks and portable stalls
- ? Spectator area with up to 600 seats



Mark Your 2011 & 2012 Calendars!

December 2011 – MAHA Officer & Board Elections. Info on this year's electronic process coming to you soon.

Sunday, January 29— MAHA Year End Awards Banquet & Clinic, Cedar Ridge Arabians, Jordan, MN

Friday-Sunday, March 23-25 — MAHA Spring Fling, MN Equestrian Center, Winona

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.



MINNESOTA 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
_____ + \$10.00 – 1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO AHA's *MODERN Arabian Horse* magazine

YOUTH MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES (17 years or younger 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
_____ + \$10.00 – 1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO AHA's *MODERN Arabian Horse* magazine

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

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

* 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!"