

## APHA National Director Alternate Report 39th Annual APHA Convention – October 1-3, 2009

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Convention in beautiful, windy Colorado Springs! Our own Director Linda Vance and announcer extraordinaire was sworn in as President. Linda promised to work hard. We here in the Northwest I'm sure can agree, "she will!" She has worked many years tirelessly for us, now she gets to share her talents throughout our international organization.

**Maintaining Financial Awareness** - The theme at Convention was evident in all reports and discussions

**\*\* Note:** Financials are a serious matter here in NWCC and Zone One, so I took action. I used frequent flyer miles for travel to Workshop which won't require reimbursement. Also, I had roommates keeping hotel fees minimal. I'm an Alternate this year, I must be voted into the Board again next year. Please vote for me as your Director in 2010.

**PAC Program** – A very important thing I can report back to those of you who contacted me personally is that APHA will *NOT* make any changes to the PAC Program, and no changes will be made to the PAC fees *at this time*.

**First Things First** - Convention began Wednesday night arriving to strong blowing wind and meeting up with one of my fellow Washington Directors and roommate Grace Harris, and then my first meeting Thursday morning. As a Director Alternate this year I am Vice Chair of the Recreational Riding Committee. With the success of the roundtable discussion at Workshop, Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons again met roundtable style with the Executive Committee (EC).

### **EC, Chair and Vice Chairs Meeting**

- 1) Briefing: The EC will NOT pursue a consulting firm but appointed a 5 person advisory committee from the directorship to review all plans and programs, to have full access to records, statistics and APHA staff, reporting regularly to the EC including setting expectations, a timeline and goals, with a tool for gathering member input
- 2) Topic: Discuss a proposal for an APHA National Show during the summer days already booked at the Will Rogers Equestrian Complex in Fort Worth around the Youth World Show
- 3) Open Discussion:
  - a. Professional Horseman Committee - will resume activity
  - b. Zone Shows - Under-utilization of the framework for sponsor recognition, programs, guidance and for getting local grassroots support, without competition with other APHA events
  - c. Member Benefit Program - a new comprehensive personal insurance program, find information at <https://www.miquotes.com/apha/Index.aspx>
  - d. EC Nomination - Process will be reviewed and suggestions for changes are welcome

**Recreational Riding Committee:** 5 committee members, 2 guests, 1 staff member were present. Are you spending time in the saddle or cart with an American Paint Horse? I encourage you to enroll and receive rewards for riding or driving.

- **2009 Rides** – 3 very successful rides including the 15th Fort Robinson ride in Nebraska with 83 riders from across the country, California to Maryland. Chair Anita Hertner has ridden at all 15 years! We saw a brief slide show with highlights from all 3. (I have a copy if anyone wants to see it I can email it)
- **2010 Rides** – 3 scheduled: Fort Robinson, Oklahoma, Colorado, and more might include Florida and in Las Vegas
- **2009 Stats** - 206 enrolled year to date, a few less than 2009, 6470 total enrolled, fees will remain the same in 2010
- **Youth Component** – the new APHA Youth Director will have a Ride America enrollment objective
- **National Show Proposal** – the committee had questions and suggestions, a synopsis is provided later in this report

**The Foundation Fundraiser and Dinner:** A gala held at Bell Mountain Stables benefited therapeutic riding and youth development. Demonstrations from Praying Hands Ranch and The Urban Farm, representatives from the Wounded Warrior program were really great. I assisted in the fundraising funds by spending some of my own on both the silent and live auctions. I also assisted the auction by helping showcase all the items and encouraging bidders while playing "Vanna White." Over 200 attended. The total raised was over \$12,000.

**General Membership Meeting** – I sat with Jeri Stone who had traveled with Gladys Doidge. Gladys brought her granddaughter to attend the Youth Conference.

- **Legendary Achievement Award** - Pat Mullins was recognized for his lifetime of service
- **Executive Director Report** - State of the Association report with statistics on program, publications, the world show, sponsorships, and international activities (I have 2 extra copies on CD if anyone wants me to mail it)

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- **Membership Fees** – Even with the economic downturn, fees will be increased in 2010 to help cover expenses. I encourage everyone who has been an APHA member at least 3-4 years to purchase a lifetime membership before 2010 when the rates go up. It will pay for itself after just 11 years. Now I have been an APHA member since 1988 and purchased my lifetime membership the first year it was available. I'm amazed how quickly these 20 years passed.
- **2009 European Championship Show** – Breaking all records, exhibitors in Germany were from 15 countries
- **Gelding Plus** – Will distribute about \$35,000 this year
- **Amateur and Show Marketing Director** – New position on staff
- **Youth World Show** – First year split from Open/Amateur was very successful
- **Solid Paint Bred** – APHA continues to look for ways to support activities at higher levels with opportunities for recognition while protecting the value of regular registry horses and prestige of competitions
- **Roll Call** – A requirement is that Directors and Alternates are in attendance during roll call of the Board of Directors meetings at Workshop and Convention, however with other APHA events taking place during workshop, it is a hardship for judges, trainers, parents, exhibitors, and others, having roll call moved from Friday to fall on Saturday
- **PAC** – Further support by APHA is needed, a banner for shows, expansion of the program, for examples
- **Website** – Plans for a new search engine, new server, filters for users, content management software, and easier navigation to find area/region information
- **Elections** – The Nominating Committee presented Ron Shelly for the 6th Committee Member and he was unanimously accepted, as was the remainder of the EC including Linda Vance (WA) as APHA President
- **2010 Rule Change Proposals Voting Results**
  1. RG-070.D. and E. Changed legs reference points, clarifies line from base of ear to mouth. PASSED
  2. RG-185. Updated the International Appendix Registration. PASSED
  3. SC-090-1. Additional information for show approval. PASSED
  4. SC-105.B.1. Additional exception for multiple-judged shows. PASSED
  5. SC-160.O.1. Clarification for logos in APHA sponsored shows. PASSED
  6. SC-160.S. Updated to allow earplugs of soft and flexible material. PASSED
  7. SC-215.E.1. and 2. and new 3. Over fences optional scoring and penalty points. PASSED
  8. SC-250.E.2.c. Clarification for trail obstacle at walk or jog. PASSED
  9. SC-255.G.5.k. Western Riding eliminates pattern #3 and #5 from 5.i. and clarifies failure to pick up lope after the jog is beyond 10 feet. PASSED
  10. YP-205.A.1.b. Changing pointing out from 50 down to 35. FAILED
  11. RA-060.B.new 2. Allowing international championship honors with criteria. PASSED
  12. RA-060.F. Superior Race horse title. PASSED.

**Luncheon with Pfizer Animal Health** – The importance of Directors and members attending the luncheons just became really obvious to me. These are representatives of our corporate and show sponsors who give our association money, services, and goods which are given at shows, as awards, to members, and to regional clubs. When we attend, the visibility we offer is one of their rewards in return. Please support your sponsors by sending thank you notes, mentioning your appreciation in person, or by attending their functions being known as an APHA member they so generously give to.

The speaker was Dr. Bobby Cowles, DVM from Oregon. Though it was during the luncheon, he spoke on not so appetizing subjects: tapeworms and immunomodulators. It was more interesting than I anticipated. I learned:

- All horses, all areas, all climates, year round, horses are subject to loads from as few as 5-10 tapeworms
- The intermediate host is the mite which lives in soils, grasses, and hays, of all kinds
- Damage is not permanent but if not controlled, can be fatal
- Praziquantel available with Ivermectin is the most effective de-wormer for tapeworms

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- Immunomodulators quiet down the immune system which modifies inflammation
- Immunomodulators take 4-6 hours to take effect and last 7-19 days
- Zylexis is insurance against sickness from stress (shipping, competition, for examples)
- “Matter will be damaged in direct proportion to its value” ... don't we horse owners know it!

**Long Range Planning Committee** – I attended as a guest. As all committees were instructed, there was discussion of the National Show proposal. Other topics:

- **Green/Novice Classes** – Opportunity for bringing retired horses back to the show ring with new exhibitors
- **Solid Paint Bred** – Increasing and new opportunities without competing against regular registry horses
- **Ranch-bred Futurity Program** – Working on a way to support local level breeders and stallion owners
- **EC Selection Process** – Draft proposals and suggestions will be forwarded to the EC. The history, objectives, processes of the nominating committee were discussed

**Inauguration Dinner** – It was emotional. I was invited to sit up front at a reserved table with other Zone One attendees to celebrate Linda's inauguration. She gave an acceptance speech that was a call to charge forward into the future. Awards were presented to the 2009 Clubs of Distinction and Honorable Mention, and Gold Star Clubs. Congratulations to Zone One winners Washington State and Rainier Paint Horse Clubs. Entertainment after dinner was amazing! The cowboy poet Nyle Henderson thrilled and surprised us as he told funny embellished stories through rhyme and physicality. Using just a chair as his prop, it was his first pony, a race horse, a bull for an 8 second ride. He was the best I had ever seen.

**Standing Committee Reports:** Linda took her first opportunity to call a meeting to order by asking the very social crowd to come in. When they didn't quickly respond she used her very popular announcer voice and asked those slow to participate to trot in and find a spot on the rail and stand quiet. Funny, people responded quickly just like we do at our shows. Reports will be detailed in coming APHA publications. Other than Recreational Riding and Long Range Planning reviewed above, here are highlights of discussions and recommendations:

- Amateur – Recommends novice cutting, re-qualifying for Novice Amateur, and world show qualifying system
- Ways and Means – Recommends NO fee change in PAC, recommends only individual memberships and no family
- Registration – Recommends traveling youth world show.
- Breed Improvement – Rewriting the genetic testing rule, reviewed world show qualifying rule.
- Show and Contest – Ideas to fill additional time for youth world show, lower buckle sponsor fee (now \$1000), re-qualifying for novice, initiating a PAC Committee, line up the use of Romel reins with NCHA and NRHA, opposed to the rule not permitting show managers and secretaries to show at shows they are working
- Judges – Did not like conflict having open meeting during other activities at convention, working on more complete job description for the Judge Liaison with ideally having 2-3 in the future when funds permit, Judges academy financially viable, will take place February 5-28, 2010, additional tenure of recognition at 5 year increments after 25, support the rule not permitting show managers and secretaries to show at shows they are working
- Professional Horseman – Supports bringing the Amateur/Open world show back to summer
- Rules – 23 proposals and clarifications, 2 drafts of the EC nominating process were reviewed, recommends the EC appoint a task force to further explore the nominating process
- Youth – World show was given overall great feedback, suggestions for improvements and ideas, 4 individuals donated \$500 each for a new Youth of the Year scholarship, would consider adding cousins as immediate family member but needs more information and clarification to review the impact
- Foundation – New accounting software will be implemented, \$576,000 has been donated as scholarships to 219 students to date. \$37,000 has been raised for therapeutic riding programs

**Freedom Ride** – Last but not least I showed support for our troops participating in a catered lunch and magnificent five mile ride in the Rockies on the trails within the US Air Force Academy. The Academy and Cadets provided the horses. I've got pictures up on Facebook, to see them just invite me to be your friend.

Please ask me if you have any questions about this information or anything you would like to discuss.

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