

6-19-07

2007 Director's Workshop Ft. Worth TX Larry Chastain, Oregon Director

I am serving on the "newly appointed" Professional Horseman's Committee. This committee was originally started in the 1990s with my wife, Tamara, serving as Chairman. It was therefore surprising to me to find so many members who thought this was a new committee.

Our agenda primarily dealt with developing a "mission statement" which states the purpose of the Professional Horseman's Committee is to enhance and promote the best interests of the APHA, and to adhere to the Association's mission by insuring the welfare, public confidence, education, cooperation, good will and resolution of these members whose occupation or primary source of income is directly related to the Paint Horse industry.

The first topic of discussion was a code of ethics. One of the main items addressed was the sale of horses. Double commissions was a major discussion, as was the professional person selling a horse for more than what the owner is asking. There is legislation pending that would make both of these situations illegal. In fact Kentucky would like to require any sale of a horse over \$10,000.00 to have a Bill of Sale from both owner and buyer.

The committee is also setting up an application process in order to join the Professional Horseman's Committee. They are encouraged to set the ethics high in order to attract the best the industry has to offer, and to instill confidence in people looking for professionals for assistance.

The PHC is also looking into starting a "crisis fund" primarily for trainers as well as other people whose livelihood is based on the equine industry.

We were also asked for input with regard to the World Show. Topics of discussion for the World Show were splitting the show, selection of World Show judges, use of 3, 4 or 5 judge system, and the 250 mild rule for show approval.

I also had an opportunity to sit in on the Long Range Planning Committee meeting. Their primary topics of discussion were breeders,

trainers, judges and club members across the country. When the discussion of breeding, promoting and selling came up, the Oregon Paint Horse Breeders/Triple Crown Futurity program was mentioned, and it was wonderful to hear how highly this program is thought of across the country. There were several judges in attendance who have judged segments of the futurity over the years, and they had nothing but high praise for the concept and the way the futurity is managed. We should all be so proud.

I also brought up the concept of High School Equestrian Team program, which is very well developed in Oregon and Washington. There are hundreds of Paint Horses participating, and this is an excellent market for our Paint horse pattern only horses, as well as the solid paint breds.

Larry Chastain