

The 2013 APHA Workshop was held May 29 -June 1 in Texas.This was the last free standing workshop,as it will be amalgamated into Convention starting in 2014,primarily due to financial constraints .Again ,those constraints ,and the current global economy,shaped many of the decisions APHA has made,and the proposals they put forth.This industry,as all others both equine related and non,has suffered serious economic losses; although the second largest breed association in the world,it has also seen the second highest decline in membership.As a collective group,we must decide how to bring members back,and create new members. While it was encouraging to see that declines in most departments had significantly slowed,or even halted,it is no time to be complacent.

APHA has been aggressive and proactive in finding ways to save money ,maximize staff and generate new revenue.Corporate sponsorship has increased 100 %,and the new Xtras program gives members an opportunity to patronize those businesses, while earning benefits and discounts.The new magazine Chrome has replaced Connections,and will appeal to a broader audience,thus generating increases advertising.Lifetime members are going to have access to a complete line of products created especially for them,including engraved buckles.Paint Barrel Racing has initiated a new incentive plan,and Breeders Trust is exploring new ways to increase revenues and payouts.Finally,and perhaps most controversial,APHA is exploring a new licensing program;this would allow those horses who do not possess APHA registration papers,but look like our registered Paint horses,to compete in the working APHA events such as Barrel Racing,Reining,Roping,Working Cow Horse,etc.As a 'licensed' Paint,they would be able to participate with registered Paints,and enjoy the same rights and privileges.They would most likely be a 'competition ' entry only;while there was discussion of establishing a pathway to breeding ,obviously DNA would be required.While this is still very much an idea 'in the works',those fields of competition have suffered the greatest losses of APHA registered horses and members,so it would be beneficial for all involved to give them a reason to come back home.

The appointment of David Dellin as Chair of the Judges Committee also saw the the creation of the Show Rules Task Force.Much of the wordage in the APHA Rule Book is being reworked to create more definition for judges and exhibitors alike,and to mirror most other breed associations.While only a minority of APHA members show their horses,they generate a great deal of revenue,and active participation within the association.Although the World Shows continue to lose money,this years partnership of APHA Youth Worlds and ApHC Nationals could well drive a turnaround.The fall Worlds is playing host to Cowtown Roping,with upwards of 1300 teams.All associations are looking for ways to keep the bottom line in the black,without sacrificing breed quality or integrity.

Finally,much of my time was spent in Youth meetings,as I sit on the Youth Committee.There were a record number of youth attending the Youth Leadership Conferencethis year,partly due to the travel bursaries donated by Carson Underwood.These young people brainstormed,and [unofficially] voted on all the 2013 proposals; their feedback was insightful,and their opinions profound.I was proud to judge the Youth Club Scrapbooks,and Personal projects,along with

Amanda Ready, as 'Miracle Man' Banks Ready kept us company while we were scoring, and inspired all as he attended Youth functions. There are still many unrecognized personal scholarship, and club, opportunities in these projects, and I urge all youth to investigate and participate. Saturday saw the proposals put forth to 2014 Convention, as well as Committee reports, and the emergency but much supported decision to include Green classes at the 2013 fall World show, with a no need to qualify clause. For further rule proposals, please see the APHA website; highlights are as follows-

SC 193-2 yr old Lungeline, with the amendment of showing this, or under saddle, but not both.

SC284-Timed team roping, in addition to judged Team Roping

SC312-Competitive Trail Horse-natural obstacle over 6 miles

AM-020-Leasing for Amateurs

YP-015-Leasing for Youth

YP-110-ROM/Superiors for Youth W/T

YP-221-Superior for Novice Youth

YP-223-Zone awards for Novice Youth

If you have any further questions, or require any further information, please contact me at [604]807-3699

respectfully, Jodie Moore

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