

2016 APHA Convention Report

This year's convention was fabulous. It was held in beautiful Richmond, VA and hosted by the Virginia Paint Horse Club. Richmond VA is a historic city, one rich with culture, historic buildings, and monuments. APHA provided us with a tour of historic Colonial Williamsburg, which was incredible to see. This was a fascinating to see the original homes and buildings. The true high point was to tour the horse barns, stables and see all the wagons, coaches and carts. It is a living history museum, with the shopkeepers, innkeepers, townspeople dressed in costumes replicating the times or the 18th century. As a group we were able to have lunch in the basement of a restored Tavern.

During the convention we heard talks on Genetics from Dr. Samantha Brooks, The Value of Effective Communication by Rick Rigsby, David Dellin spoke on The Game Plan and many others. I highly encourage everyone to attend these conventions. They are so informative, educational and fun. One time per year, you get to catch up with friends and acquaintances from all over the country. It's a way to find out what's going in other states. We were privileged to have APHA club members from Germany this year at convention.

We spent time going over the rule change proposals that passed to the floor and out of the committees. These rule changes are available on the APHA website.

I really enjoyed the talk given again this year by Rick Rigsby. He is a motivational speaker and is very effective in communicating with his audience. Everyone can communicate, but not everyone "connects". Rick discussed issues that jeopardize great teams. Insecurity, personal agendas, lack of accountability, fear of conflict and absence of trust play major roles in jeopardizing greatness. He also talked on what causes diminishing trust in leadership. These behaviors are deception, micro management, incompetence, poor character, and self-righteous arrogance. These were just a few topics shared by Rick Rigsby

David Dellin gave a presentation on Horse IQ. There is an online tool coming soon to show what the judges are looking for and what we think they are looking for. It is a virtual rule book for allowing us to score a class and then compare it to the judge's score for the same class. They will initially begin this program with three classes. This will be offered through the APHA. APHA members will be allowed a discounted rate for this service.

The committee that I am on is the Registration and Breed Integrity Committee. We have had numerous conference calls throughout 2015. What is a Paint Horse? How do we put more color on our horses? These are a couple of topics we worked on. One of our conference calls included Dr. Samantha Brooks. Dr. Brooks is a PhD Asst. Professor of Equine Physiology and the University of Florida. We were fortunate to meet Dr. Brooks at convention this year as well. We discussed genetic testing which is very interesting. Genetic Color Pattern testing for markers is useful for breeders to make informed decisions on which breeding cross they choose in order to increase their color percentage. We found this test to be useful but the committee determined we need more time to explore genetic testing on color markers before a

rule change should take effect. The committee defeated RG 020-2 by a vote of 2 for and 14 against.

RG 110 passed 9 for, 7 against, and 1 abstain. This rule will require DNA testing of all stallions and to have on file with APHA genetic test results for HYPP, PSSM MH, GBED, HERDA, OLWS. These test results will need to be done before registering foals from breeding results after Jan. 1, 2018. This topic was quite controversial. The main concern came from stallion owners who feel they are again burdened with added costs of these tests, while mare owners do not have to participate in this testing program. The committee also suggested that the term "disease panel" be replaced with "genetic panel".

Another topic discussed at this year's committee meeting was Fake Spots. Billy Smith gave a discussion that indicates there is an increased number of occurrence in this area. These fake spots are getting harder to detect. A bad fake spot is easy to identify but a good one is far more difficult. We discussed what role genetic testing for APHA color pattern marks might play in a true paint spot rather than one that is artificially created. Billy Smith discussed there are legal issues involved but a biopsy procedure would be considered to determine authenticity of the true paint spot.

Breeding Practice Analysis was another topic the committee addressed. I have attached a copy of a five year chart that shows the percentages obtained resulting in SPB's. In the findings it shows that 15% SPB's resulted in RR X RR breeding crosses. 16% was the result from RR X SPB breeding crosses, while 68% was the result of breeding SPB/RR X AQHA/TB parent. Understanding these percentages and using genetic testing for color markers can dramatically improve your odds of color.

We also discussed moving the APHA Headquarters from its present location to the Fort Worth Stockyards. The committee voted 16 for and 1 against. This move would not take place before 2017.

It was fun to watch the AjPHA representative's on a scavenger hunt throughout the hotel. I have to go bootless for a time while they had to show proof of a size 6 boot. These young people were assertive but very appreciative of anything we had the filled their needs.

The Hall of Fame Dinner was again very special. It is so heartfelt to see the inductees or their family representative's stand and share how important them being honored is to them. They are the history of our present day association that we all share.

Ron Shelly thanked everyone for attending this year's convention, and told how important it is for us to be involved in the process, and evolution of APHA and its activities. He talked about the six years he has been involved with the EC and how progress has been achieved with Billy Smith being added to the APHA team. He also welcomed in Susie Shaw as the new 2016 APHA President. Susie Shaw talked about how important it is to share our passion about APHA, in order to protect, grow and preserve its mission. She is discouraging us from using social media

to be critical, and we in fact should be positive and inspiring when using this media outlet. She talked about how important a role our clubs have, with respect to participation.

In closing I would again encourage any and all club members to attend the APHA convention if possible. I am thankful for the opportunity to be a National Director for the State of Washington. It is an honor and privilege to be part of such an organization in the horse industry.

Respectfully submitted
Kathy Tuttle-King

APHA Breeding Practices

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	5 Yr Total						
#Stallions Bred	10,227	8,860	7,552	6,561	5,436							
# Mares Bred	30,896	26,695	23,017	20,234	17,302	118,144						
# Foals Reg	15,493	13,805	12,161	10,538	8,386	60,383						
% Foals Reg	50.1%	51.7%	52.8%	52.1%	48.5%	51.1%						
Total SPB	5,612	4,903	4,366	3,776	2,959	21,616						
% SPB	36%	36%	36%	36%	35%	36%						
RR X AQHA/TB	SPB Foals 2,799	% SPB 50%	SPB Foals 2,361	% SPB 48%	SPB Foals 2,183	% SPB 50%	SPB Foals 1,851	% SPB 49%	SPB Foals 1,473	% SPB 50%	SPB Foals 1,067	% SPB 49%
SPB X AQHA/TB	966	17%	897	18%	849	19%	760	20%	585	20%	4,057	19%
RR X SPB	924	16%	807	16%	653	15%	566	15%	461	16%	3,411	16%
RR X RR	852	15%	775	16%	616	14%	555	15%	399	13%	3,197	15%
SPB X SPB	71	1%	63	1%	65	1%	44	1%	41	1%	284	1%
	5,612	100%	4,903	100%	4,366	100%	3,776	100%	2,959	100%	21,616	100%
Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	5 Yr Total						
# Foals w/2 colored Parents	852	775	616	555	399	3,197						
%	15%	16%	14%	15%	13%	15%						
Foals w/1 Colored Parent	3,723	3,168	2,836	2,417	1,934	14,078						
	66%	65%	65%	64%	65%	65%						
Foals w/2 Solid Parentst	1,037	960	914	804	626	4,341						
	18%	20%	21%	21%	21%	20%						