

The Right Lead

Arabian Horse Breeders Association of Oregon

www.AHBAOregon.com

September 2022

Officers:

President: Cassie Richard - cassondrarn@yahoo.com
Vice President: Cheryl Deahn - cheryldeahn1@yahoo.com
Secretary: Adonica Marshall- adonica.marshall@gmail.com
Treasurer: Renay Butts- renaybutts@yahoo.com

Other:

High Point: Michelle Rasmussen- rasmussenm05@gmail.com
Online Manager: Kim Rickman- website@ahbaoregon.com

Board Members:

Carol Helton- heltonchikl@gmail.com
Julie Hedden- trickpony62@outlook.com
Sarah Robertson- Srobertson1440@gmail.com
Kelly Waltos- kellywaltos@gmail.com

AHBAO Member News:

Region 3 Championship show in Reno was attended by many of our club members. Feedback was positive. The show committee gave out great awards-even for the preshow. They offered jackpots for the winners in a few classes and they had a jackpot for anyone to buy into where you could "purchase" a horse in 4 specific classes. If that horse won or placed you then won a jackpot amount. There was also a doggy trail course and a progressive dinner. There were over 200 horses with many from Region 4. Rosewood Farms had a great show. They took home their share of Region Championships, Reserve Championships and Top 5's. Prestige took 12 horses with 7 clients and came home with 12 Region Championships, 9 Reserve Championships and at least 35 Top 5's. Below is Cassie Richard on Shacago with Kelly Holder.



Region 4 Sport Horse Championships at DevonWood for the second year was a smashing success. A festive Friday night dinner was provided for participants and guests. Gretchen Love sponsored the Franz tent where shade, cold water and snacks were available for all.



Trublu Intoxication owned by Barb Garcia and shown by Trainer Sarah Robertson (above) won Reserve Champion in In Hand Hunter Type and Top 5 in Dressage Type @ R4 Sport Horse Championships.

AHBAO Holiday Party, Saturday, November 19@5PM

Tresori Vineyard, 17940 NE Kings Grade, Newberg

Dinner, silent auction, year end awards

Don't miss out on the fun at our annual Holiday Party. Hang out with old friends, make new friends and enjoy a delicious dinner cooked once again by Sarah

Robertson's father, Eric Nash. New this year is a silent auction. Anyone interested in our club is welcome to come along.

Youth & Mid Summer Nationals



Claudia Mitchell (above) had a dream of winning a national title! With the help of Doug and Kristi Stewart it came true at Youth & Mid Summer Nationals. Claudia and Catchi (Catching Fire CA) were Champions in the AATR Arabian English Show Hack. They were also Top 10 in three other Classes. Jenna Bollens, also training with the Stewarts, won unanimous National Champion Gold in their Performance Halter class with her horse Legend.

AHBAO Club News

Babies are on the ground!

Don't forget that AHBAO has a Yearling Halter Futurity open to ANY in utero purebred. Need not be an AHBAO member. Get your nominations and renominations in by December 31, 2022. [futures nomination form](#)

Here is Gretchen Love's Sophia CS and her colt, I'm A Cool Kid. He's entered in the 2023 Futurity.



An exciting AHBAO Clinic is in the works for this December or January. Plan on getting tuned up for 2023!

Trainer Karla Moffitt reflects on her career



Karla Moffitt grew up in the Willamette Valley. The youngest of 7 kids, her life with horses began rather inauspiciously when her older sister traded cows for their family's first horses, A pinto mare and her yearling Shetland foal. It was an Appaloosa foal out of that Pinto mare that Karla sold in 1972 to purchase her first Arabian, the Half Arabian gelding El Fix, (sired by the Serafix son Little Fix out of the mare Niya) affectionately known as Magerk. El Fix was later sold to clients that could afford to campaign him, and in 1975 Karla rode El Fix to the Canadian Reserve National Championship in the Half Arabian English Pleasure placing behind Bask Warlock and legendary horseman Don DeLongpre. An interesting fact is that the renowned *Bask sired 1135 foals in his lifetime. Bask Warlock is his only Half-Arabian.

Karla spent the next ten years working at prominent training and breeding farms, honing her skills, and adding to her resume in the show ring. After working at Jerry Sindt Stables, Karla worked at Country Lane Arabians, where she was involved with the influential breeding stallion JA Magnificat++ along with his sons Escourt and Maxxum. At Starworld, Escourt was first in his class of 13 under five judges, and went on to be reserve champion gelding. Maxxum was reserve junior champion colt both at Scottsdale and Starworld. Another highlight was a US National Top Ten in the Arabian Western Pleasure with the stallion Concorde Gezan+/. Karla's first National Championship came in 1987 with the

Canadian National Champion Futurity Gelding Escourt. Karla finished the 80's at Meadow Wood Farms in Washington. There she worked with some of the most important Polish Arabians in the world and formed a lifetime friendship with George

Zbyszewski. Karla opened Pacific Training Center in 1990, and relocated to Newberg Oregon in 1993. Over the last forty years she developed one of the most versatile and successful youth/amateur programs in the PNW.

2022 AHA Convention is November 9-12 in Myrtle Beach, SC. Sarah Robertson and Carol Helton will attend as our AHBAO delegates. Any AHA member can register to attend and can listen, discuss and debate resolutions. In 2023 the convention will be virtual and in 2024 it will be in Reno.

News: If you have any news you would like to submit for the AHBAO newsletter please email Kelly Waltos at clubahbao@gmail.com.

If you would like to submit to the Region 4 newsletter please email Cassie at cassondrarn@yahoo.com

Consider joining the AHBAO board! We have 2 vacancies to fill beginning January 2022. Email Cassie Richard if interested.

Next AHBAO meeting is December 11@1pm. Lots of interesting things are discussed and everyone is welcome. Email Cassie if you would like to come. Minutes are available on the AHBAO website.

Online links for AHBAO sponsored programs:

Scholarship - [Scholarship form](#)

High Point - [High Point form](#)

Recreational Rider - [Recreational Rider](#)

Futurity - [futurity nomination form](#)

In teaching, Karla found her true calling. For her it was not about the wins, but the horses, the people, and the process. Therefore, helping a recreational rider improve their safety and communication with their horse is equally rewarding as coaching someone to national wins.

Karla's philosophy is to strive for constant improvement, and if desired, the ribbons will follow. Karla's desire was to see her clients showing their own horses. It was not uncommon to find Karla's youth and amateur riders warming up and showing their own horses. Karla believes in passing along the skills required for people to train and maintain their horses. She has been quoted as saying "the better you ride your horse, the better you show your horse" and "Always go with what you've got", which became the barn motto!

When asked which person or persons were most influential in her life as a trainer, Karla cites Dean Scott, her original 4-H leader, as the person who taught her the basics – like it's easier to get them to take the bit if the cavesson is loose first! Jerry Sindt taught her to travel the world with the horses. She says they had so much fun and so many stories. When she decided she wanted to enhance her western skills, she was fortunate to learn from Steve and Carol Metcalf while she was working with George Z. to develop the MeadowWood property and program. Over the years, Karla took every opportunity to continue her education with so many folks, there are too many to list.

Karla says that she is always eager to learn new things from fellow horsemen. Horse training has improved immensely over the years, and Karla feels fortunate to have been able to put that knowledge into her program. As training techniques have developed, so have the horses and we are breeding these horses for more specialized disciplines, which takes the level of competition to a higher level. What is lost with specialized training and breeding individuals to a specific discipline is the inherent nature of the Arabian Horse's versatility and the owner who wants a horse that can do it all and will. Karla feels that the development of the sport horse and the extended working western divisions has aided the Arabian Horse in maintaining the breed's versatility.

Karla has recently retired from training. What's next? She will continue to judge. She is judging reining and ranch riding at the 2023 Scottsdale show and eventually she plans to teach.

