

DIABLO ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

MARCH 2012 NEWSLETTER



Diablo Arabian Horse Association
www.diabloaha.org

Editors: Meghan Johnson
Sidney Simpson

Letter from the President

By Cory Soltau

Thanks to all of you for giving me this opportunity as President to help DAHA grow as well as prosper through the coming year. With your help and input, my goal is to explore new opportunities and to enjoy existing avenues for our members and the community at large to enjoy Arabian horses.

We have a solid foundation upon which to design effective strategies to promote the Arabian horse. DAHA has twice won the AHA Club of the Year award. This national recognition spotlights the club's exceptional ability to promote the breed; however, we cannot rest upon our laurels. We all share the responsibility to capitalize upon our club's unique ability to think outside the box—to find new and exciting ways to enjoy our horses and to introduce the Arabian to the community at large.

Here are just a few of the activities and events that have garnered national recognition for Diablo AHA. Our Spring Horse Show together with the Fall Show represent our largest revenue stream and provide a renowned venue for club members and other Arabian enthusiasts to showcase the beauty of the breed. We also provide the social environment for current owners and riders/handlers of Arabs as well as those who are not active in equestrian pursuits to enjoy the club culture, camaraderie, and mutual passion for the Arabian horse. We can use social events, expanding upon AHA's Discovery Farm program, to foster interest in each others' horses and breeding programs. We have a wealth of talent and Arabian excellence among our smaller local breeders who have gained international recognition such as the Hendershots' Trade Winds Arabians, Soltau Kings Crest Arabians, Carol Steppe's Daydream Arabians, Cindy Morgan's Mt. Pleasant Arabians, and Sherman Ranch Arabians. We have among our members regional and national award-winning trainers such as Tammy Collins, Debbie Compilli, Jill Mitchell, and Mitch Sperte.

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Dorothy Burt and Evelyn Call have put our club on the map in the latest, exciting competitive arena, Arabian Racing and have earned us the sponsorship of a race at The Alameda County Fair by a Saudi sheik. Because of their efforts, we have exposed many people new to the horse world to the Arabian breed. The club has participated successfully in the annual Horse Expo at the State Fairgrounds and will have a bigger and better presence at the upcoming Horse Faire at Heather Farms. These are just two of many ways we can enjoy our horses and, at the same time, introduce more people to the world of the Arabian horse.

I need your help in creating new opportunities to promote the Arabian breed. Let us focus together on Diablo AHA's primary goal this year—maximizing exposure to and enjoyment of our beautiful Arabian horses.

Cory Soltau
President

DAHA Calendar of Events

DAHA Board Meeting

Dougherty Station Community Center, San Ramon
April 3, 2012 and May 8, 2012 at 7pm

Horse Faire

Heather Farm, Walnut Creek
April 7, 2012 at 10am

DAHA Spring Fling Show

Brookside Equestrian Center –We need volunteers!
Thursday–Sunday May 17–20, 2012
Contact: Nancy Goertzen 559–625–2631
e–mail: goertzenarab@gmail.com



Back to the Races 2012

By Anne Wheeler

On a day when sports fans were home watching the NFL playoffs, a crew of loyal DAHA members & friends of DAHA, stepped forward to staff a booth at Golden Gate Fields Dollar Day at the Races. DAHA was thankful to be offered the first opportunity to raise funds in 2012 by manning a booth on January 15th. We had a lucky 13 volunteers, just as we had when we worked a booth in September. Dorothy Burt, Evellyn Call, Debbie Compilli, John Devries, Pat Hendershot, Charles Jinx, Jill Mitchell, Ed & Pattie Oto, Tracey Seals, Coke Swift, and Anne & Bill Wheeler were our crew for the day. The volunteers kept the beer taps flowing and ran the front counters efficiently handing out the beer, hot dogs, Pepsi & water for \$1 tokens. All were wonderful ambassadors for DAHA and the Arabian breed. We hung large banners on the front of the booth. One banner was from the Arabian Horse Association with the AHA logo. The other was from DAHA with a gorgeous Arabian on the front. DAHA had decided that this day at the races, the \$'s tips would be donated to the AHA Horsemen's Defense Fund. We had a dramatic finish to the day. Before the 7th race there's always a mad rush because it's last call for beer. When the lines were the longest of the day, all four of the beer taps stopped working. The DAHA crew handled it well, and with humor as the customers became impatient. The GGF's staff let the beer sales go on for an extra half hour once the taps were flowing again. Those closing down the booth at the end of the day, headed to Skates by the Bay to relax, socialize and catch the results of the football playoff games. Thanks to all who volunteered. DAHA hopes to have two more opportunities in 2012 to staff a Dollar Day booth at Golden Gate Fields. If you'd like to join in on the fun, with other horse lovers and race enthusiasts, DAHA would love your help. Contact Anne Wheeler WABMK@aol.com or call 925–788–2833.

Family Arabian 2011

In 2011, we received three nominees for the Family Arabian Award. Their owners and riders expressed eloquently how much their horses add to their lives. One mare. Two geldings. They all are ridden in different fashions, and all are irreplaceable to their "special" humans.

DAHA continues to be one of the few--perhaps the only Arabian club--that has an award that focuses on this unique bond that the Arabian horse forms with its humans. This is often what draws us to the breed; it's the closeness and the connection that we feel to the animal. How appropriate it is that we honor the Arabian for that special connection, as well as for his ability to compete.

Congratulations to all of the nominees. The judges' panel had such difficulty in ranking one above the others. They are all winners to us. Enjoy reading their stories. And maybe take an extra carrot with you the next time you go see your special horse.

Debbie Compilli & Jessica Mattson
Family Arabian Co–Chairmen
925–519–1082
debbie@debbiecompilli.com

2011 Family Arabian Horse Award Winner: Ragtime



By Tracey Seals

Our horse, Ragtime, is without a doubt the quintessential family horse. I don't mean this to sound trite in any way but it's true. Ragtime joined our family when he was 8 years old and until that time, he had not experienced much; Ragtime had spent most of his life in a stall despite having a wealth of natural talent.

It has always been my dream, my fantasy really, to have a horse that I could trail ride with – just the two of us – for hour upon hour. My daughter, Jamie, on the other hand loves riding in the arena, refining her equitation and participating in shows. Very different styles. When Ragtime joined our family, we knew he had raw talent but I don't believe we really understood the depth. To fulfill my dream, I began riding Ragtime on Mount Diablo a few days a weeks – and boy did we have crazy experiences and mis-haps! Because Ragtime had led such a sequestered life, he had never crossed water, seen foxes or coyotes, or cows for that matter...being exposed to these things and others on the trails made for some VERY exciting trails rides! But he kept his cool and learned to trust me, or maybe we learned to trust each other. Either way, Jamie began riding Ragtime with our trainer, Leigha Perry, working on her Hunter Pleasure seat and equitation. If you've seen Ragtime, you know that he is poetry in motion and despite his large size (especially for an Arabian) he is incredibly gentle with kids. Whether my daughter or someone else's child, as soon as they are on his back, he carries them around as if they were precious cargo with incredible finesse.

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Last spring we decided to enter Jamie and Ragtime in a show and much to our pleasure, they got a Blue Ribbon...and many, many accolades for how well they worked together! Jamie was thrilled and I knew she was hooked! About this same time, the Save Mount Diablo Endurance Ride came to my attention. With little contemplation of what it would entail, I signed up for it and put together a 6 week training regime that would prepare us for the 30 mile Endurance Ride. Although neither myself nor Ragtime had ever undertaken anything of this magnitude, we stuck with the training program and come June 25, 2010, we rode 30 miles across Mt. Diablo in 6 hours in 15 minutes. Not exactly a record-breaking time but for two newbie's....not bad! Despite his sheer exhaustion on the last 4 miles of the ride, we crossed the finish line with smiles, a positive demeanor and surprisingly, a spring in his step. Ragtime slept the next 3 days solid after that ride!

With the Endurance Ride under our belt, we turned our focus back to Jamie and showing. Jamie and Ragtime rode in the DAHA show in September and although they did not get any Blue Ribbons this time, they did a fantastic job in the show ring! Ragtime was tuned into Jamie despite her small size and they were a great team.

Now that you know a little bit about our family and Ragtime, I hope you agree that he is a tremendous family horse. Ragtime has proven through his heart-felt effort in his first show with Jamie in May, to his stellar performance in the Endurance Ride in June and his return to the show ring 2 months later that he is as committed as we are. Whether he is gingerly gliding across the show ring with a 9 year old on his back, or carrying me across Mount Diablo, he does it with a clear head and a heart of gold. Just thinking of him makes me smile and look forward to our next adventure on the trail, and I know that love is reciprocated when he puts his head on my chest and heaves a big sigh. He's one in a million, our Ragtime, he is that special guy who does it all and makes our family complete. Our lives are greatly enhanced by having him share the journey with us.

P.S. My husband, Brad, has been so inspired by our experiences with Ragtime that he is starting to ride too. Go Brad and Ragtime!



2011 Family Arabian Horse

Nominee:
EC Artists Proof



#337402 (Mr Americah x Emerald Vixeyn)

By Evelyn Call

Most of us who have had horses for any length of time have enjoyed them, loved them and have spent our most enjoyable hours in their company. Those of us who are really lucky have realized a particular bond with a horse that goes beyond just enjoying his or her company. Artie is that horse for me. When he was a yearling, I remember going into his pen, looking him in the eye and suddenly thinking “He’s the keeper”. I don’t know why. I already had his older brother and sister. His mother, Emerald Vixeyn (a special horse, herself), would go on to produce two more sons. Artie became my riding horse, trained by Debbie Compilli. We haven’t done anything special. Showing was not our thing, though he looked good enough for it. He has a very willing attitude and has seemed to enjoy our time together. Having previously been dumped a couple of times by his uncle and my not getting any younger or quicker to heal, I appreciated that even when Artie got excited or scared by something, he never jumped out from under me. Artie will soon be 27 years old. Though he is slowing down, we still enjoy easy rides. This past year, when I brought a small group of artists to Diablo Arabians to paint horses or whatever, it was a very hot day. So we set up our easels in the covered arena. I brought Artie in and turned him loose. He wandered around, stopping to visit the artists and inspect their work. Afterward they remarked on what a friendly gentleman he was and how beautiful Arabians are. When not being ridden or acting as an artist’s model, Artie spends his days in his field with his sister and visiting with his brothers over the fence and enjoying the sun. He has never been stalled or blanketed and has enjoyed good health. When I come out to his field, he still acts pleased and is always ready to spend some time together. What more can you ask of a friend?

2011 Family Arabian Horse

Nominee:
SQR Karee



By Gabriela Bushteyn

“When riding a horse, we borrow freedom.” That teacup nose, those beautiful eyes, and the delicate little ears that always seem to flick back and forth remind us of that freedom that we borrow. These are all the characteristics of the magnificent Arabian horse. SQR Karee obtains all of these traits and even more. The fact that she sniffs you every time you enter that stall to make sure that it is you and the fact that she twitches her lip every time that you kiss her, as if she were returning the favor just proves how fantastic Karee is. When she glides around the arena with her powerful strides, it is just too overpowering to see such a beautiful creature in motion. The two-beat trot is so smooth that it should make any judge melt and say, “this is the one, this is the champion.” The achievements that lie in the past of this horse are too remarkable to list. Karee has accompanied me, a 12-year-old girl to the regional level in just one year. I wouldn’t call Reserve Champion for your first time at regional’s pure luck. Every time I entered that stall, clipped on that halter, and gently landed the saddle on her back, Karee would turn around and look at me with those eyes. Those big brown eyes that always seemed to say, “I love you” or even “Can you saddle me up faster, I’ve got food waiting for me.” In addition, Karee was the favorite in many Castle Rock Arabian Ranch camps. She was always seducing those little children with her charming personality and flawless behavior. She even trudged up those hills, always faithful to her owner, Nancy DuPont with no complaint. Not a single buck or rear, only that sure-footed walk that would make even a two-year-old child feel safe. Now, Karee isn’t just any horse. She has had years of training thanks to Dean and Sherry Lacey including the weeks, months, and years from my loyal trainer, Leigha Perry. If I were to describe everything about this horse, obviously that is all good, I would use more than a million words. But, let me just say that there will never, ever be a horse that could replace SQR Karee.

Day of the Horse

By Anne Wheeler

In 2004, Congress unanimously voted to make December 13th a nationally observed day to commemorate the value of horses to both our country's history and current lives. It was to be called, The Day of the Horse.

On Sunday, December 11th, equestrians from around the Bay Area saddled up for a trail ride along the Briones to Mt. Diablo Regional Trail, through the Walnut Creek Lime Ridge open space and some residential neighborhoods, to the Equestrian Center of Walnut Creek arenas at the back of Heather Farm Park. DAHA members and friends of DAHA hauled in, rode to, or even rode over Mt. Diablo to the staging area to join the ride. DAHA members also helped with registration, and provided volunteers on foot to ensure safe crossing of Yagnacio Valley Blvd. Heather Herman and Rachel Hannigan were two of the assigned guides for the many groups on the ride. Once at Heather Farms a Western tri tip BBQ lunch was available. Lunchtime entertainment & demonstrations in the arena delighted the trail riders and the general public. Since the Day of the Horse will always fall during the holidays, next year DAHA is inspired to have our beautiful Arabians & riders sparkle too....



Photo by Andreas Koch –
<http://www.akdesigninc.com/Gallery3/index.html>

Comments? Suggestions? Ideas? Pictures?

Please send to: Meghan Johnson (925) 708-8571

MZara75030@aol.com

Winter Banquet

Our Winter Banquet on Sunday, January 22, 2012 was a great success! We had a fantastic turnout of about 80 members and guests. Classic Catering prepared a delicious spread of pork loin, roasted garlic/parsley potatoes, creamy vegetarian polenta, mixed green salad and finally a variety of cookies and bars for dessert. We auctioned off many wonderful gifts during the silent auction and raffle of the horse, home, and personal variety. A big thank you to our members for donating fabulous silent and raffle auction items. Nancy and Debbie Bartman did a fantastic job soliciting silent and raffle auction items and organizing the auction. Also a big thank you to Western Saddlery for their generous donation of gift certificates and high point award sponsorships. This was a year of spectacular awards for competitive horses, for family horses, for DAHA Board members, and for you who make up the club. Debbie Compilli and Jessica Mattson presented the 2011 Family Arabian award to Tracey Seals for their Arabian Ragtime. Another high point of the evening was the presentation of DAHA's Club Excellence Award. What an honor to have been chosen as the best club in the whole country two years in a row! Jill Mitchell presented awards to the winners of the Arabian Horse Association National Youth Competition Award, which was won for the fourth year in a row by Mitchell's Marauders: Kirsten McKillop, Alexis and Maddy Englehart and Allison and Caroline Edwards and Halima Elsherbiny. Cory presented the AHA Volunteer of the Year award to Anne Wheeler for her work horse shows, club excellence and day at the races. The first annual Friends of DAHA award was awarded to Jim Pedder for his tireless work on the horse shows and banquet year after year. This special award is to recognize the work of volunteers who are not DAHA members but are family or friends of DAHA members. One of the major high points of the evening is always the high point awards--given to our outstanding equestrians and their horses. Sherry Peddar, our High Point Chair, presented all of the high point winners with their prizes. DAHA members Kirsten McKillop won Youth High Point Champion and Debbie Bartman won Adult High Point Champion and the Bud Soltau Purebred Award. What a special evening--yummy food and drink and a time to come together with other DAHA members to pay tribute to the talented equestrians and horses in our club.

Arabian Racing Update

By Evelyn Call

Trainers and owners are starting to get their horses ready for the '12 Arabian racing season. At the February 18 meeting of the Arabian Racing Assoc. of California (ARAC), a number of issues affecting the potential success of the upcoming season were discussed. Some funds were budgeted for possible purse enhancements, as needed.

It was noted that getting increases in purses, to at least cover expenses, has been difficult. Purse allotments are tied to the paramutual take for the breed. Tracks favor the Thoroughbreds in scheduling races, giving the Arabians and other breeds the first or second races on the card, when the take is usually lower than the races later in the day. The feelings of some of the ARAC people was that, even with the above disadvantage, the Arabian horses have drawn enough action to justify better treatment. This is a long-standing and continuing issue.

The '12 season was announced as follows:

Pleasanton	June 21 thru	July 8
Sacramento	July 11 thru	July 22
Santa Rosa	July 25 thru	Aug. 12
Ferndale	Aug. 15 thru	Aug. 26
Fairplex	Sept. 7 thru	Sept. 23
Stockton	Sept. 19 thru	Sept. 30
Fresno	Oct. 3 thru	Oct 15

Specific dates and conditions of the Arabian races will be published close to the start of each meet.

ARAC representatives have been trying to get Arabian races at Turf Paradise. There is interest by some horsemen, but the owner of the track has not been interested. Work will continue on this. It has been suggested that we also try to get other tracks interested, such as Golden Gate Fields. Though to us it might seem logical to include Arabians as the Thoroughbreds often are not running full cards due to lack of horses, and Arabian racing could use a longer season and could fill races on those short cards, it will be hard to convince the tracks to let us in.

Another on-going issue discussed was the cost of insurance. California is one of three states that requires payment for Workman's Compensation for jockeys. Every other state considers them to be independent contractors, and they pay for their own insurance.

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So in California you must pay for W.C. for every race in which you run a horse, an amount which is higher than the fee paid to the jockey for his ride. Very few jockeys are contracted to ride just for a specific stable and, therefore, are employees of that stable. Most, usually through their personal agent, contract with a number of different stables to ride a horse in a specific race. Getting the law changed to reflect reality will be difficult.

With all of the problems, there is potential for a good '12 season, especially if the economy holds up and improves. ARAC is going to work on getting sponsors (businesses, etc.) for the Arabian races. A major event will occur during the Pleasanton meet. Last year's Wathba Stud Farm Cup race was a great success.. Diablo AHA supported the race, along with ARAC, and provided the costumed riders who appeared on the track. Photos of our riders and the presentation were shown at the Global Arabian Flat Racing Festival in Abu Dhabi. The Festival representatives were so impressed and very pleased with their reception by Pleasanton, the Fair, track, and our organizations, that they up-graded the race to the Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahyan Cup, adding \$ 20,000.00 to the purse. This is the only race in this series on the US West Coast, falling between the races in Germany and Sweden. ARAC is working to improve on last year's event and Diablo will be working on repeating the costume riders part this year. Put it on your calendar. It should be fun.

We are also looking at doing another DAHA Day at the Races, probably a week after the Sheikh Zayed race.

See you at the Races!



VIRDEUCE		
PLEASANTON, CA	7/9/2011	6 FURLONGS 1:20.75 PURSE \$5,000
FRENCH BEAT.....	SECOND	DIABLO ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION
BURNING SPEED MKP.....	THIRD	SANDY TOROK..... OWI
		SANDY TOROK..... TRAI
		JESUS VELAZQUEZ.....



Horse Faire 2012

Mark your calendar, the Horse Faire 2012 is on Saturday April 7th, 2012. Gallop on over to Horse Faire 2012 for free Family entertainment, exciting horse riding demonstrations to watch, fun activities for kids, a vendor alley with all kinds of crafts and great shopping, snack shack and a Tri-Tip BBQ lunch. Come see what the world of horses is all about! From 10am-4pm on Sat, April 7th, Opening Ceremony ~11am following completion of the Easter Egg Hunt at Heather Farm Park, look for the mini horses and follow them to Horse Faire! DAHA and DAHA members will have booths at the Horse Faire. *Contact our Horse Faire Chairperson, Mary Stewart, at maryrobinada@aol.com if you would like to participate as a vendor or in an equestrian demonstration of skill or breed.*



Amigos de Anza Arabian Drill Team at Horse Faire 2011, photo by Sidney Simpson

2011 Club Excellence Award Winners: Working in Harmony

By L.A. Pomeroy for Modern Arabian Horse Magazine, Winter 2012

Paul McCartney once said that he loves to listen to a choir: "I love to see the faces of real people devoting themselves... I like the teamwork." For the Beatles legend (and horseman), it's not just about harmony within the music. It's about the communal harmony, created by each voice, towards a shared goal.

The same could be said of the volunteers and organizations whose commitment to promoting the Arabian horse and serving their members earned Club Excellence Awards at the AHA Annual Convention. The categories are: Breed Promotion/Community Involvement, Membership Recruitment/Retention, Communication, and Club Projects. From these four category winners a Club of the year is selected.

Diablo AHA

For the second year in a row, Diablo AHA of California (www.diabloaha.org) was named Club of the Year, and again won both the Breed Promotion/Community Involvement and Communication categories, as well as being named a finalist in Club Projects and Membership Recruitment/Retention. "We were completely shocked the first time we won Club Excellence in Communication and Breed Promotion, as well as Club of the Year," said vice president, Meghan Johnson, who worked with director Anne Wheeler, on behalf of DAHA, to put the nominations together for this year's Club Excellence Awards. "The win inspired us to implement more ideas for DAHA, like creating a youth webpage, a business directory, and more philanthropic promotion. Anne did a fantastic job making the presentation of each category's nominations more bright and colorful and organized but again, we were shocked when we won for the second year in a row! "We all ride Arabians for fun and enjoy being a part of DAHA. We're all pretty creative and enjoy writing which probably makes us an ideal team for the project," says Johnson, who works as a Human Resources Specialist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. "This award," she continued, "has energized and inspired the club to look for more ways to do more for its members and promotion of the breed. We created a Facebook Page, and plan more clinics and trail rides this year, as well as being involved in a local endurance ride."

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Anne Wheeler recalls her involvement with DAHA started indirectly, through support of her youngest daughter, an AHA/DAHA member. "Since I'd been involved with the Amigos de Anza Arabian Drill Team and its connection to the National Park Service since 2002, Dr. Cory Soltau (DAHA president) encouraged me to write a 2010 DAHA Club Excellence nomination about the Amigos participation in the Tournament of Roses Parade and Equestfest. He felt a nomination in the Breed Promotion category, with colorful photos and DVDs showing Arabian horse exposure to millions worldwide, would be a perfect fit. I was happy to do so. In 2010, we were thrilled to learn we'd won two categories and Club of the Year. "As 2011 board members, Meghan and I joined forces to 'defend' our Club of the Year status. Winning twice in a row was a long shot. Regardless of the outcome, we figured the process of gathering information again for the nominations would give DAHA a wonderful record of the club's annual activities. We submitted a daunting total of 35 nominations in our 2011 entry," Wheeler said, adding that, behind DAHA's success, is more than skillful submission. "When you peruse our website, read our newsletters, see our photos of riders and volunteers of all ages, participating in a wide range of equestrian activities, DAHA's winning 'secret' comes to life." Evelyn Call, of Emerald Crown Arabians in Oakland, CA, has been a member of DAHA since the early 1970's, when she and her mare, Emerald Vixeyn, were among the club's small group committed to the wellbeing of their horses. Today, she is the DAHA membership chair and serves on the AHA membership committee. "Diablo has been doing a lot for many years, but we weren't very good about tooting our own horn. We had thought of entering the Excellence Awards years ago, but never got it together until Meghan, Anne, and Sidney Simpson took on the task in the last two years. After getting the award in 2010, we realized that we were going to be doing a lot of the same things and were trying to continually improve, so why not apply again?"

Daffodil AHA

The 2011 Club Excellence Award for Club Projects went to Daffodil AHA (www.daffodilarabian.com) of Washington. Established in the 1950s, Daffodil AHA was one of the first Arabian horse clubs formed in the country.

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Currently one of the largest member clubs in the AHA, it offers a variety of member services and activities, including the prestigious Daffodil All Arabian Spring Show, and Daffodil All Arabian Summer Show. "This year, Carol Tedrick (Website and E-News Committee chair) and I decided we should apply for one of AHA's awards," said DAF treasurer and director, Linda Stover of Rim Rock Arabians in Eatonville. "Our club has many projects that involve members, and we had a marvelous charity project in 2011 chaired by Shannon Armstrong. Under her guidance, we raised over \$9,500 for the Children's Therapy Unit at Good Samaritan Hospital in Puyallup. She started with a bake sale at our schooling show, and culminated the event with a huge dinner auction at our spring show. My interests were always in promoting youth events, so I wrote and submitted the story about our Youth Program. We were very pleased to be selected for an award. Now that you have us motivated, you will probably hear from DAF again and again!" In 2012, Don Lapp and Jessica Blumenthal will take the reins from Linda and her husband, Bill Stover, who have been the manager and secretary for the Daffodil Youth Benefit clinics and schooling shows for the last six years. "We are retiring and letting a young, enthusiastic group follow through - we know they will do a great job!"

Arabian Breeders and Halter Alliance

Winning the 2011 Club Excellence Award in the Member Recruitment/Retention category, and a finalist in Club Projects, was the Arabian Breeders and Halter Alliance (www.theabha.com). "One of the Arabian Breeders and Halter Alliance's goals was to recruit between 200 and 500 members. We accomplished our goal within several months, reaching 329 members. This allowed us to have seven delegates to attend our annual AHA convention. Our board members' passion for the Arabian horse is the catalyst to reach out to other Arabian horse enthusiasts," said Christine Rickart, ABHA president, of Dayton, Minnesota. Rickart, who submitted the AHA award application, explained some of the efforts behind their success: "Memberships were created through various marketing strategies. Email, phone calls, Facebook, internet blasts targeting Arabian horse enthusiasts, and a website have helped generate membership. The club has its first membership drive at the Scottsdale Arabian Horse Show.

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We continue to bring our banner to other regions to help membership growth. Among the events uniting club members was hosting a Think Pink fundraiser for the Susan G. Komen Foundation at the AHA Region 10 horse show. "We heard positive responses from the exhibitors and spectators regarding Think Pink, and everyone enjoyed working towards a common goal of raising money for breast cancer research," said Rickart. The event, which raised nearly \$7,000, is planned again in 2012, during the Region 10 Arabian Championship Show. "Although our club is in its first year of existence, the fondest memory I have made so far working with the ABHA group is their shared respectfulness of one another. All of us have opinions about breeding and in-hand class procedures, and everyone has developed a way to approach their opinion and express it in a way that can benefit our breed. This award will continue to energize us as we strive to achieve our 2012 goals."



Region III President Steve Freeman, DAHA President Pat Hendershot, DAHA Director Cindy Silvani, Region III Director Pam Bingham and AHA President Lance Walters

What is High Point?

DAHA established the High Point Program for members who compete in horse shows and other events. In recent years, the program has expanded from an emphasis on Arabian events, to include open shows and competitions at all levels including racing, endurance, trail trials and others! DAHA offers Class A Arabian shows, as well as all-breed, CSHA-sanctioned shows annually. Championship awards are presented at an annual dinner in January. High Point class sponsorships and entry fees help to defray the cost of the awards presented. Please consider sponsoring one or more classes to help support the High Point Program.

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Forms and information can be found on at www.diabloaha.org under High Points and Awards. Remember that the upcoming DAHA Spring Show is worth double points and if you submit your points within 10 days of a show you get 10 bonus points! **Deadline to get points submitted is November 15, 2012.** Please contact Tracey Seals for more information (415) 793-1837 or Traceyseals@hotmail.com

Pakhita

By Marla Melloway

Pakhita (Pikhasso++ / x Morning Musk VA) is leaving her mark in the cutting pen. She has made her show ring debut, at Scottsdale no less. Her trainer, John Holman, having vast experience at NCHA shows, made his first appearance at an AHA show with her. After a rough start, they placed 1st in Arabian Cutting 1.5k Novice Horse 2nd go round, 1st in 5k Novice Horse 1st go round, 2nd in 5k 2nd go round, and Champion in Arabian Cutting 5k Novice Horse. The trip to Scottsdale was a huge success.

Thanks go out to my wonderful support team, Penny Marrs, Kathy Campbell, and Lisa Walker. I couldn't have pulled it off without them. Thanks are also in order for John Holman, who is a great horseman, as well as an extremely talented Cutting Horse trainer.

This year's trip to Scottsdale was a dream come true. Pakhita was conceived, foaled and raised at Khrosskhreek Arabians. She will continue her training as a cutter, with John, and in her spare time, enjoy the trails of Round Valley with me, her biggest fan.



Pakhita and John Holman at Scottsdale in the cutting competition

Classified Ad: Beularos Dream

GORGEOUS, HALF-ARAB, SPORT HORSE SHOW GELDING offered for sale. Registered. Bay, with a star and left hind sock, age: 8, 16.1H, 1150 lbs., foaled in 2003. Looks like Warmblood and Thoroughbred cross, although his dam is a Paint. BEAU is a kind, curious, pocket pony. Always sound, he is a barn favorite, smiles for treats, stands for the farrier, trailers, bathes, clips, gets along with other horses, has no stable vices and loves to just hang out with his person at home or at the show. Beau was the 2010 Reg. Champion SHUS (Amateur) and Reg. Reserve Champion SHUS (Junior), as well as 2010 Diablo Arabian Horse Club High Point SHUS. He was initially shown in SHIH and training level dressage and did very well. Last year, he was started over fences and looked beautiful. He could stay in SHUS, go dressage, or even go western. Qualified for 2010 Arabian Sport Horse and Youth Nationals. He is for sale because I don't have the time or talent to take him to his full potential. Beau would be perfect for a youth/amateur rider. Asking \$16,500 Please contact Mary Ann at 925.200-8628 or 925.682-6252



"Beau" Photo by Kevalyn Marie Photography

DAHA Stallion Services Khartoon Khlassic



Sire of multiple National Champion, Pikhasso+ +/. Quality sport horse, hunter and western. Sire of several purebred Arabian pintos. Color without compromise. Sire of 2008 National Champion Sport Horse Under Saddle Open, ATR and Reserve National Champion Sport Horse Under Saddle Jr. Horse. Stud Fee \$1500 purebreds, \$850 all others LFG Live cover and shipped semen

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401 Lydia Lane, Brentwood, CA 94513

Contact Marla Melloway 925 634-5916
<http://www.khartoonkhlassic.com/>

Ofrank AHR #606657



Consider breeding to Ofrank AHR #606657 if you are breeding for racing, endurance or sport horse.
Owners: Burt, Call and Eaton, Contact Terri Eaton 209-631-2031 or testables@msn.com

Do you have news? Email Meghan Johnson at MZara75030@aol.com

Comments? Suggestions? Ideas? Pictures?

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**Attention DAHA Members! Mark your
calendars for April 7.
The Equestrian Center of Walnut Creek
Presents:
HORSE FAIRE 2012**

The purpose of the Horse Faire is “to introduce young families from the Bay Area to horses - - -and to bring the diverse community of horse enthusiasts together for a day to celebrate their passion.

Last year DAHA was unable to participate in the first Horse Faire due to a major horse show conflict. The event was wildly successful, drawing an attendance in the thousands. So.....this year the Arabian Horse Association’s Club of the Year 2010 & 2011 will go all out to showcase the versatile and gorgeous Arabian breed....

The theme this year is the **Wild West in the Spring. There will be booths for horse orgs., tack shops, feed stores , barns & trainers. The snack shack will operate all day. There are hands on activities for all attendees, and riding exhibitions in one of the arenas the entire day. Perhaps there will be prospectors & gunfighters.....**

DAHA needs your help. We need volunteers to help set up and tear down the double space booth, and/or work shifts during the day. If you can help, please contact Jill Mitchell mitchelljm22566@sbcglobal.net or 925-250-1371.

DAHA would also like to provide as many “good will ambassadors” as possible to help with the jobs that must be done to staff such a huge event. Volunteers are needed with set up on April 6, and a multitude of jobs throughout the day on April 7. If you’d like to help, please contact Anne Wheeler