

September 2008

WHAT DID YOU DO THIS SUMMER? All of us can remember being asked that question by our friends and teachers when we returned to school in the fall, and while most of us have been out of school for more years than we want to admit the answer to that age old question is still one that we want to know from our BAHA friends about their summer activities.

Adult Amateur BAHA members Jenese Briegel and Jen Kelly attended their first ever Region 14 Championships and Silverama at the KY Horse Park! Jenese showed BHR Black Diamond, a purebred, in Dressage. Jen got to be a show groom for the first time, and experience how preparing for dressage differs from other disciplines. It was also their first multiday show. About the experience they said, "We both learned a lot!" Diamond won his Silverama Training Level Test 2 class. This was a big achievement for them as this is Diamond's first year of showing. He also was a great breed ambassador: each day he got comments about how quiet and calm he was. After the show Diamond and Jenese were lucky enough to trail ride on the cross-country course with some dressage competitors from Ohio that they met at the show. Diamond also gave his very first pony ride to Jen Kelly's son, Tyler, age 4, who had patiently waited on the sidelines with each day's show activities. When tired of walking, he asked for a piggyback ride, and instead got a Diamond ride. His face lit up and he said, "I don't need a piggy back ride! I need a horsy-back ride!"

BAHA youth was well represented at Youth Nationals by Firelight Arabians and Stonehurst Riding Club. We don't have all the results to report this month, But we know there was at least two national championships and two reserve Championships plus several Top Tens won by these very special BAHA youth members. Congratulations to BAHA youth member Katie Pelphrey, who was elected AHA Youth Vice President. Congratulations are also in order for Firelight Arabians who was the winner in the Medium Barn stall decorations Contest. To win the stall decoration contest really takes a lot of hard work. Firelight not only wins in the show ring, at stall decorating but they are the Champions in the Dog Costume Contest. BAHA youth member, Heather Perez has been busy this summer traveling abroad and performing in reenactment plays in the Jefferson County area. Jennifer Henderson, BAHA Youth President, spent her summer on the horse show circuit, which included the Buckeye, Region 14, Youth Nationals, and several other shows. Many others of our youth showed in various rated and unrated shows, traveled, and best of all got to spend time with their horse.

Jason and Becky Reed have traveled North and South showing their horses. First it was south to Georgia for the Region 12 show, back to Kentucky for Region 14, and then North to Pennsylvania for the East Coast Championships. In between there were other shows; several Championships, Reserve Championships, and Top Fives returned home with them.

Martha Murdock, BAHA Member and Region 14 Public Relations Chairperson, was been busy promoting the Arabian breed. She has showed at the regional and local shows, but more important she has been showing at county fairs across the state promoting the

Arabian to the public in a setting other than the formal show ring. Martha is to be commended for her endless trips from one end of the state to the other. Jason Reed made many of these trips with Martha driving, working the horses, grooming, and helping wherever help was needed.

Mary Ann Allen is attending the Region 14 Trail Ride and will give us a report for next month's newsletter.

The BAHA General Membership meeting was held at Bill & Henrietta Ellzey's Flint Hill Farm in Nicholasville, Kentucky, Sunday, August 10. Prior to the meeting at Bill and Henrietta's farm tours were held at the Kentucky Equine Humane Rescue Center that is managed by BAHA member Jennifer Tosch. There are approximately 50 horses of all breeds at the Rescue Center. If anyone would like information regarding the work that the center is doing or regarding adoption contact Jtosch@kyEHC.org or call (859) 327-2466. BAHA member Lindsay Hunter hosted a farm tour at her Silverstone Farm and Equicenter. She presented her stallions and young stock. The final farm tour was at Overbrook Farm home of the famous Thoroughbred stallion "Storm Cat." We were treated to a visit to the stallion, broodmare, and yearling barns. Thanks to Martha Murdock for arranging this very special visit. The final stop of the day was Flint Hill Farm, home to Amazing Grace, a Bask Elect daughter; Amira Taj Dol (Arabian); and Forever In My Way (Thoroughbred better known as Nuisance.) She got her nickname because when she was just a baby she was always wherever Bill was and he would tell her she was a nuisance, so the name stuck. Everyone enjoyed relaxing under the tent and around the pool. The "Taco Bar" was a hit and Henrietta's homemade peach cobbler was a great ending.

The general meeting was called to order by President Rick Tosch. The Treasurer's and Secretary's reports were accepted as presented. The youth reported that they had not had many activities during the summer due to everyone being busy showing, but they had several fundraising activities planned for the fall. President, Rick Tosch gave a report on the futurity program. Jason Reed gave a report on the Trail Ride that will be held October 3.4.5 at Mammoth Cave. Jason also gave a report on the Region 14 meeting. He reported that the existing officers of Region 14 will serve for another term. He gave a brief report on the 2008 AHA convention.

BAHA once again presented scholarships to two very deserving high school seniors. Jennifer Henderson will be attending University of Louisville and studying Equine Business and Heather Perez will be attending Bellarmine. Heather has not chosen her field of study. These are two very special young ladies and they have been leaders in our youth group from its beginning.

The meeting was adjourned. It had been a busy but fun day.

Once again, don't forget the Trail Ride (contact Jason Reed at jason@kyhorsesupply.com) for details. Check our Web site at www.bluegrassarabians.org for updated information.