

Motherlode Tailings



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President's Message

As I reflect on this past year, especially after a week in Denver at this year's annual AHA Convention, I'm happy to report that the AHA seems to be at a positive turning point after several years of trying to recoup financially from a declining economy, declining breeding numbers, and declining membership. With high dollar expenditures of IT and routine maintenance repairs of our aging building in Aurora, the future appears to be improving with breeding numbers showing a slight uptick and a light at the end of the tunnel for major expenses for our organization.

AHA has adopted a three part theme for the next three years. THIS YEAR IT IS **Connect** - connect with other members. IN 2015 - **Collaborate** - work with one another to understand the needs of the organization moving forward (THESE ARE SOME CHALLENGING TIMES FOR MANY ECONOMICALLY AND OTHERWISE - WE STAND STRONGER IF WE ARE UNITED). IN 2016 - **Create** - create and drive the future of AHA. Do we want to follow or lead the Horse Industry in making pos-

itive changes for the Horse Industry collectively?

I'll leave it up to our attending Delegates to give you a more detailed report on this year's convention, the rules and other important information.

As I look back this year, our small but devoted membership has enjoyed a great year promoting and enjoying our Arabian horses. A special thanks to the entire Board and to those sustaining members who so faithfully stepped up to support either financially or in person our events throughout the year.

I confidently hand over the reins to our incoming President, Linda Siegel, and look forward to another great year.

Last but not least, may you and your loved ones have a Wonderful and Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Cheryl Black Hansen
MLAHA President

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A message from our incoming President –

2015 MLAHA BOARD MEETINGS

We will be meeting as usual on the third Tuesday of January at 6 p.m. at Black Bear Diner in Auburn. This is our organizational meeting for the year. I've been asked to try to reorganize the social/business aspects of the meeting so that it is less chaotic with ordering food/reordering each time someone comes in/service of food/ordering dessert. All of these things are intrusive to a meeting environment, so we end up throwing a bit of business in now and then between food events. One way to handle this is to meet elsewhere in a non-food environment. Another is to have food time be from 5:30 – 7, and meeting time from 7 – 9, or vice-versa. Yet another is to order as you come in, and just have food service once. So we will be making some changes, and you can e-mail me your ideas. magicalranch@gmail.com We are not required by our by-laws to have monthly meetings, by the way, but we are required to have member social events each month.

The business of organizing is to welcome the new board, set the date for Fuzzy Wuzzy, plus any other first quarter dates, appoint committees and their tasks, and establish a budget. We also look forward to hearing the two reports on AHA Convention from our delegates!

The agendas will be published in the newsletter that comes out the first of each month.

Linda Siegel

MLAHA BOARD

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Cheryl Hansen, President | 916-202-7851 |
| Sue Rich, Vice, President | 916-826-1796 |
| Jean Zabriskie, Treasurer | 530-333-4243 |
| Charleene Naughton, Secretary | |
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| Carol Bloss, Director | 530-823-1830 |
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| Linda Siegel (<i>past Pres.</i>) | 916-652-8762 |
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To Contact MLAHA

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Text of the AHA President's Message from the annual convention, November 19-22, courtesy of Cheryl Black Hansen

Good Morning. Welcome to the Board, Delegates and Guests.

Let me catch you up to date since we met in Denver in Aug. A little of this will be repeat for the BOD, but not for those other members attending.

Canadian Nationals was a success. VS had a negative impact of about 40 horses, but the exchange rate was good, the number of classes per horses was good and we will receive a grant from the Visitor's bureau based on hotel revenue. Then take into account that the show commission watches their expenses very closely, we exceeded budget for net revenue. Canadian Nationals has its own flavor of fun and competition. If you haven't been, you should seriously consider going.

As you know, the RC has two meetings on the road each year. This Sept they were hosted by Ted & Brandi Carson and CA & Frances Butler at their farm in NC. It was a great turn out with around 250 Arabian enthusiasts present. The farm's southern hospitality provided a perfect opportunity to outreach to the community. Dodge Ram trucks came out to let folks test drive their outstanding trucks. The local wine growers donated their products as did the local Vodka producers. The local club catered one of the lunches. The local community was invited for pony rides, children's games and of course, many beautiful horses were presented. Ted did a clinic on how to use our score card as a breeding tool to help in making your breeding decisions. The RC was able to hold their forum and

continue their form of outreach to our breeders. It was a very successful weekend. Thanks again to CA & Frances Butler & Ted & Brandi Carson.

I attended Sport Horse Nationals in Napa, Idaho. It is a great facility to work with and we were blessed with wonderful weather. At the last minute, we had to hire 2 additional Dressage judges to meet the demands. As many of you already know, Raleigh, NC will be hosting the 2015 SHN. The show commission just came from a site visit. They were able to attend during a very large show, Ride for the Children, to see how the facility will work for our Nationals. Bids have gone out for 2016 facilities and beyond. The plan is to continue an East/West rotation unless a central location becomes available for our consideration at some point. The Show Commission members and staff worked very long hours to make this an enjoyable experience for all.

Directly following SHN, I went down to the 100 mile ride at Steph Tettters ranch south of Boise. During the 100 miles ride, there was also a limited distance ride and a 50 mile ride held consecutively. This allows us to bring in a bit of extra venue for our Distance Event. There was also a bonus award for horses that had participated in a 4 day - 200 mile event. Thanks to our Distance Commission Members, Steph and her volunteers for all their hard work during the event. Like our National shows, it takes a great deal of preparation and extremely long hours to host/run this type of multi-day event. Remember, the 100 mile riders are allowed 24 hours to complete



the ride, so staff and volunteers have to be available all during the night after having been there 5 days to host the Competitive Trail Nationals and the 50 mile Nationals.

This year, I stayed in Tulsa for the entire USN show. I was able to help with the TAIL tours the first weekend. What a joy to share our horses with these young girls and their leaders/parents. Thanks again to the barns that so graciously shared their horses. Chrystine Tauber, President of USEF, joined us for the first Sunday and Monday of our show. She was very impressed with our horses and complimented us on the fact that we as a breed seemed to actually judge the walk! Chrystine also helped with one of my TAIL tours and had a great time. During the week, I was able to attend most of the show commission meetings. Bill Hughes, Glenn and I were able to meet with the facility staff as well as the Visitors Bureau to ensure we continue to improve the USN. The show commission, Glenn and I met with the APAHA members early in the week and then met with the halter community members. At the end of the show, I participated with Futurity night with the halter folks in the Pavilion. The breeders are producing some outstanding individuals. Friday and Saturday, brought the exciting halter championships as well as many finals for the performance exhibitors. The energy was high and a special thanks to all the volunteers and the show commission for all the work to make USN a success.

Two weeks ago, I was in Lexington to attend the USEF National Breed and Disciplines Council with Cecil Hetzel Dunn, Myron Krause and Jan Decker. It is the council's job to finalize the budget for our council as well as start the process of reviewing the numerous rule changes. Every rule change that AHA put forward passed. Chrystine Tauber, Chris

Welton, EVP and Josh Taylor, Marketing Director participated in parts of the meeting.

The building upgrades have been an ongoing process. We have worked diligently to find the best solutions at the best price and take advantage of the current rebates in the utilities, which expire on Dec. 1st. Even though some of the work cannot be completed until after the 1st due to a delay in the equipment, we will still get the rebates. This will greatly improve the working conditions for the staff and increase the value of the building while saving us 1000s in utility bills.

As you know we started the Process Mapping in May with Nancy and Bob. This process was on going through the summer and we added Becky Nash (coming through town from Bob & Becky's vacation) and Bill to the process. Nancy was able to add on to one trip and make one separate trip so that we could finish the process and be able to have it as a tool for decisions affecting our work flow. Thanks to those individuals as well as many staff members that helped to complete the project. The EC has started to look at the business decisions and Jim Lawless is working with a small group to address the business technology decisions. Nancy will brief you more on this later today.

It has been standard for many years with horses that travel internationally to have Horse Passports. These are a record of not only where the horse has been, but also its immunization records. Our staff has completed the process to make these available to our members for all their horses even if they are not to be exported. Debbie can answer your guests regarding Passports.



ARE YOU A MEMBER OF MLAHA?

If you are getting the *Tailings* and are not a member of Mother Lode or another AHA affiliated club in the area, please consider joining our group. Of course, it is not our intention to solicit memberships from other clubs in the area, and we are happy to continue sending you the electronic copy of *Tailings*. If you are not a member of another club and would like to join us, it only costs \$20 for an Associate membership. Why should you join, you ask? Mother Lode is your local connection to your fellow Arabian horse enthusiasts. Our goal is to promote the Arabian breed in the local community. Two of our most visible yearly projects are the Fuzzy Wuzzy show each spring and our Trail Trials in the fall. Both these events bring together not only Arabian horse lovers, but owners of all other breeds and showcase our Arabians' versatility and adaptability to all disciplines. MLAHA also sponsors clinics and other educational forums to enhance our knowledge and expertise. BUT WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU! Your input and support is critical – so please, join now!

If you are already a member, now is the time to renew your membership for 2015.

There are two ways to join, either complete one of the attached application forms (following pages), or join AHA online at [Arabian Horse Association Membership Page](#) and be sure to check "club affiliation." If you would like more information or assistance in joining, please contact Sue Rich at sue.rich@sbcglobal.net

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|------------|--|
| December | No board meeting in December. If you've signed up, don't forget our annual MLAHA Christmas dinner, December 2 at 6 p.m. At The Ridge in Auburn. The address is 2020 Golf Course Road, Auburn, CA. No host bar available and corkage fee if guests bring their own wine. Door prizes, raffle, and lots and lots of fun! |
| January 20 | Mother Lode Board Meeting, Black Bear Diner, Foresthill Exit, Auburn, 6 pm |

Remember to contact your newsletter editor at counts4275@gmail.com if you have any upcoming events you want included, member news for the newsletter, or any particular subjects of interest you would like to see addressed in the newsletter

NO STAPLES PLEASE



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AHA 1006a (Rev. 07/13)



AHA™ MEMBER ENROLLMENT APPLICATION

Current AHA Membership with a Competition Card is required for participation in all AHA Events; horses enrolled in AHA programs MUST be registered, or eligible for registration with the Arabian Horse Association or the Canadian Registries. Refer to the current Handbook for membership requirements and for specific rules, regulations and deadlines, or call the AHA office. Please print clearly in Blue or Black ink.

Are you a new member to AHA? [] YES [] NO If No, AHA Membership # _____

Applicant Name _____

Address _____ E-Mail _____

City _____ State/Prov. _____ Zip/Postal _____

Home # _____ Work # _____ Fax # _____

Social Security or Taxpayer I.D. # _____ Date of Birth _____ / _____ / _____
Month Day Year

AHA Membership Type (select one)

[] Adult One Year - \$25 [] Adult Three Year - \$70 [] Youth - \$20 [] Life - \$1,000 [] **Business - \$60 \$ _____

*AHA Membership Enhancements / Add-Ons (available to new and existing AHA Members)

Club Affiliation: [] Club name _____ Club dues \$ _____ \$ _____

A list of AHA clubs with their club dues is located on the AHA website at http://secure.arabianhorses.org/perl/AHA/clubmap.cgi

Competition Card (Club Affiliate): [] Adult One Year - \$35 [] Adult Three Year - \$105 [] Youth - \$25 \$ _____

Competition Card (No Club Affiliation): [] Adult One Year - \$65 [] Adult Three Year - \$195 [] Youth - \$25 \$ _____

*Modern Arabian Horse Magazine Subscription (Not included in base membership)

[] Discounted One Year Membership rate - \$10 (\$40 foreign) [] Discounted Three Year Membership rate - \$30 (\$120 foreign) \$ _____

Arabian Horse Foundation Donation (tax deductible) \$ _____

Canadian residents include GST/HST Tax (5% in AB, MB, NT, NU, PE, SK & YT; 12% in BC; 13% in NB, NL & ON; 15% in NS) for Membership, Competition Card & Magazine

MEMBERSHIP TOTAL \$ _____

*Competition Cards will be issued to Individual Members ONLY (one name on the membership) and Excess Liability Insurance is included with each Competition Card. Club Dues collected by AHA will be for Individuals ONLY. Life Memberships include Competition Cards & Magazine.

**The Business membership will have competition privileges for no other purpose than Recorded Ownership.

AHA Member Award Programs info.comp@ArabianHorses.org

Amateur Achievement Awards: All participants in this program must be Amateurs and hold an AHA Membership with competition privileges (Competition Card). Must be enrolled prior to competing in order to be eligible for Annual High Point Awards.

[] Initial Recording Fee \$45 \$ _____

[] Annual Renewal Fee \$35 \$ _____

[] *Retroactive Points - Please write year(s) _____ \$75 per year \$ _____

*Participants enrolled/renewed between October 1 and December 31 must pay the retroactive fee. Retro points are not available prior to 2002.

AHA Dressage Rider: All participants in this program must hold an AHA Membership with competition privileges (Competition Card).

Level(s): [] Training [] First [] Second [] Third [] Fourth \$45 per level \$ _____

Frequent Rider Program: Online based program to log hours spent riding -http://www.arabianhorses.org/activities/incentiveprograms/frp.asp

[] One Time Processing Fee - New participants only \$25 \$ _____

PROGRAM & MEMBERSHIP TOTAL \$ _____

In making this application, applicant declares that applicant will be a current AHA member, and is subject to and agrees to be bound by all provisions of the Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Rules and Regulations of the Arabian Horse Association as they now exist or may periodically be amended, knowledge of which applicant now has or will immediately acquire.

Signature _____ Date _____

**If not an individual applicant, print business title _____

Method of Payment (U.S. Funds Only):

[] Check Enclosed/Payable to AHA™ - Check # _____

[] MasterCard/Visa/Amex/Discover

Total Amount Due _____

Expiration Date _____

Credit Card Number _____

Print Name (as it appears on credit card) _____

Cardholder's Signature _____

Credit Card Holder's Billing Address (Street, City, State, Zip/Postal Code) (Mandatory) _____

Mother Lode Arabian Horse Association

Sue Rich, Membership Chairperson
P.O. Box 7158, Auburn, CA 95604-7158

Associate Membership Application

Name _____ AHA# _____ Member since _____

Mailing Address _____
Street

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

Youth Name _____ Birth date _____

Type of Membership Renewal New

Anyone with a prior years membership is considered a renewal. Circle the appropriate category and amount.

Associate Family Membership \$25.00 \$25.00
(No Vote)

Associate Adult Membership \$20.00 \$20.00
(No Vote)

Associate Youth Membership \$10.00 \$10.00
(No Vote)

Total Enclosed \$ _____

A family membership is for married couples who reside at the same address and their unmarried children under 18 at the same address. These children do not have an AHA Youth Membership.

This application is to be submitted with you initial dues. The by-laws of this Association, and membership in MLAHA becomes effective upon approval by the Board of Directors. Your dues contributions to MLAHA are not deductible as charitable contributions. Please consult with your tax advisor to determine provisions relating to the deductibility of business expenses.

The undersigned hereby agrees to be bound by and comply with the Articles of incorporation and By-laws of the Mother Lode Arabian Horse Association.

Signature _____ Date _____

Return this form and your check to:

MLAHA
Attn: Sue Rich
P.O. Box 7158
Auburn, CA 95604-7158
(916) 987-6749



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Jennifer Tobie - Trainer

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| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
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| Catherine Jacobs, DVM | Diana Stolba, DVM |
| Jill Higgins, DVM | Eduardo DeLaCruz, DVM |
| Jason Errico, DVM Dipl ACVS | Jennifer Mayer, VMD |
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Some Hope for Melanoma Treatment

Dr. David Ramey

Reprinted from www.doctorramey.com

Do you have, or have you seen, grey horses with melanomas? I have – plenty. And, until now, there was really nothing much that could realistically be done. Oh sure, there were “options,” but other than repeated surgeries to remove lumps as they appeared, none of the options seemed to make much of a difference.* Until now.

Skin – all skin – has pigment in it. The pigment is called melanin. Melanin is what causes human skin to tan in response to sunlight. People have different amounts of melanin in their skin, and if you can't tan well, you have less melanin in your skin than do other folks (hello, Ireland). The cells that produce melanin are called melanocytes. And uncontrolled growth – which is the definition of cancer – in this case, of melanocytes, is called melanoma.

Melanoma is a nasty disease in some creatures. It can be a devastating diagnosis in people, which is one reason why you should wear sunscreen. It's quite commonly a very bad disease in dogs, as well, often starting as a tumor in the dog's mouth, and rapidly spreading through the dog's body.

In horses, a different animal, melanoma is generally, well, a different animal. In horses, melanomas are most commonly (though not necessarily always) associated with grey coat color. In fact, something along the lines of 80 per cent of grey horses are going to develop melanomas at some point in their lives. Heck, at that rate, it's almost normal.

Melanomas show up as black lumps. They quite often show up in the unhaired areas, such as under the tail, or around the anus, or in the sheath of geldings, but you'll see horses develop enlargements under the skin of just about anywhere, as well. Most commonly, they don't spread throughout the horse's body (tumors that act like that are called benign tumors), but they can spread throughout the horse's body (tumors that spread are called malignant tumors). Mostly, they seem not to bother horses, at least initially. However, even benign tumors tend to grow, and they can really disfigure the areas in which they are growing. For example, you'll see horses in which it's difficult to see or even find the anus, and while that's usually not a problem, sometimes the tumors can get so large as to make it hard for the horse to pass manure. Big tumors can become messy, too – they burst open, and ooze a black liquid (my apologies to the faint of heart).

Not all melanomas are the same. To find out more about them take a look at a wonderful article put out by The College of Veterinary Medicine at Purdue University in 2013. Really good information, and lots of references that can be found on-line, if you're so-inclined. I'd encourage you to take a look at it.

As I mentioned at the start, there have been a lot of different things tried for the treatment of melanomas in horses, which have all had one thing in common – they mostly don't work very well (if at all). Other than surgery, which, in addition to the expense, can be tedious, awkward, and locally destructive, especially if the tumors are large, horse owners (and their frustrated veterinarians) had to mostly just sit back and watch the tumors grow. But maybe that's about to change.

In 2007, a vaccine was approved for the treatment of canine (dog) melanomas. Vaccination against cancer has been something of a holy grail in cancer therapy. The problem with trying to come up with a vaccine against cancers is that, to the immune system, cancer cells look just like all of other cells in the horse's body. Really, there's nothing abnormal about a cancer cell, other than it grows uncontrollably (which, admittedly, is a very bad thing). Since



cancer cells are so (mostly) normal, the horse's immune system doesn't recognize them as a problem, unlike, say, virus particles, or bacteria, or tetanus toxin. The body typically doesn't mount an immune-defense against cancer cells.

But, turns out that there is something different about melanoma cells. They have a large amount of an enzyme called tyrosinase. Tyrosinase is very important in controlling the rate of the horse's body's production of melanin. If its activity is uncontrolled, it results in increased production of melanin: and melanoma. And even though tyrosinase is a normal protein, and the body doesn't recognize it as anything strange, or in need of an immune response, researchers have been able to "trick" the dog's body (and, apparently, the horse's body, too) into mounting an immune response against it.

How?

They've made a vaccine with a human gene for tyrosinase in it. The gene is put into a small ring of DNA. The human tyrosinase is different enough from the tyrosinase found in dogs that it results in an immune response from the dog, but it's close enough to canine tyrosinase that the immune response that's stimulated also works specifically against the dog protein. And while there's tyrosinase in most all of the skin cells of the dog's body, melanomas produce a lot more of it, so the immune response is able to target the cancer cells pretty specifically.

Isn't science cool?

It wasn't a great leap to wonder if there were similarities between canine and equine melanomas. A few years back, I became aware of research being done with the vaccine on horses at the University of Tennessee (home state of my Mom and Dad) by Dr. Jeff Phillips. The Morris Animal Foundation just published a press release on the results. I've spoken to Dr. Phillips a couple of times, and based on the results of the research, the very plausible biological mechanism of action, and as my two conversations with Dr. Phillips, I think that it's probably worth trying if you're so inclined (and if you have the money – it's reasonably expensive).

The vaccine must be obtained from either an oncologist or a small animal internal medicine specialist, which means that your veterinarian may have to jump through a few hoops to get it. But if you have a horse with melanomas, the vaccine does appear to be a reasonable option to at least prevent further growth of 2existing tumors, and, in some cases, cause them to regress (that is, to go away). I think that it's pretty likely that vaccination will be a life-long therapy for horses that respond.

So, there you go. Maybe some hope on the horizon. Remember, the product isn't licensed for horses yet, but it probably will be. If you're interested, ask your veterinarian to find out more. As time goes on, we'll learn more about how effective this treatment is, as it gets used in more horses. But for now, it seems like we at last have a realistic option to control the growth of these tumors, at least in some horses.





WELCOME, CINDY REICH!

We are so pleased to welcome Cindy Reich to our area, and hope she is here for a long time. Cindy Reich is an international Arabian judge, a breeding expert, an author published regularly in Arabian Horse World, and a horse farm manager. She can evaluate your horses (don't you want to know every little thing BEFORE you go into the arena?), breeding recommendations and management, equine facility design and consulting, and much more.

Cindy recently returned from judging the Ecuador Arabian Show, and has literally been around the world with the Arabian horse. If you have horses for sale, sign up for an evaluation and networking contract. You can go to www.cindyreich.com to see more of her areas of expertise. Everyone, from trainers to breeders to veterinarians to private owners, can benefit from her expertise.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H1XFYtc>

For more information or an appointment, contact

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