

AURORA-news  
February 2010



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announcing

the

# Premier Breeders Sweepstakes Series!

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AT REGIONAL  
*and*  
NATIONAL SHOWS

## Two easy ways to participate

### Premier Breeders Stallion Service Auction

- Purchase breeding to a stallion from Premier Breeders Stallion Service Auction
- Resulting foal becomes eligible for additional prize money in Breeders Sweepstakes Designated Halter or Performance Classes

### Premier Breeders Mare Program

- Enroll your mare (\$300 fee per foal, per division) in the Premier Breeders Mare Program by breeding to a stallion that sold at this year's Premier Breeders Stallion Auction
- Resulting foal will be eligible to compete for additional prize money in the Breeders Sweepstakes Designated Halter or Performance Classes

Enroll your PBB Series stallion at Scottsdale!  
Go to [www.pbbseries.com](http://www.pbbseries.com) to learn more.

To be eligible for the PBB Series, the "in-mare foal" must meet all current Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes uniform rules and criteria.

*Justify—first Arabian stallion to enroll in  
Premier Breeders Sweepstakes Series.*



ARABIAN  
BREEDERS SWEEPSTAKES



ARABIAN  
HORSE ASSOCIATION

## Important Dates

### Aurora Arabian Horse Association Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Dawn Hopkin	780-998-1524
<b>Vice President</b>	Carla Jackson	780-922-7088
<b>Treasurer</b>	Kim Kelemen	780-986-7270
<b>Secretary</b>	Jacquie Ganton	780-662-4615
<b>Membership</b>	Jill Bromley	780-922-5549
<b>Newsletter</b>	Gary Millar	780-992-0302
<b>Youth</b>	Terry Martin	780-417-1703
<b>Directors</b>	Lorne Robertson	403-720-6465
	Dana Leadbeater	780-410-0233

Aurora website address: [www.auroraarabianhorse.ab.ca](http://www.auroraarabianhorse.ab.ca)

Aurora email: [auroraarabian@hotmail.com](mailto:auroraarabian@hotmail.com)

#### For submissions to the Aurora news Newsletter

Gary Millar 780-992-0302

Email: [gary@millarcom.com](mailto:gary@millarcom.com)

The vision and mission of Aurora Arabian Horse Association:

*"To incite a passion to own and enjoy the Arabian horse by bringing a rich, life long experience to members through involvement with Arabians and Part Arabians and to encourage members to fully experience and enjoy Arabian and Part Arabian horses for recreation, sport and companionship"*

#### Aurora Arabian Horse Association

Box 57147, Eastgate Postal Outlet  
2020 Sherwood Drive  
Sherwood Park, Alberta T8A 5L7

# February Dinner Meeting

Monday, February 8 2010

**Nisku Inn**

Time: 6:30pm

**Come and participate in the activities of the Aurora club**

Members and guests welcome.

[www.auroraarabianhorse.ab.ca](http://www.auroraarabianhorse.ab.ca)

**The 2010  
Region 17 Directories  
are now available!**

Directories will be available at the meeting on Monday or by calling president Dawn Hopkin 780-998-1524

**Cover:** Aurora members, you are the first AHA members in North America to hear about this new and exciting program from the Arabian Breeders Sweepstakes. This is a separate program featuring a stallion auction, online and live, a mare program ... and new opportunities to win money at the National and regional levels.

**Premier Breeders Sweepstakes Series** will officially be launched in Scottsdale.

This program is an additional Sweepstakes initiative and does not replace any of the existing Breeders Sweepstakes program. The stallion featured in the cover ad, Justify, is the first stallion to enroll. Watch for more details!

## The Aurora news A new Look and new Newsletter

Welcome to the **AURORA news**, Aurora's newsletter. For information about the happenings within the club, within the region, within AHA and within the horse world, this **news** will attempt to keep you informed and up-to-date about the Arabian horse industry, what others are doing to enjoy their horses and handy tips to keep you learning and growing.

This newsletter is your newsletter. As members, we want to hear from you. Please send us your comments, pictures and news. We'll attempt to share your information with other Aurora members. Tell us what you like and what you don't like. Give us your opinion about new rules, events and issues affecting our club and the Arabian horse industry. Only those letters and comments with a name attached will be published. The editor reserves the right to edit and to include, depending on available space.

**Advertising :** The **news** will be distributed to every Aurora member and to the presidents of all other Arabian clubs within Region 17 **via email and a printed version**, for who prefer the hard copy. This is the perfect vehicle to advertise your horses for sale, tack and equipment for sale, breedings, stable and lessons. As well, the newsletter will be posted on the Aurora website for you to refer customers, friends and potential customers and members. Advertising rates are as follows :

**Classified section where members can advertise for free.**

Full page ads - \$20.00 (plus GST) per edition  
Half page ads - \$12.00 (plus GST) per edition  
Business Card ads - \$10.00 (plus GST)  
- ads should be supplied as pdf files



**New Feature ad ... a colour picture of your horse on the front cover and a full page colour ad inside - \$40.00 plus GST**

**RESERVE YOUR FEATURE AD SPACE NOW FOR UPCOMING NEWSLETTERS.**

**Ad space will be allocated on a first come, first served basis**

To submit your letters, comments and information, email a Word file to: [gary@millarcom.com](mailto:gary@millarcom.com)  
For ads - supply pdf files, email to [gary@millarcom.com](mailto:gary@millarcom.com) (ads can be produced for a small additional cost)

Submissions for the newsletter should be in by the 20th of each month.

For more information on the Aurora e-news or to contribute, please contact Gary Millar (cell 780-499-9219) or email [gary@millarcom.com](mailto:gary@millarcom.com)

## More clarification on EC AEF issue ...

As a result of correspondence in an Aurora news letter which was brought to our attention, I offer the following information as some clarification and/or anyone may wish to call myself (AEF Breeds and Industry Chair 1-888-303-1070) or Dixie Crossen (AEF President 1-403-654-2883) for any further clarification or questions. This is only to show that AEF (et al) is providing all possible efforts to provide suitable services and representation for the horse people of Alberta, and, AEF is not the only provincial organization in Canada with the same problem.

Happy Trails,

Bill desBarres  
AEF Breeds and Industry Chair

### AEF planning session

I believe this meeting for 27 Feb 2010, as announced below by President Dixie, is an excellent idea and opportunity for everyone to learn about some of the hectic activities that many Executive, staff and other Committee volunteer hours were spent on over the past few years. From my conversations with some AEF and/or EC members in Alberta and Canada many do not realize the EC Provincial Division's current turmoil and history. I am not going to bother with the history, not that it is totally irrelevant, but it just gets to be blah, blah, blah, blah. We need to move on in the best interests of Alberta horse people and the industry and as the AEF membership directs. Therefore, AEF Board Members should attend the 27 Feb 2010 meeting prepared to take information from the meeting to report and spread information to all of the horse people within their reach.

Where we are from my vantage point:

- There are ten Provincial Organizations in Canada
- One Province has signed an "Agreement of Understanding" (Ontario) or such document with Equine Canada
- Three Provinces have indicated that "they may agree to the EC proposed document" but have not signed (NB, MAN, BC)
- the remaining six Provincial Organizations have stated their disagreement with the terms and conditions as proposed by Equine Canada.

The six Provinces have all discussed their options and are making decisions and plans in the best interests of their respective members. Some of the considerations are:

- Ratio of interest Sport to other (Recreation, Industry and Breeding etc.) appears to be in the area of 1 in 10.
- Although it is agreed that Sport may be the blossom of the horse industry, the grass roots of the industry are firmly entrenched in Recreation and Breeding including, but

## EC vs AEF

not limited to, Trail Riding, Games and Cattle Events, Educational Horse Clubs (Pony Club, 4-H, local interest or discipline clubs, etc.), Breed Associations/Clubs and other interest groups etc.

- The Provincial Organizations are registered and/or incorporated in their declared Provincial jurisdiction and must abide by the laws and regulations as related to the horse in their Provincial jurisdiction.
- The Provincial Organizations should have the autonomy to react to the needs and diversity of their respective member/constituents. (There may be a vast difference in priorities between individual Provinces.)
- How to create consistency so as to development of the possibilities and opportunities from “grass roots to podium” including, but not limited to, Coaching, Judging and availability to progression?
- Availability and options to co-coordinated intelligence respecting health, welfare, Provincial and Federal Government liaison and contact.

The six Provinces are communicating with each other and the other four Provinces with respect to issues that affect the industry. No body or organization has been ostracized. Alberta for one is following the lead of Saskatchewan and going forward with Provincially established levels in competition and a Provincial circuit format to entice the interest of all horse people in the Province and to provide a foundation for progression. Provincial Organizations should have an identifiable degree of autonomy so that the disbursement of funds derived from membership and other income is directed to the priorities established for that Provincial body and its constituents.

Everyone who I have talked to agrees, and I concur, that there must be national level communication and co-ordination for national and international levels of competition and a national organization should be the responsible body.

Here is a question: Is it appropriate that ten percent of the Canadian horse people, being the competitive Sport sector at the moment, control the rules, finances and method of operation for the other ninety percent (recreation, etc.) of the horse enthusiasts in Canada?

Far too much non productive volunteer and AEF staff time and effort has been spent on the political hoo-hah related to my comments above.

AEF is in the process of establishing grass roots programs and services that are designed to develop and attract horse enthusiasts and protect the horse industry in Alberta while responding to the needs of the AEF constituents and allow AEF members to progress to the competitive sport requirements of national and international competition when and if a member so desires.

## EC continued ...

continued ...

Given the option I would like to spend my Provincial related volunteer time as suggested herein. Not that we can't participate and/or lead in national level issues when it is appropriate and pursuant to the wishes and authority of our AEF Board.

Please indicate your intention to attend 27 Feb 2010 Sports Hall of Fame- Red Deer, 10am by confirming same to Soni email: [exdir@albertaequestrian.com](mailto:exdir@albertaequestrian.com)

## Need help selling your horse?

Introducing Canadian Arabian Horse Sales... commissioned horse sales by Amanda Ubell and Renee Lupien-Smulan. Helping to market Canadian-owned, registered Arabian and Half-Arabian Horses.

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## Congratulations to the Aurora High Point Winners



**High Point Hunter** Ms Matinee+++ and Laura Kippen (accepted by Isobel Kippen)



**High Point Sport Horse** Ms Matinee+++ and Laura Kippen (accepted by Isobel Kippen)



**High Point English** Weegotcha and Khennedy Leubner



**High Point Adult Rider** Isobel Kippen and Ms Matinee+++



**High Point Junior Rider** Brandon Leubner and Mista Poco Mon



**Paul Guthrie High Point Junior Western Rider** Brandon Leubner and Mista Poco Mon



**Austin Whelihan High Point Junior English Rider** MacKenzie Leubner and Rather Be Red

**High Point Western** Diane McLaughlin and Billy Bob (no picture available)

## Classified ads ...

**For Sale:** Beautiful western show vest, size XS, brandname In Your Wildest Dreams, worn 5 times, great colors! Carlyn 780-990-9544

**Training,** Michelle Collins (Zur) is currently accepting training horses for the 2009-2010 season. All breeds and levels welcome, full training or partial available. Please contact Michelle for more information 780-920-6381 or email at [michelle\\_shelby1@hotmail.com](mailto:michelle_shelby1@hotmail.com) website: [www.potasperformancehorses.com](http://www.potasperformancehorses.com)

### 7 Year old Half Arabian Gelding FOR SALE

This is a well trained horse that would be excellent for youth who may be interested in the show experience and/or casual riding.

This Half Arabian has one year of training with local professional Carla Jackson in hunter pleasure for the Arabian Circuit. He has a great temperament and trailers with no issues.

Height- 15 Hands

Please contact  
email:[heatherbates@shaw.ca](mailto:heatherbates@shaw.ca) for inquiries  
or call 780 920 7997



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## more Classified Ads

**Show Halter.** Can be adjusted to fit any size head. Black and Gold and in excellent condition. \$100 obo.

**Show Bosal.** Light Brown with some silver. New \$800 but will sell for \$300 obo.

**Beautiful Chocolate brown rommel reins with silver.** New #800 US but will sell for \$400 Canadian obo.

**Show bits.** One is a snaffle and one is a shanked bit. Both very flashy.

**Show clothes**[size 6] such as chaps, vests, western and English riding boots.  
[size 6 1/2-7]

**Several misc. items.**

Call 403-826-2091 or email at charzieg@telus.net

**Available for 1/4, 1/2, or 3/4 lease** 1/2 Arab/Saddlebred mare 7yrs old. Terms negotiable. Horse must stay at present location 15 min S of Sherwood Park. The stable has an indoor arena, outdoor arena, and riding trails. Small facility with adult amateur pleasure riders. Owner only makes it out 1-2 times /week to pleasure ride and would like the horse to be "loved" more. Horse requires minimum Novice rider. If interested please call 780 417 6629 ask for Colleen

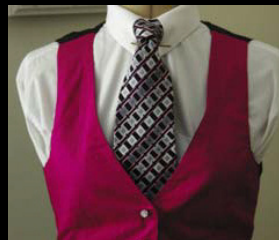
**Beautiful western show leather vest,** size XS, brandname In Your Wildest Dreams, worn 5 times, great colors black, ivory and gold. → Please contact Carlyn @ 780-990-9544 for more information.

**For Sale: 2000 dark brown Whitman cutback saddle;** size 21, with a flat seat. In great shape and has been regularly cleaned and oiled. Asking \$800. Call Sandy at 780-998-2894 or e-mail (sltugas@yahoo.com).



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## **2009 AHA Convention Report**

### **Karen Caughell**

The 2009 AHA Convention was held in Reno Nevada. There were 334 delegates attending this year out of 525 eligible. That number was up from the 288 in 2008. The Convention is THE place where the decisions get made and rules get changed. I can't stress enough how important it is to have members of our club and Region attend as delegates to help in the decision making process. Yes, one vote CAN make a difference.

Congratulations go to Gerald MacDonald from the Vancouver Island Arabian Horse Association for winning the National Service Volunteer Award and the Presidents trophy. Lorne Robertson (Aurora) and Kimberly Toye (AAHA of BC) won the Region 17 Volunteer Service awards. The Calgary Arabian Horse Association won the Club Excellence award for Breed Promotion.

Region 17 donated \$1000.00 to the Arabian Horse Galleries. This is the Arabian museum that is being built in Lexington, Kentucky at the Kentucky Horse Park. The Canadian Arabian Horse Registry donated \$2500.00.

The Arabian Horse Foundation established the Patrick Swayze & Lisa Neimi scholarship. This is for Arabian youth who want to pursue a career in the Performing Arts. The AHF has given out close to \$60,000 in scholarship and grants in the past two years. Region 17 youth are encouraged to apply for these scholarships.

The 2010 US National show is in Tulsa, Oklahoma. It is the third year in a three year contract. AHA will be looking at several places for the 2011 show. These include Tulsa, Oklahoma City, Fort Worth and Scottsdale.

The results of the voting on the resolutions are up on the AHA web site. There were a few that interested our members. The two on the Sport Horse splits were withdrawn by the Proponent. It was realized that they didn't have class specifications written up for each class. Until they have class specs, they can't be offered separately. The Select rider definition was changed to be not having won two Championships in a Select class or one Top 5 in the corresponding regular class instead of two Top 5's in Select or one regular Top 5. Full Top 10's will be awarded at the National shows starting in 2011.

I spoke to the Board of Directors at their meeting on Wednesday to present the idea of being allowed to qualify for a different Regional show in your own Region. There was a lot of discussion about this and the vote ended up being 15 against and 13 for. It was very close. A couple of the Directors approached Terry after and asked a few questions, they said they would have voted for it if they knew a little more about how it would work. A motion had been made to do more study and bring it back to the 2010 Convention. As the Convention went on, we talked to several Directors and trainers and most felt that it was a good idea and could work well. Terry will continue to speak to the Directors and will bring it up at the January Board meeting to see if we could try it with some test Regions.

I attended several committee meetings and will report each one separately.

### **AMATEUR**

This committee discussed the splitting of the Sport Horse classes to be Dressage type and Hunter type and to have class codes assigned to them so they could be separate classes. It was asked if this recommendation could go to the Board of Directors to vote on it. This was also a resolution that had been withdrawn. The Board of Directors did vote on the splitting of the sport horse classes, but voted against the separation of the classes. The reason for it was because there were no class specifications done for each class and they couldn't allow a class to run without specifications. Someone will write up the class specs and the resolution will come back to convention next year.

## **AWARDS COMMITTEE**

The Awards Committee awarded four horses the Ambassador Award. This is for promoting the Arabian breed outside the show ring. The horses that won were ridden in parades, taken to school demonstrations, showed in open or all breed shows, were in breed promotion booths, used as lesson horses, and used in cattle drives. They were Athena+//, Gilet+/, TH Barbarian+ and TS Black Tie Affair.

The committee continued a discussion from the 2008 convention. This was to add another award to the Achievement award program. The proposed award would be the "Supreme Excellence Award". It would not require halter points, but most likely will be double the points of the Legion of Excellence, so would require 600 points for purebreds and 480 points for part bred. It would most likely have another "/" so the award would be +//. The proposal will be taken before the Board of Directors to vote on it.

## **CANADIAN NATIONAL SHOW COMMISSION**

The new building will be used for the Nationals for 2010. The building is "impressive". Tours were given to trainers at the 2009 show. Some of the US trainers wanted to know if the US show can be held there too. They had a problem with the footing this year, but will be working hard to ensure it doesn't happen next year. There were some complaints about the photographer. This was his first year doing the Canadian Nationals. The judges for the 2010 Canadian Nationals are: Panel 1: Bill Melendez, Van Jacobson & Gary Dearth. Panel 2: Nancy Harvey, Lisa Jo White & Ross Tarkington. Working Western: Jan Perdue-Wilson, Jim Hitt & Margo Shallcross. The Dressage judge is Louise Koch and the Hunter/Jumper judge is Penny Carpenter.

## **CONVENTION PLANNING COMMITTEE**

The 2010 Convention will be held in Orlando, Florida. The host hotel will offer a convention rate at the hotel for 3 days before and 3 days after the convention for those people who want to stay and visit the sites.

Region 17 was awarded the convention for 2011. It will be held in Vancouver. Since it will be so close, it is a great opportunity for many of our members to attend and see what the convention is all about. Region 17 will be looking for sponsors for the coffee breaks, wine, items for door prizes and items for the carry bags that all the delegates receive. Items could be pads of note paper, pens, key chains, markers, candy, anything related to your farm or business for promotion, etc.

They are still looking at locations for the 2012 convention. Places mentioned were Las Vegas, Ohio and Kentucky.

## **REGIONAL & NATIONAL CLASSES**

The committee discussed the Select rider division. There was a push from the Professional Horseman to have the Select division added to the National shows. Right now, there are only 6 Regions that offer Select classes. Region 17 was among the first to offer Select classes. There was a change proposed for the amount of time that you could stay in the Select classes. Right now, you have to move out of Select after you have won two Top 5's. This can happen very easily if the Regions give full Top 5's and there are only five or less in the class. The change was to be that you could stay in Select until you won two Championships in Select or one Top 5 or higher in the corresponding regular amateur class. This is to take effect in 2011. If you have won two Top 5's in Select, but haven't won a Top 5 in the regular corresponding class and you win a Top 5 in 2010, you will not be eligible for the Select in 2011. If you have not won a Top 5 in the regular class, and don't win one in 2010, you can continue to show in Select until you win two Championships or one regular Top 5.

They also discussed the resolution for awarding a full Top 10 at the national shows. There were mixed feelings about this, but felt it might be a way to encourage people to enter at the National shows. They are trying to get the entry numbers up. The Arabian breed is the only breed that doesn't give out full Top 10's at their National shows.

It was suggested that the National shows combine the Purebred and Half Arabian Jumpers to be one class since the numbers are low. AHA will have to look into this to see if they can have a combined class.

continued ...

Convention Report by Caughell continued ...

It was requested to track the entry numbers for Purebred and Half Arabian English Pleasure AATR. If the numbers are high enough to justify it, this class can be requested to be added on to the approved National class list for consideration at the Nationals. Class A show and Regional shows can offer it at their discretion.

#### **SWEEPSTAKES**

There is 7 million dollars in the fund and it is protected. Some Sweepstakes money had not been put in the Sweepstakes trust, but had been put in AHA's general fund. This has been rectified and all the money will be returned to the Sweepstakes fund. In 2009, approx \$20.00 will be paid out per point for the points program. Any stallion that is not entered as a Nominated Sire after 2009 will not be eligible for the owner win money from the nominated offspring.

If anyone has any questions about the Convention or the Committee meetings that I attended, please call me.

Karen Caughell

DON'T MISS THIS ....

## **4H Tack Sale**

April 10, 2010

Lamont Rec Center (hall)

10am-3pm

Concession and Silent Auction

**Proceeds support Elk Island 4H Light Horse Club**

Tables \$25 each contact [Lynsay canadiandixiechick@yahoo.com](mailto:Lynsay.canadiandixiechick@yahoo.com) or 780-796-2200

Individuals and Business with horse related items are more than welcome!



## **Aurora Arabian Horse Association Summer Show**

**June 11, 12 & 13, 2010**

**Amberlea Meadows**

**Featuring: Region 6 Sport Horse & Dressage  
Championship Show**

**Prize Lists and more information available soon!**

**AURORA**

## Horse Lovers Defined

“**Saddle (n)**; An expensive, leather contraption manufactured to give the rider a false sense of security. Comes in many styles, all feature built-in ejector seats.”

**THE BACKYARD RIDER:** Usually found wearing shorts and a sports bra in the summer; flannel nightgown, muck boots, and a down jacket in the winter. Drives a Ford 150 filled with saddle blankets and dog hair. Most have deformed toes from being stepped on while wearing flip-flops. Has a two-horse bumper-pull trailer, but uses it for hay storage, as her horse hasn't been off the farm in 6 years. Can install an electric fence, set a gate, and roll a round bale, solo. Rode well and often when she used to board her horse, 5 years ago. Took horse home to “save money” and has spent about 50 grand on acreage, barn, fence, tractor, etc. Has two topics of conversation - 1) How it's too hot/cold/wet/dry to ride and 2) How she may ride after she fixes the fence/digs drainage ditches/stacks 4 tons of hay.

**THE NATURAL HORSEMANSHIP DEVOTEE:** Looks like a throwback from a Texas ranch, despite the fact that he lives in the suburbs of New Jersey . Rope coiled loosely in hand in case he needs to herd any of those kids on roller-blades away from his F-350 dually in the Wal-Mart parking lot. Cowboy hat strategically placed, and just dirty enough to look cool. Levi's are well worn. “Lightning” is, of course, this natural horsemanship guy's horse. Rescued from a bad home where he was never imprinted or broke in the natural horsemanship way, he specialized in running down his owners at feeding time, knocking children off his back on low-hanging branches, and baring his teeth. The hospitalization tally for his previous handlers was 12, until he was sent to Round Pen Randy; after ten minutes in said pen, he is now a totally broke horse, bowing to the crowd, and can put on his own splint boots (With R.P. Randy's trademark logo embossed on them). R.P.R. says, of all this, “Well, shucks ma'am, t'weren't nuthin'! It's simple horsemanship. With this special twirly flickitatin' rope (\$47.95 plus tax), you'll be round-pennin' like me in no time!”

**THE ENDURANCE RIDER:** Wears Lycra tights in wild neon colors. The shinier the better, so the EMTs can find her body when her horse dumps her down a ravine. Wears hiking shoes of some sort, and T-shirts she got for paying \$75 to complete another torturous ride. Her horse, Al Kamar Shazam, used to be called “you bastard” until he found an owner almost as hyper as he is. Shazam can spook at a blowing leaf, spin a 360, and not lose his big trot rhythm or give an inch to the horse behind him. Has learned to eat, drink, pee, and drop to his resting pulse rate on command. He has compiled 3,450 AERC miles; his rider compiled 3,445 miles (the missing five miles are the ones when he raced down the trail without his rider after performing his trademark 360). Over-heard frequently: “Anyone have Advil?” “Anyone got some food? I think last year's Twinkies went bad.” “For this pain I spend money?” “Shazam, you bastard, it's just a leaf” **[thud]**!

THE HUNTER RIDER: Is slightly anorexic and trying her best to achieve the conformation of a 17-year-old male in case she ever has a clinic with George Morris.. Field marks include greeny-beige breeches and a baseball cap when schooling or mud-colored coat and hardhat with dangling chinstrap when competing. Forks over about a grand a month to trainer for the privilege of letting him/her “tune” up the horse, which consists of drilling the beast until it’s going to put in five strides on a 60 foot line no matter WHAT she does. Sold the Thoroughbred (and a collection of lunging equipment, chambons, side reins) and bought a Warmblood, a ladder and a LONG set of spurs. Talks a lot about the horse’s success in Florida without exactly letting on that she herself has never been south of the Pennsylvania line.

THE DRESSAGE QUEEN: Has her hair in an elegant ponytail and is wearing a visor and gold earrings sporting a breed logo. A \$100 dollar custom jumper (also with breed logo) is worn over \$300 dollar full-seat white breeches and custom Koenigs. Her horse, “Leistergeidelsprundheim” (“Fleistergeidel” for short) is a 17.3-hand Warmblood who was bred to be a Grand Prix horse. The Germans are still laughing hysterically, as he was bred to be a Grand Prix JUMPER, but since he couldn’t get out of his own way, they sold him to an American. His rider fell in love with his lofty gaits, proud carriage, and tremendous athleticism. She admires mostly while lunging. She lunges him a lot, because she is not actually too keen to get up there and try to SIT that trot. When she rides, it’s not for long, because (while he looks FINE to everyone else), she can tell that he is not as “through” and “supple” as he should be, and gets off to call the chiropractor/massage therapist/psychic, all of which is expensive. But he WILL be shown, and shown right after he perfects (fill in the blank). The “blank” changes often enough that the rider can avoid the stress of being beaten at Training Level 1 by a Quarter Horse.

THE EVENTER: Is bent over from carrying three saddles, three bridles, three bits, and three unrelated sets of clothing (four, if she is going to have to do a trot up at a 3-Day). The hunched defensive posture is reinforced by the anticipation of “a long one” a ditch and a wall, and from living in her back protector. Perpetually broke because she pays THREE coaches (a Dressage Queen, a jumper rider, and her eventing guru, none of whom approve of the other) and pays trailers/stabling/living expenses to go 600 miles to events that are spread out over 5 days. She is smugly convinced that Eventers are in fact the only people in the world who CAN ride (since Dressage Queen’s don’t jump, the H/J crowd is too afraid to go OUT of a ring, and the fox hunters — a related breed — don’t have to deal with dressage judges). Hat cover on cross-country helmet is secured with a giant rubber band, so she can look like her idol, Phillip. Her horse, (who has previously been rejected as a race horse, a steeplechase horse — got ruled off for jumping into the infield tailgating the crowd — a jumper, a fox hunter, and a polo pony (no bit stops this thing) has two speeds: gallop and “no gallop” (also known as stop ‘n’ dump). Excels at over jumping into water, doing a head first “tuck and roll” maneuver, and then her horse, exiting the complex (catch me if you can!), before his rider slogs out of the pond. He often stops to lick the Crisco off his legs before continuing gaily on to the merciless oxer jump just ahead. Owner often threatens to sell, but as he has flunked out of every other English-riding discipline, he will have to be to a barrel racer.

Looking for the perfect gift? Give the gift of Flickr!

## From December meeting ...

### AURORA ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

Meeting December 14, 09

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm

Motion to adopt minutes from October meeting by Carla Jackson. Karen Caughell seconded. All in agreement.

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Kim Keleman

-Club account balances given for Canadian and US accounts

#### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT** – Jill Bromley

Adult 1 year: 123

Adult 3 year: 29

Lifetime: 1

Youth: 23

#### **YOUTH REPORT** – Terri Martin

-Planning events for the spring, including Fun and Furry (likely to be in April again)

-A page to be entered in the Aurora Newsletter by Sydney Young.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **AHA CONVENTION**

-Region 17 will host the AHA Convention in 2011 in Vancouver

-Congratulations go out to Gerald McDonald who was awarded the President's Award for his outstanding volunteer work

-Convention reports from delegates will be available in the Aurora Newsletter

-YEAR END PARTY/ HIGH POINT AWARDS will be January 9, 2010.

Fitted coolers to be given for High Point awards will be made by Sue Willows.

A clinic with Rob Bick and Caralyn Schroter will hopefully be held on the weekend of March 21 and 22 or 28 and 29, depending on the availability of a facility.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

AURORA JUNE SHOW to be held weekend of June 12 and 13. Region VI Sport Horse and Dressage Championship show to be held in conjunction. Calgary Club has offered to host qualifier.

##### **AEF Membership Update**

-All Personal liability insurance previously available through an AEF sport license membership is now also available through the EC membership. Members may still choose to purchase an AEF membership.

-Shows will be approved and insured through EC and Drug testing will be performed through the national organization

Upcoming Meetings – Jan 9 from 1-2pm at Comeaus hall (before High Points Awards Party)

Feb 8 – possibly to be held at a restaurant in Leduc

Mar 8 – Salisbury Greenhouses

#### **9:00 MEETING ADJOURNED**

**Thank you so much to Greenland Garden Center for hosting the meeting!**