

January

NEWSLETTER



“A Bit of Information”

**HAPPY**  
**NEW YEAR**

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## DATES TO REMEMBER

### March 23, 2024

NMAHA Potluck, Meeting and  
Ambassador/Hands & Hooves Awards, Green  
Roof Area Center, Paynesville, MN

### April 20, 2024 :

NMAHA Potluck and Meeting, Green Roof Area  
Center, Paynesville, MN

### June 1, 2024:

NMAHA OEIP/WSCA Show, Litchfield, MN

## 2024 CONTACTS

### NMAHA OFFICERS

#### President

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### NMAHA BOARD MEMBERS

#### **Darcie Michaelis (2025)**

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### DELEGATES

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**Kaitlyn Frenchick**

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**Proudly Promoting the Arabian Horse!**

# President's Perspective

Thoughts from my perspective...

We had great weather during the month of December, but made up for it with the brutal cold temps January. We welcome mild temps approaching and longer daylight hours each day. This brings our thoughts to planning ahead to showing, foaling out mares, breeding and trail riding season.

Our January virtual meeting brought discussion about our show in 2024. Our OEIP / WSCA show in Litchfield is June 1st. Seeking or donating sponsorships is something we can all do to help insure that this show is able to be successful. Volunteering is also a fun way to get involved and meet new people. At this meeting, we also discussed forming a committee to explore the possibility of bringing back our May rated show for 2025 which has been held in Verndale. As always, your input is welcomed.



At the March meeting in Paynesville, we are excited to present our members with their awards from the Ambassador program and the Hands & Hooves program. NMAHA is proud to give back to our members and I am happy to see the number of participants! Your membership is important to us. As we strive to grow our club and share our love for the Arabian horse, please think of others who you may encourage to join us. Horse ownership is not a prerequisite for membership. NMAHA aims to offer something for everyone.

I would like to thank Mesa Lieser for her years of service to NMAHA as she steps off as a board member. We have always appreciated her thoughts and ideas. Roz Gilbert has been a major supporter of NMAHA for decades, serving on the board, managing our May show and being the membership chairperson. Thank you for all that you did for our club and I wish you the very best in your next chapter. I also want to recognize Kaitlyn Frenchick's service to Region 10 as their past Youth Coordinator. NMAHA welcomes Laura Loch to the board.

This is my final message for this term as your President as my incumbency has come to an end. I have turned the reins over to Lynda Frenchick who has done a splendid job being our President in past years.

Here is to an upcoming year of goals reached, joy fulfilled and being united with our beautiful Arabian horses.

*Jean Liestman*  
NMAHA President

# Meeting Minutes

## January 2024

The meeting was held virtually via Google Meet on January 20, 2024.

President, Jean Liestman called the meeting to order at 1:02. Members present in were: J. Liestman, L. Frenchick, J. Liestman, D. Michaelis, K. Frenchick, A. Schleper, G. Schleper, M. Lieser and L. Loch.

There was a motion made to approve the minutes as published in the last newsletter by Laura L. and a second by Audrey S.

### Treasurer Report:

Prior to the meeting, Valerie emailed reports including the year end financials to the officers and board. Via email, Valerie reported the following:

- A few "offset" accounts were added to the Youth, Royalty, Ambassador, and Tri-State membership accounts for when donations come in. This offset of the expenses can more easily be seen what the actual expenses were, which should make budgeting easier.
- The \$200 from the convention expense budget to the Ambassador budget for 2023 (as was discussed at the October meeting) were not moved. Since the Ambassador account did not go over its budget in 2023, moving the numbers was not needed.
- The proposed budget loss for 2023 was \$3,000. Our actual "loss" was \$665 (rounded).

Katilyn F. made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report and Laura L. seconded the

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **June Show:**

Lynda F. gave an update on the June show.

- Showbill Committee
  - The showbill is close to being finalized and the committee has made a few changes/additions to the showbill for 2024.
    1. Ranch Horse classes will follow WSCA rules and include one Ranch Rail Pleasure class and one Ranch Riding class.
    2. Four additional classes have been added which are, Open Pony Halter 54" & Under, Open Color Halter, Schooling Walk-Trot/Jog and Schooling Walk-Trot-Canter/Lope.
    3. Some of the W/T classes have been removed from the class list, as well as combining some of the 13 & Under with the 14-17 classes.
    4. Classes containing 6 or more exhibitors maybe eligible for the Roll of the Die —money winning classes.
- Judges
  - Stacey Busswitz and Josh Tjosaas will receive a copy of the showbill once it's complete.
- Volunteers
  - Darcie M. has volunteered to be the ring steward.
  - Laura L. will volunteer where needed.
  - The 4-H Horse Judging teams that NMAHA sponsored should be contacted for being volunteers.
- Sponsorships
  - As always, sponsorships are a big need for this show to continue.

### **Ambassador Program:**

Jean L. reported that the awards are being finalized.

- There are 14 adults and 2 youth in the Hands and Hooves program.
- There are 4 adults and 1 youth participating in the Ambassador program.
- The discussion of adding a third division for non-registered Arabians/Part Arabians to the Hands & Hooves program has been table until a later date.

# Meeting Minutes Continued

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)**

### **Royalty Program:**

Jaime L. reported on the Royalty.

- Changes have been made to the 2025 Guidelines/Application to update the verbiage pertaining to not holding show in May currently.
- Prior the meeting, the updated form and the promotional royalty ad was sent to Lynda F. to put on the NMAHA website.

### **Arabians Unplugged:**

Jaime L. reported on AU.

- It was approved to expand the AU circuit, which would allow non-Arabian clubs to participate. The new rules and forms were updated and Laura Mickelson will be making people aware of this when she emails the calendar out with show dates of clubs. Laura M. also announced this at the last Region 10 meeting. Jaime L. and Jean L. will help promote this addition.

### **Region 10**

Jean L., Kaitlyn F. and Lynda F. attended the Region 10 virtual meeting. Kaitlyln L. gave an overview of the meeting.

- Elections for Region 10 are coming up.
- The Region 10 show size increased in 2023.
- Kaitlyn F. is stepping down as the Region 10 Youth Coordinator.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### *MN Horse Council:*

Jean L. will reach out to Valerie T. to see if a check was sent for our dues.

### *May Show Committee:*

Jean L. suggested that a committee be formed to look at potentially holding a May show in 2025.

- Lynda F. volunteered to be on the committee. If anyone else is interested, they are welcome to contact Lynda.

### *Board Members:*

- Following the January meeting, the new Officers and Board Members will take over the roles.  
President: Lynda Frenchick, V.P.: Jean Liestman, Treasurer: Valerie Temp and Secretary: Jaime Liestman.  
Board Members: Missy Beecroft, Darcie Michaelis, Kaitlyn Frenchick and Laura Loch.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### *Membership Chairperson:*

Roz G. has stepped down as membership chair. Jean L. has agreed to take this position over.

### *December 2024 NMAHA Meeting/Christmas Party:*

The Green Roof Area Center is already booked on Saturday, December 7th. Further discussion has been tabled until the March meeting.

- Option One: Move the date to Sunday, December 8th at the Green Roof Area Center.
- Option Two: Keep the date of December 7th and find a different location.

Lynda F. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:57 PM, with Laura L. seconding the motion.

*Jaime Liestman,*

NMAHA Secretary

2024

# NMAHA Queen



Greetings,

I am honored to represent NMAHA in 2024 as Queen. I have been member of the Arabian Horse Association for over three decades and a dedicated member of NMAHA for a decade. I wear many hats and take on many responsibilities. I have served on the NMAHA board, been an officer by being Secretary for several years. I assist with the newsletter compilation and the club's advertising needs.

In 2014, I implemented and have maintained the royalty program for NMAHA. Being involved in a Royalty program is something that is near and dear to my heart. I had the honor of representing the MN Pinto Horse Association in 2001, 2002, 2006 and 2007 as their Queen, as well as competing for Miss Pinto of America in 2001.

Giving back to our youth is something that I feel is important and needed. I have been involved with the Meeker County 4-H with clinics, open ride nights and giving pointers when asked. I have been the official judge for Region II FFA Horse Judging contest, where I've been able to discuss my placings with several advisors and provide reasons for my placings to the students.

Garnering show sponsorships is something I don't take lightly, which is why I work diligently to do so, as they are imperative to NMAHA's OEIP/WSCA show. I also serve on the show committee. In addition to my involvement organizing the June show, I have been an exhibitor for many years with a variety of equines.

I am the NMAHA representative for the Arabians Unplugged circuit that rewards amateurs and youth showing in non-rated Arabian shows, where I sit on the steering committee and help with presenting the awards at the banquet.

Breeding, raising, and training Arabians and Part-Arabians on our farm, Reflection Farm, has been a lifelong business that I have had the pleasure of being a part of, thanks to my mother, Jean Liestman. We stand several stallions at stud and dedicate our lives to ensuring the needs of the horses we care for are met, as well as their owner's.

I have shown both Arabians and Part-Arabians to local, state, national and world titles. One of the top highlights of my horse career, was when RF RAMBO, a Part-Arabian Pinto stallion, who I grew up alongside, showed and loved was inducted into the Pinto Horse Association of America Equine Hall of Fame. This was such an honor and an emotional time receiving this award in Tulsa, OK. It was a moment of a lifetime that I will forever cherish. My first Purebred Arabian was a grey gelding, Marwan+, who I had the joy of riding at the young age of three. The world needs more horses like him to take care of and protect youth riders.

I am not shy when it comes to volunteering and sharing my love of the Arabian horse. When time allows, I promote Arabians/Half-Arabians by attending WSCA Open shows, which allows me to be an ambassador for our association and as a perk, be active in the NMAHA Ambassador Program. In 2016 and 2023, I received the NMAHA President's Award and I received the AHA Club Level Volunteer Award, also in 2023. I try to provide many of my riding lesson students a way to love and appreciate the Arabian horse and several have gone on to participate in shows through my guidance and encouragement.

Community involvement helps to stay connected to those around you. Being active in both Cornerstone Church and Salem Historical Church are very rewarding for me. I am also involved in the Litchfield community through Danner, Brekke & Everts Financial and Insurance Solutions, where I have been the Office Manager for nearly 10 years. In recent years, our agency has expanded into Equine Insurance. At DBE, we partake in many Chamber of Commerce events. Other community involvement has been through Reflection Farm. I have been part of the Adopt-A-Highway program since 1993. Throughout the years Reflection Farm has also opened our doors for many summer and holiday events and we always welcome visitors.

Outside of the horse world, I enjoy graphic design, craft projects, photography, Ford trucks and outdoor activities, which include but are not limited to: gardening, landscaping, fishing, trail riding, and witnessing God's glorious sunrises and sunsets.

I hope to see many of you at different functions and events in 2024!

*Jaime Liestman*



2024

# NMAHA Jr. Queen

Hello, I am Lily Schlangen and I am the NMAHA Jr. Queen this year. I have been a member of NMAHA for 6 years and been doing royalty each year since I joined.

I am 16 years old and I have been going to Reflection Farm where I have taken lessons for 9 years. I have been working as an apprentice for the past few years there. My horse's registered name is RF Pitch Perfect. She is mainly a trail and leisure riding horse, but I do some in-hand classes at the Litchfield show. I have also, shown RF Epic and have received the Overall Junior Highpoint Award for the NMAHA Ambassador program, as well as the Hands & Hooves program. I compete in the Arabian's Unplugged circuit, where I have received several Top 5 Awards for several years.

I love doing hands-on projects as well as reading and writing. My favorite subject in school is English. In fact, I'm planning on going to college for a teaching degree in English for high school or becoming a college professor. My life pretty-much revolves around horses, dance, and school. I make some time for friends and family too, but mainly hang out with my friends in school or in sports and activities from school, and family on weekends and holidays.

I am also a dancer in Just For Kicks through Paynesville, and I do 4 classes within that.

I greatly look forward to this coming year as the Northern Minnesota Arabian Horse Association Jr. Queen, as well as my future with NMAHA.

Lily Schlangen





# Member Spotlight

LYNDA FRENCHICK



**N** How long have you been involved with the Arabian Horse?

**L** I have owned Arabians for 50 years now, since at least 1974. I purchased my first part Arabian, Sarrazon, and also my first purebred Arabian, Phar's Reflection, from Jean Liestman. I have had many wonderful horses over this span of time and solely purebred Arabians for quite some time now.

**N** What is your favorite part of working with or owning an Arabian or Part-Arabian Horse?

**L** They are so smart - making them very trainable and versatile. They love attention and people, they are sensitive, very aware of their surroundings and of course, their looks. All of the horses that I have owned and were shown competed in more than one discipline. Including my current mount Ravello GF, who started out Western Pleasure and now rocks in Hunter Pleasure.

**N** **What is your current involvement with NMAHA?**  
 Volunteer  Show Exhibitor  Trail Ride  Board Member  
 Programs (Royalty, Ambassador, Hands & Hooves)  Other (Please Explain)

**L** I am a Club Officer and the NMAHA Website manager, in addition to the other things I noted above.

**N** **What has your past involvement been with NMAHA?**  
 Volunteer  Show Exhibitor  Trail Ride  Board Member  
 Programs (Royalty, Ambassador, Hands & Hooves)  Other (Please Explain)

**L** Including what I selected above, I have been a past NMAHA Officer, Website Manager, Participated in the Ambassador Program and have been a Delegate to AHA convention.

**N** **What three (3) words would you use to best describe NMAHA?**

**L** Friends, welcoming and resilient.



AMATEUR



YOUTH

# *New Opportunity*

WSCA & ALL BREED SHOWS  
WELCOME TO PARTICIPATE

MUST ADD THREE ARABIAN/HALF-ARABIAN/ANGLO-ARABIAN  
CLASSES TO YOUR SHOW

**For rules & forms contact:  
Jaime Liestman- jimmyjuneL@hotmail.com**

**or**

**Jean Liestman - rframbo@hutchtel.net**

