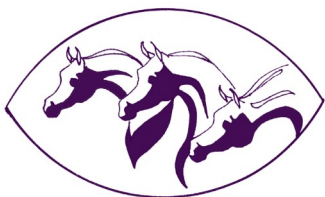


# Northern Minnesota Arabian Horse Association



## NMAHA NEWSLETTER

March 2021



Photo Credit: Barbara O'Brien

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### Dates to Remember:

**April 17, 2021**— Meeting -Paynesville Community Center @ 1:00 PM. Meeting is also available via zoom.

# President's Perspective

Thoughts from my perspective.....

It is hard to imagine that it has been one year since we last met in person. I am so thankful that we can. Of course, we follow guidelines to hold our meeting safely. This past year we have been meeting with Zoom meeting and we will continue to offer this option although it does pose some short comings when it comes to those on zoom hearing what others are saying in the room. We will work on improving that at future meetings.

We had our Ambassador Awards at this meeting, and I congratulate the high point winners and wish to thank all of those who participate in this program to promote the Arabian breed to others. Thank you to Jean for being chairperson for this program. Along with Jaime the awards are always wonderfully displayed and presented. Enjoy the pictures in the newsletter.

Last year at this time we were anxiously awaiting to hear if we could have our shows. The May show was cancelled and we fully prepared for the June Open show. With WSCA working hard with the State of MN for approval of outdoors shows. Guidelines were well laid out to safely hold an outdoor show. Then the unfortunate event in Minneapolis delayed the approval and we ended up cancelling that show a couple of days before it was scheduled to happen. (The following week open shows were approved). This year we fully expect to have our shows and they are fast approaching. We are set with our shows - except the need for more volunteers.

I want our members to be not only thinking about our need for volunteers but to call and let us know that you can. Whether it is for a short time or longer, all help is appreciated!

Some of the areas that you can volunteer at our shows are:

- Volunteer Coordinator for June show (schedules and assigns volunteers for the show)

- Gate (two people per shift – responsible to open and close gates for classes, checking exhibitors in for their class, announcing the class)

- Runner (takes class listing and communications between office and announcer or gate keepers, etc.)

- Help setting up, taking down trail, equipment

- Announcer assistant

- Ribbons

To sign up to volunteer for the May One Day Shows (May 15th & 16th) please contact Kaitlyn Frenchick. For our June 6<sup>th</sup> Arabian Community Show we are looking for a Volunteer Coordinator. To sign up prior to having a listed volunteer coordinator - feel free to contact me.

Until then enjoy our early spring and all that it brings.

*Lynda Frenchick*

NMAHA President

# Meeting Minutes

## **March 2021**

On March 13, 2021, the meeting was held in person at the Paynesville Community Center in Paynesville, MN. Individuals could also attend via Zoom. President, Lynda Frenchick called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM. Members present in person were: J. Liestman, V. Temp, J. Liestman, L. Mueller, R. Temp, J. Riebe, K. Frenchick, M. Beecroft, E. Schrupp, A. Eblen and M. Beecroft. Those members who attended via Zoom were: R. Gilbert, M. Smith, J. Woolcott and M. Lieser.

A motion was made to approve the minutes from January as published in the newsletter by Mary S. and a second by Kaitlyn F.

### **Treasurer Report:**

Valerie T. had emailed the officers/board the current Treasurer's report prior to the meeting and also gave an update at the meeting.

- \$500 was paid for our insurance, which went down in cost.

- \$75 was paid for dues for Arabians Unplugged.

- Certificate of Deposits mature in two weeks.

Jean L. made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report with Missy B. seconding that motion.

## **Committee Reports:**

### ***The One Day Shows:***

#### **Volunteers:**

- Kaitlyn F. has the Google document created. Volunteers are needed. Currently no one has signed up to volunteer.

#### **Sponsorships:**

- NMAHA members are encouraged to find sponsors.

- Missy B., Lynda F. and Lee Ann M. will check with their employers to see if they would donate hand sanitizer.

#### **Youth Day:**

- Kaitlyn F. is working on a form for the gift baskets for the fundraiser for Youth Day. The form will have a place to list the value of the contents.

Gift basket ideas could be: Snacks, Ladies Night Out, Sports theme, etc.

#### **Hippology:**

- At this point no one has signed up to participate. Kaitlyn F. will post information on our Facebook page and perhaps Instagram. She will reach out to local FFA chapters to promote the contest, as well.

#### **Forms:**

- All forms and the show bill are available on our website. Mary S. will send our judges a letter and the show bill in April.

#### **Masks:**

- Rachel T. and Kailyn F. will look into the cost of having NMAHA masks made that would be provided to our volunteers at the May shows. The funds for these could come from our Promotional budget, which has \$225 available for the year. If the cost of the masks are over that, then the remaining funds will be donated by individual(s). By having NMAHA masks available, exhibitors would know who to ask should they need anything while at the show.

# Meeting Minutes Continued

## ***Committee Reports (Cont):***

### ***June OIEP/WSCA Show:***

#### **Fairgrounds Contract:**

-Lynda F. will reach out to the Meeker County Fairgrounds regarding the contract for use of the facility. They have the monies from last year still to be applied to this year.

#### **Sponsorships:**

-Sponsorships are needed.

#### **Volunteers:**

-Volunteers are needed.

Rick Beecroft has agreed to be our announcer.

#### **Awards/Ribbons:**

-The awards and ribbons are all set.

#### **Judge(s):**

-Steve Bobzin and Lita Hottel Perin are our judges.

#### **Food:**

-It was mentioned to check into a food truck as it would be difficult to have a food stand as in the past with Covid-19 precautions.

### ***Royalty:***

Jaime L. gave an update on the Royalty.

-The Royalty application/guidelines are available on the NMAHA website or Jaime can be contacted.

-NMAHA Royalty masks have been given to the Royalty. Jaime decided to not add rhinestones due to repeated washing.

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

### ***Operating Funds — certificate of deposit:***

It was agreed upon by the BOD that the smaller amount of funds in the certificate of deposit be transferred to the NMAHA checking account, since both CDs mature the end of the month. Whatever funds are not used once our shows are complete for 2021, will be put into a new certificate of deposit. Valerie will check to see if any other financial institutions are offering higher rates, although, she would prefer to keep our business all in one place.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### ***Additions of recognition program from 2020 to Ambassador Program:***

Jean L. shared what a positive response the Additions program was in 2020. She asked that we, as a club strongly think about keeping this program for those who prefer to not show, but still love the Arabian horse in addition to the original program. This could also bring new members to our club as well as hopefully maintain our current membership.

Kaitlyn F. made the motion to amend the current rules allowing associate members to partake in the Ambassador Program. Anyone participating in the Ambassador and the sub-category (name of program to be decided at a later date) allowing individuals to get credit for spending quality time with their horse(s) must be a member of NMAHA. This motion was seconded by Valerie T.

# Meeting Minutes Continued

## **Other:**

### **Honorary NMAHA Members:**

- Lynda F. suggested that we honor past and present members who have been long time supporters of NMAHA. They would be considered "Honorary Members of NMAHA" at no cost to them. If they chose to be a member of AHA they would be responsible for those dues.  
A decision would need to be made as to how many years of club involvement justifies being a Honorary member.

### **Best Mess:**

- Mary S. did receive the files, so everything should be current.

### **Upcoming Meeting Dates:**

- Region 10 Meeting— March 14, 2021

-April 17, 2021 – NMAHA Meeting (tentatively at the Paynesville Community Center, but also the meeting will be available via Zoom) @ 1:00 PM

Meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM and was followed by the 2020 Ambassador Award Presentation. Congratulations to all of the participants!!

*Jaime Liestman,*  
NMAHA Secretary



# 2020 Ambassador Awards

# 2020

## Champions



# TWISTED TALES

## NEVER LOOK A GIFT HORSE IN THE MOUTH.

*Story and photographs by Darice Whyte*

I will admit it. I am a sucker for a nicely-colored Pinto. This passion was possibly caused by watching too much Bonanza when I was a kid. But a beautifully-colored Pinto that is also high-percentage Arabian makes me drool.

I have always wanted one of my own, so a couple of years ago I tried to breed my Arab mare to a high-percentage Arabian Pinto stallion, RF Mortdecai, owned by Jaime and Jean Liestman from Minnesota. Unfortunately it was not meant to be, as my mare didn't catch, so that dream sort of fizzled out. Not to be deterred, I asked Jean about leasing one of her mares to breed to Mortdecai and, to my surprise, she said "Sure." She had a lovely part-Arab mare, RF The Ultimate Gift, if I was interested.

Gift is a lovely mare with the most beautiful eyes, gentle disposition and the perfect color! She is bay and white with a two-toned mane and tail. She, in my opinion, had just the right markings, with not too much white.

She was bred, and after her 90-day check I went to Minnesota to pick her up and bring her to Canada for her stay for the next year. Of course, as soon as I got her home we had horrific October weather. If it

wasn't raining it was sleeting and miserable. Poor Gift had never been away from her farm in her 13 years, and it showed. Although I introduced my mares to Gift slowly, they were less than hospitable to poor meek-tempered Gift. And Gift was deathly afraid of all of them including my weanling! Now what to do? Although she was wary of all of them she did not want them to be out of her sight. I was concerned that all this negativity would not be good for the foal.

Within about a week of arriving Gift had her first bout with gas colic. At first I was worried she was losing the foal, but a quick call to my vet assured me this probably wasn't the case and a treatment was prescribed. About an hour after her treatment she bounced back, but now I was keeping one

**RF THE ULTIMATE GIFT** (Tali Sahib x Pacers Promise). This is how Gift was with the herd. Always off to the side but not wanting them to leave her sight totally.





eye on her. I began adding more salt plus electrolytes to her feed to help increase her water intake in hopes that this would halt any more colic episodes. Gift kept me on my toes

**“OF COURSE  
DURING THE TIME  
THAT I HAD GIFT,  
WE ENTERED THE  
COVID PANDEMIC.”**

though and had gas colic several times during her pregnancy. I think she was protesting her trip to Canada! Thankfully I knew exactly how to treat her and each time she would perk up and all would be well again. I was sure it was stress, and the fact that my herd scared the spots off her didn't help! Gift started spending her nights in the barn where she could still see the others but could relax and eat unmolested by the riffraff. She was quite happy with this idea, but still would have the odd gas colic just to freak me out.



Two-day-old **PRAIRIE WINDS PEEKABOO, aka Peeka**, by RF Mortdecai out of Gift.

It's one thing to have a sick horse but it's another story when it isn't your horse! Someone had entrusted their horse to me and I was worried something bad would happen on my watch.

One day later on in May when the vet was out to give the other horses their annual vaccinations, I asked him when he thought Gift would foal. He felt she was at least another week away. Gift, being Gift,

decided to foal that night. She was quite civilized about it and had her foal just after 9 pm.

As the foal was being born I was ecstatic when I saw the two-toned mane and minimal white. I had wanted a bay like Gift but this foal was chestnut. That momentary disappointment was quickly forgotten as here was the cutest little package of joy! The icing on the cake,



Paisley is quite a bit bigger and not always the best of friends but Peeka adores her.



was that my foal was a filly! I had picked her name long before, but until the foal is born I'm never certain. I felt her name was appropriate so Prairie Winds Peekaboo (Peeka) she became.

Of course during the time that I had Gift we entered the Covid pandemic. Never in my wildest dreams did I foresee this event. At first when the border slammed shut I thought it was a minor inconvenience and that all would be back to normal within a month or two. Well! As time progressed, things went from bad to worse. I knew I wouldn't be sending Gift back until later in the fall, but the talk was the border would be closed for the long haul. Now what to do about getting Gift home?

I started to search for transport. Few rigs were going that way. Others were full or ridiculously expensive and wouldn't even go the full distance to get her back to Minnesota. I called the border to find out if I could hand her off to Jean at the border. "We are not a truck stop ma'am," I was told. I wondered about taking her close to the border and have Jean standing on the other side shaking a pail of oats but that idea might have got us both arrested.

I finally found transport for her, however the timing was tight. I rushed to get my vet papers in order for their pickup date, only to be told three days before pickup the transport was canceled. So I was back to the drawing board, only now I was a lot more paranoid. Another transport was found but

the dates were more of a moving target. I would need my vet to complete new paperwork but didn't want to order that until I was certain this was a go. I thought about just keeping her for the winter but there was no indication the border would be opening any time soon and I'm sure Jean wanted her horse back!

I'm sure the transport company thought I was a lunatic. I would check in once a week to make sure 1) the transport was happening, 2) if they had narrowed down a date yet, and 3) that they hadn't forgotten about me.

The day finally arrived and Gift loaded like a charm almost like she knew she was getting out of this joint. Later that evening I received confirmation that

she was safely back home as though she had never left.

I can honestly say I've never been so relieved to have a horse go home. I told my friends to never ever let me lease a mare again. I'm sure in a year or two I will have completely forgotten how stressful it was and will contemplate trying again.

Next time I will gaze into my crystal ball to make sure there are no pandemics headed our way! 🐾

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# Northern MN Arabian Horse Association

**Find us on the web at: [www.NorthernMAHA.com](http://www.NorthernMAHA.com)**

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