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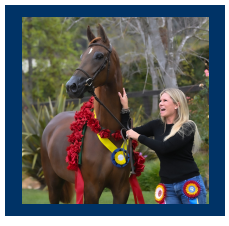
REGION 2
ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

Welcome to the Region 2 Newsletter

Welcome to the Region 2 newsletter! We want to keep our members updated and informed with this quarterly newsletter. It will have updates, upcoming events, and happenings in our region. If you have information on shows, trail rides, Club meetings, or anything else you want included, feel free to share it with Katie. We want us to feel like a connected and informed community!



Meet Katie

Katie Russell incoming Region 2 Director, has been involved with Arabian horses for the past 40 plus years. As a matter of fact, Katie competed at Earl Warren Showgrounds as a junior rider at Arabian shows in the late 1970's. She has been an involved member of Region 2 for many years as a delegate and Vice Director, and is a past President of the SYVAHA. Katie actively competes in the hunter pleasure, western pleasure and ranch riding disciplines. She and her husband Joe enjoy spending time with their Arabian horses at their ranch in Santa Ynez .

Region 2 Leadership

Nancy Goertzen, outgoing Region 2 Director

Region 2 is grateful for Nancy's many years of service and presented her with a custom Gord made by Carol Walter along with a certificate of donation to her favorite charity. Happy Trails.

Meaghan Shaffer, Vice Director

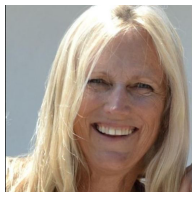
Meaghan started riding Arabian forty years ago in exchange for mucking stalls. She then began showing and eventually training. Meaghan has been on Board of the AHASFV club for almost twenty years. She is the founder of a nonprofit riding program in Camarillo that aims to keep horses affordable and accessible to the community. Meaghan looks forward to using her varied skills and serving Region2 in whatever way she can!

Kim Dahmen, Treasurer

My name is Kim Dahmen and I am the treasurer for Region 2. I am a bookkeeper by profession and started in the Arabian Horse Industry by moving from the barn into the office to do herd health and minor bookkeeping duties. From there I became a Full Charge Bookkeeper. I currently enjoy being part of the Show Committee for Region 2 and volunteer in any capacity needed.My elderly cat and online gaming keep me busy at home when not working.

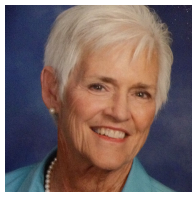
Shawna McCune, Secretary

I have enjoyed showing Arabians and half-Arabians for the past 42 years. Currently, my passion is breeding Arabians/Saddlebreds. Half-Arabians are so much fun!



Kelly Elm, Region 2 Show Commission

Kelly Elm has trained and shown Arabian horses since she was a teenager. She is a National/Regional Arabian judge and also has her Saddle Seat Equitation judges card. She is looking forward to Region 2 at the historic Earl Warren Showgrounds 2025!



Joyce Schoeder, Region 2 Show Commission

Joyce has been a member of AHA Member for 25 years and involved with Region 2 for 25 years. She also was part of the management team Ventura Farms 15 years. She has held other leadership roles including President of AHASFV and Past Region 2 Director for 4 years.

Penny Wardlaw, Region 2 Show Commission

I've been a member of our organization since the late 60s and I've been a Region 2 member since the late 70s. I've either exhibited, worked or managed our Championships since the 80s. I served as our Regional Director and on almost all committees. It's great to hear our new perspectives and ideas. I'm excited for R2 25!

Joe Yandell, Youth Advisor

Joe is a self-proclaimed "horse girl dad." He has been involved with his daughter Noelle's passion a variety of ways. Joe has attended many Region 2 shows, events, and activities over the years.

AHA Convention

Our Region 2 Leadership team along with many of our delegates will be attended the AHA Convention in Reno, NV! They sat in important meetings, advocated for our needs, and did a wonderful job representing Region 2!

The message from our Director Katie Russell:

"The Arabian Horse Association just concluded its 2024 convention. Hundreds of delegates, Arabian horse owners, AHA staff & leaders from all over the country and Canada gathered for five days in Reno, NV. The energy, enthusiasm, genuine concern and passion for the breed was evidenced by the large turnout. And it was great to see so many first time attendees. As the new Director for Region 2, I am invigorated and optimistic for the future of the Arabian horse. The spirited and thoughtful discussions regarding the governance of AHA was valuable and beneficial for the future of our great breed. I am optimistic that both sides of Resolution 2 will work together to ensure that AHA will thrive and grow. We have a lot to be proud of and the future is bright! I look forward to working with Lisa Blackstone, the newly elected President of AHA ; Duane Esser, newly elected VP , and the entire Board of Directors, AHA staff, and membership. Together we will all work diligently and enthusiastically to promote our amazing Arabians. Again, the future is bright!"

Click to see our Convention update on Facebook!

Left to Right back row: Kelly Elm, Ken West, Rod Goertzen, Jane Haven, Nedra Johnson, Joyce Schroeder
Left to Right front row: Penny Wardlaw, Nancy Goertzen, Katie Russell, Kim Dahmen, Ashlee Petersen

Delegates

Get involved in a local Club!

Convention Awards

Discovery Farm of the Year

Nedra Johnson Arabian Riding Academy was named AHA Discovery Farm of the Year by AHA at Convention.

Regional Director Awards

Kim Dahmen and Natalie Zavala both received Regional Director Awards at Convention.

US Nationals Winners

Non Dimenticar J +/ & Tami Dance
US Reserve National Champion AATR Trail Select
Trained by Michael Damianos

Tsamurai Mac +//
US National champion AWWA Ranch Horse Challenge with Tammy Burkman for owner Melanie Weaver

Please send us your show results! We want to highlight our Region 2 members' show ring successes in our newsletter.

Youth Judging at US Nationals

Our youth judging team represented Region 2 wonderfully at the nationals competition in October. We would like to thank the Region 2 Board, local clubs and all those who donated to make this trip possible. Go team Region 2!

Results
- Region 2 team (5th in every AHA Jr Team division)
- Marley (1st in reasons performance, 10th in performance placings)

Regional Shows

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Region 2 Sport Horse and Dressage Championships
April 5 - 6, 2025 in Temecula, CA at GalwayDowns, home of the 2028 Olympic equestrian events. This show is being held in conjunction with the Rancho California Spring Show!

Region 2 Championships
June 18 - 21, 2025 in Santa Barbara, CA at Earl Warren Fairgrounds

Visit our website

Find us on Instagram and Facebook!

Email Katie!

Thank you for being here!

We know that with the support of us all Region 2 AHA can continue to thrive!

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