

A Letter from the AzCHA Board of Directors to All Members and Friends – October 2016

We are nearing the end of the show year and we know many of you are pressing hard to improve your standings for AzCHA, PCCHA and NCHA awards. Good luck to everyone who is turning up their efforts to qualify for the NCHA World Finals! Most of the classes at AzCHA are still undecided so be ready to compete with us in November to move up or solidify your year-end standings. Remember we have great year end prizes for each class and some enhanced prizes in the \$50,000 Amateur and our ReRun Riot Classes. Good luck!!

AzCHA Futurity and Oktoberfest

While it wasn't quite so hot this year, the humidity made it a little uncomfortable for parts of each day. All in all it was a very good show, the futurity was up a few horses this year, the party gave us all a nice chance to relax and mingle, and overall the show was the largest October show we have had since moving to Queen Creek. Thanks to all that came to cut with AzCHA! Congratulations to Cowan Ranch, John Cowan and Tim Smith on their big success with their three year olds. Tim won the Futurity Open Championship, the Open Reserve Championship, as well as the Arizona Owned Open Championship and Reserve riding Cowan Ranch horses. John Cowan finished the weekend winning the Non Pro Futurity Championship and Non Pro Arizona Owned Championship. Congratulations also to Krystal Cogburn on her Non Pro Futurity Reserve Championship! That's a good futurity by any measurement!! Thanks to Cindy Watkins for getting us some really nice buckles and to Cowan Ranch for sponsoring beautiful knife sets for the Arizona Owned winners. The weekend portion of the show seemed to go well as many people competing for NCHA World Championships were here to compete, many of them coming from far away to do so. Good luck to all of you haulers the rest of the year!!

End of the Trail Show, November 3 -6

Our last show of this year will be November 3-6. In addition to our weekend show we will have both Open and Non Pro classes for your 3 year olds, your 4 year olds and the 5/6 year olds. This will be one of your last chances to earn money to qualify for the NCHA World finals so don't miss out. Show information and schedule can be found at azcha.com. See ya soon!!

Annual Banquet and Future Shows

Dates for our shows in 2017 are posted on the website. Our first show will be January 4 – 8. One significant change is that **we will be hosting our Year End Awards Banquet on Tuesday, January 3, before the show starts.** This is our largest show of each year and trying to host the banquet on Friday during the show has not been very successful the last couple years so we have decided to try something new. As always, the banquet will provide wine, beer and a great meal hosted entirely by AzCHA with no cost to you. Please plan to arrive a little earlier on Tuesday, so that we can all be ready to enjoy a great evening before the show starts. We will be serving a wonderful prime rib dinner this year so please RSVP to Kathy Unfried when you make your stall reservations. Cocktails will begin at 6pm, a brief business meeting at 6:30 and dinner at 7:00.

NCHA, for the first time ever, will be hosting the Western Nationals at West World in Scottsdale in May of 2017. For those of you who have attended the shows produced by AzCHA at this venue you know what a great facility that West World is and what a great town that Scottsdale is. NCHA will be providing more info on the show so keep your eyes out for updates and plan to come to Scottsdale in May.

Time to Vote for Officers and Directors

It's that time of year to elect new officers and directors for AzCHA. You will be receiving an email from AzCHA with the password which will allow you to vote on-line. The password has also been posted on Facebook. Once you have the password, click the link on our homepage to cast your ballot. You will also be able to cast a paper ballot at our November show should you prefer. The candidates are as follows; President, Dawn Chapman; Vice President, Katie Peterson; Secretary/Treasurer, Beth Sullivan; Board of Directors (3 open positions); Scott Raftery, Todd Adolph, and Penny Bailey. There will also be spots on the ballot for write-in selections should you so desire. Thanks to those candidates who have volunteered to run and for their efforts in keeping AzCHA at the top of the NCHA affiliates.

PCCHA and AzCHA

You may have heard that there have been discussions between PCCHA and AzCHA regarding a number of issues that have arisen over the past year or more. The most significant issue discussed was the scheduling of shows by various PCCHA affiliates and show producers which conflict with other shows in the area. The scheduling of conflicting shows can be very harmful by diluting the number of cutters at each show, by reducing the number of shows which are available to cutters and by increasing the financial risk to show producers. Several meetings were held in Las Vegas during the PCCHA Futurity with PCCHA and AzCHA officers and board members. Frank, open and cooperative discussions allowed the involved parties to air their concerns and points of view. The results of these discussions were positive and encouraging. PCCHA will very soon be forming a task force of affiliates and show producers to help better coordinate show scheduling in the West. AzCHA will have a seat on the task force and will strive to see that our needs are balanced along with the other show producers and our members. It will surely take time and effort to improve the existing situation, but we are very encouraged that this is a solid beginning step.

Thank you to all of our sponsors and to those who have expressed an interest in sponsorships for next year. Lindsey Mills is heading up our sponsorship program.

Thanks to everyone for your continued support!! See you in a couple weeks and please plan on coming to Queen Creek in January for a great dinner and a big show!

AzCHA Board of Directors