



Vancouver Island Arabian Horse Association

2011 Annual Report

October 16 will be the Annual General Meeting for the Vancouver Island Arabian Horse Association. As members of this club, this is your opportunity to meet with the directors and to review the year past and to plan for the next. It is our opportunity to be accountable back to you on the work that we have done on your behalf as members of this organization. Fortunately we have members of our club who also sit on the Reg. 17 Show Commission, the Region 17 Executive, the Canadian National Show Commission and committees of AHA. If you want to know what is happening in this organization locally, regionally, nationally and internationally then please come to the meeting ready with your questions and ideas. As well, this will help to focus our ideas on activities around the Arabian Horse Association (AHA) Convention that will be held in Vancouver November 16 – 19. The theme for Convention is “a little bit of heaven in 2011”. If you go to the AHA web site you will find the full convention schedule, resolution submission forms, guidelines on how to submit resolutions and of course the entertainment activities that are planned in conjunction with Convention. Former club member Doug Archibald is heading up volunteers for the event, so if you would like to work with Doug please give him a call at 604 823 6245.

2011 has been another successful year for VIAHA. As you read through this report, I think you will be please with the variety of activities that the club undertook this year and how we incorporated your suggestions for improvement. I greatly appreciate the time and effort that so many of the members provide in the organizing and running of our events and I especially enjoy the friendships and conversations that we share. Like all volunteer organizations, the success of the club is due to the willingness of you the members to volunteer of your time and efforts towards our activities. Without your support of time, energy, talents and money - none of these activities would be possible. I thank you for your commitment to our horses, to the breed and for your support of the club.

Executive Officers and Directors

Executive:

President

Rob Calnan

Vice president

Sandra Gilbert-Stockhauser

Treasurer

Gerald McDonald

	Secretary	Wendy Don
	Membership Secretary	Veronica Anthony
Directors:	Liza Lapham	Lisa MacGregor
	Gayle Wolfe	Bob Ramsey
	Edwina MacDonald	Amanda Gudgeon
	Heather Mounce (Salisbury)	Meaghan Calnan

Elections of Officers

All director positions are up for election this year (2011) and Rob Calnan is unable to complete the 2nd year of his mandate and will be stepping down as president.

Club Activities

1. Open Shows

This year the club supported 4 open shows, all of them held at the Saanich Fairgrounds. Many positive comments have been received about the new sand ring, the extra size that this new ring has because it incorporates the old dressage ring and the overall improvements that we have provided with new equipment (Thanks Liza for bidding on the surrounds and chain link). Based on the success of last years` 2 day open show, this was held again. Although I was unable to attend, I heard that the barbecue was well attended and became one of the highlights of the event.

2. Class A Show: Island Classics

The Island Classics – a 2-day Class A show – was both a Region 17 qualifier and Region 5 qualifier. This is the second year that we have done this and we had hoped that this might entice more participation from island Arabian owners and off island competitors. Sadly, the number of competitors was not greatly affected by this addition and it has been decided that we will not have Region 5 qualifier next year. Overall feedback from the judges, steward and competitors found the flow and format acceptable. We were very pleased that the Region 17 Director Terry Johnson was able to attend. The barbecue on Saturday night was well attended and enjoyed by all.

3. Saanich Fair

While this is an open show, it really is a stand alone because it is by far our largest show. This year there were nearly 100 competitors. The judge, Lewis McKim, has made many positive comments that many of the classes had the largest number of competitors that he has judged for several years. The team work amongst the volunteers made it a great event. Following our last club meeting there was discussion of working with the 4H horse club on extending the 2 day

show into 3 days so that the public who come to the fair can have a good number of horses to see in the ring and in the stalls.

4. Breed Promotion

a. Information Booth

Building on the information booth that was assembled last year VIAHA had a presence at the Sidney market (X 2 in August – Thanks Bob Ramsey for arranging the date and Lisa MacGregor for leading the volunteering for this event), in Nanaimo at the ``mane event`` (thanks Gerald, Sandra, Wendy and Lisa) and the Saanich Fair.

b. Demonstration of the Arabian Horse

Nicole Bryant and Julie Charlton organized two demonstrations on the Arabian/part Arabian horse at the Saanich Fair. As always, the demonstration was well received – especially when the public was invited into the ring to pet the horses and take pictures.

At the Nanaimo Equine Affair, Gerald MacDonald brought along his mare and colt. This was a real treat for so many people to see a young colt in the ring. What a great advertisement for our breed. Thank you Gerald

5. AHA Activities

a. AHA Awards:

Thanks to the hard work of Bob Ramsay, our club has submitted the paper work for AHA awards again this year. We have been acknowledged as a participant and hope to make the finals.

b. Region 17:

Gerald McDonald has been the delegate to the Reg. 17 meetings held this last year. Congratulations as well to Gerald on his recent election as Region 17 director. Rob Calnan continues as the BC representative on the Show commission. Wendy Don is the Region 17 web manager.

c. Canadian Nationals

Gerald McDonald continues as the Chair of the Canadian Nationals show Commission. This year club members Wendy Don, Sandra Gilbert-Stockhausen and Meaghan and Rob Calnan all worked at Canadian Nationals. The new facility in Brandon Manitoba was well attended and the many positive remarks will assure that next years` show will be even bigger than this year.

d. AHA Committees:

The club is very pleased that Gerald McDonald continues to chair the Budget and Finance committee for AHA. Gerald will also be the club's delegate to Convention in Vancouver this year.

6. Communication to Members

Wendy Don continues to do an incredible job maintaining the web site and sending out updates, newsletters and minutes of our meetings to the membership. So many positive comments have been heard from members and from the public at large. As we focus on services to our members and communicating with them, the web site will be an important tool to continue to grow and develop. Wendy is in need of your pictures, updates, etc. so that this can become a timely, easily accessed communication tool for our members

Membership

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011*
Total Memberships	45	74	64	73	68	52
Adult	25	28	30	33	38	29
Junior	11	20	16	16	9	9
Associate	0	2	3	1	1	1
Recreational	9	22	15	23	20	13

* on October 16th

Financial Statements

As submitted by the Treasurer

In closing, I want to express my appreciation to the executive and directors for your continued support throughout the years I have been president. Your friendship is greatly appreciated. I am sorry for any errors or omissions to this Annual Report. If you are unable to attend the Annual General Meeting please notify me of any errors/omission so that this can be addressed in the Annual Report.

Submitted by,

Rob Calnan, President
VIAHA,
October 1, 2011