

2017 REGION 9 AHA OFFICERS NOMINEES

MARK HIMMEL

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Director

I am seeking the office of Region 9 Director. I have been involved in the Arabian Horse Business for over 37 years. I own, manage, and operate Plantation Arabians, a breeding and training farm in southeast Louisiana. We have trained or shown winners from Class A, to Regional, to National level in Halter, English Pleasure, Western Pleasure, Hunter Pleasure, Showmanship at Halter, Western Horsemanship and Hunt Seat Equitation.

I am currently the President of Louisiana Arabian Horse Association and have been an active member since 1965. I have served as Treasurer and been on the board of directors for numerous years. I have also served on the show committee of the Magnolia Classic I & II and Co-Chaired 2005 and 2007 shows. I have been the delegate for Louisiana Arabian Horse Association to Region 9 and AHA, attending the National Convention for the last 31 years. I have been a member of the following AHA national committees; Professional Horseman, National Championship and Regional Championship Classes, and Youth Committee.

My involvement with Region 9 has been to serve on the Nominating Committee, the Financial Audit Committee and currently on the board of Region 9 Youth Foundation since 2007, Louisiana Representative for 4 years, Vice Director for 4 years and currently serving as Director for the past year. I am also a Recognized "R" Arabian Judge and have judged numerous Class A and Regional Shows. I have also judged the Canadian and US Nationals and internationally the Australian Nationals, Brazil and just recently the 60th Annual Scottsdale Show.

My whole family is involved in the Arabian Horse Industry. I am married to Debbie Himmel (38 years). We have one daughter, Annalise, who is now 26 years old. We as a family are very involved from showing to the daily chores around the farm. My wife Debbie currently serves as the Region 9 Youth Coordinator, past Louisiana Representative on the Executive Board of Region 9 and as AHA Youth Committee chair. My daughter Annalise is a past Region 9 Youth Director and a past President of Arabian Horse Youth Association and is still very much involved.

I received a BA degree from Southeastern Louisiana University in 1974 obtaining majors in Marketing and Business Administration with minors in economics, finance and accounting. My first employment was in the computer industry where I gained sales knowledge. My second employment was with a large electrical contractor that was rewiring the Allied Chemical Plant in Baton Rouge, Louisiana where I gained valuable knowledge in management, by invoicing this cost plus job with a 175 employee payroll, and doing all the purchasing for the job. After the Allied Chemical job was completed I moved on home to get involved with our family business, KEM SUPPLY HOUSE, INC. I have been the President and CEO since my father's untimely death in 1975. Kem Supply was established in 1954 serving south Louisiana, selling office supplies, office furniture, contract furnishings, janitorial products and printing to local businesses, local government offices and the oilfield companies.

I personally believe that to get anything done you should get involved and by doing so you help make a difference. I hope to incorporate my business background experience coupled with my knowledge and experience with horses to serve our Region 9 members. I thank you all for your support and look forward, to again, serving Region 9 and working with the Region 9 Board if re-elected.

PAT BARTON

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Vice-Director

As a nominee for Vice Director of Region 9 AHA, I would like to share my background with the members of our region. On a personal level, I was married to Bob Barton for 38 years before he passed away in 2014. My family consists of my daughter, Amy Fuhrmann, her husband Ken, and two wonderful grandchildren - Emma and Nick. I have just returned to my career of selling real estate and I am enjoying working in my chosen field once again. I became involved with Arabian horses in the late 1970's and remain actively involved in the Arabian industry to this day.

I am a member of the North Texas Arabian Horse Club and Arabian Riders and Breeders of NW Arkansas club. Currently I serve as Vice-Director of Region 9 and on the Region 9 Board of Directors.

My experience at the national level includes being a club delegate or delegate at large to the AHA National Convention since 1987. I have served on various AHA committees including the Snaffle-Bit Committee; U.S. National and Regional Classes Committee; Regional Boundary Ad Hoc Committee; and the Amateur Committee. I also served as a Youth Nationals volunteer for 6 years when show was held in Oklahoma City and will be serving as a volunteer once again this summer at the Youth Nationals show.

At the regional level I have served as Region 9 Vice-Director and on the Board of Directors from 1996-1999 and from 2004-2007. I was Region 9 Director from 2008-2011, served as Past Director from 2012 – 2015 and Vice-Director 2016 to present. Over the years I have been on several committees in the Region including the Region 9 By-Laws committee, the Show Approval & Youth Show Funding committee, Region 9 Championship Show Committee, and have co-managed and/or co-chaired the Region 9 Championship Shows from 1995-1998 and from 2000-2005. I was the recipient of the Region 9 AHA Volunteer Service Award in 2000 and am extremely honored to have received the Region 9 Jake Hoover Memorial Award in 2002.

On a club level I have served as president, vice-president, board member, executive show committee member, club delegate, editor and publisher of club newsletter and various other capacities for the Oklahoma Arabian Horse Club.

For 35+ years I have served the memberships of local clubs and all of Region 9. Trying to stay attuned to the developing and changing needs of our widespread region has helped guide me in my goal of continuing to serve Region 9. As I have said in the past, "as a cohesive group Region 9 can make good things happen for our beloved Arabian and Half-Arabian horses and show the equine community what a great breed we have!" This is doable if we come together – club helping club, people helping people – to make our breed the best it can be!

Mark Williams

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Treasurer

My horse experience started many years ago in New Mexico. My wife's girlfriend invited us to go play "City Slicker" on a 42,000 acres ranch called the 4V. Soon after, we inherited four quarter horses from the 4V. When my daughter, Skye Williams, was old enough to ride, Jeanne Harford started giving her lessons and thereafter my wife – Elizabeth Williams. Within a few months, we had our first Arabian (Half Arabian) MM Cherokee Warrior. Arabians are like Lays potatoes chips – you can't just have one. We now have five: MM Cherokee Warrior+//, Thee Jokers Wild+//, DD Tejas Skye, El Adriano & CSH Perfect Storm.

I have been on the Alamo Arabian Horse Association board since 2007 as the Membership Chair and as President since 2011. In 2013, I was elected Texas Representative for Region 9 AHA.

I am asking for your support to be Region 9's Treasure. I have a Master of Science in Chemical Engineering from Oklahoma State and a MBA from UTSA. In addition, I am responsible for a marketing group at Valero for several of their product lines with annual sales over \$750 million dollars per year. Given this background, I have an excellent knowledge of accounting, budgeting and finance.

Velma Boodt

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Secretary

I am seeking to be re-elected as the Secretary to the Region 9 Board. I have been the secretary of AWCHA for 1+ years and on the board of GCAHA for several years. I would like to continue as secretary so that I can continue to become more knowledgeable and better represent R9, Green Country Arabian Horse Association and Arabian Working Cow Horse Association.

I have owned Arabian horses for many years and my horses have competed at all levels for several years. I am actively involved in the four shows per year that are hosted by our club, including being Show Secretary for the 2 Working Western One Day Shows.

I have been a Business Analyst (among other roles) at Hewlett-Packard for nearly 40 years. Working allows me the luxury to support competing. At the current time, I have a working cow horse, LuvBug, who only recently received her Legion of Supreme Honor and another Half-Arab, Joe, that is ridden by my daughter and grand-daughter. In the fall, my great grand-daughter will ride Joe in leadline. You have to start them young and keep them interested.

Robin Bray

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Arkansas State Representative

No resume. Robin has held the Arkansas State Representative seat for one term and running for re-election for her second term.

Beth Walker

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Louisiana State Representative

No resume. Beth Walker has held the Louisiana State Representative seat for one term and is running for re-election for her second term.

Betsy Barnes

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Oklahoma State Representative

I am seeking to be elected as the Oklahoma Delegate to the Region 9 Board. I have been the president of Green Country Arabian Horse Association for 7 years. I have also been the alternate delegate for several years. I would like to be a member of the board so that I can become more knowledgeable and better represent Green Country Arabian Horse Association, as well as Region 9.

I have owned Arabian horses for many years and competed at all levels for many years. While I am no longer a competitor, I am actively involved in the four shows per year that are hosted by our club.

Herbert Meites

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Oklahoma State Representative

For the past four decades I have been a member of the IAHA/AHA and OAHC, serving several times on the board of the OAHC including being on the present board. Twice I have been on the Region 9 board as the representative for Oklahoma. During these decades my family and I have both bred and shown our Arabian horses. We have shown in all age divisions and in almost all disciplines from halter to park, English to Western, hunter to driving, and sidesaddle to working cow. Other the years we have shown

locally, regionally (at least 10 regions) and nationally in U.S. and Canada winning both Top Tens and National Championships and Reserves. I have had the honor of receiving the Handler of Supreme Honor Champion Award.

To fully understand the workings of AHA and the Region, one should attend both Regional meetings and the National Convention. Karen and I have attended both for the least the past ten years. I attended the meeting in Denver last month to discuss suggested changes in the USN halter division. I would, again, like to represent the OAHC and Oklahoma at the regional and national level.

CHARLES BASS

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Texas State Representative

Arabian Horse Association - (AHA / IAHA)

- By-Laws Committee – Chairman 2014 to Present
- Agenda & Resolutions Committee - Chairman 2010 to 2013
- Agenda & Resolutions Committee - 2008 to Present
- Probable Cause Panel - 2009 to Present
- Convention Co-Chair - 2005
- Credentials Supervisor - 1999 to 2004
- Credential Committee - Chairman - 1992 to 1998
- Credentials Committee -1989 to Present
- By-Laws Committee - Vice Chairman - 2013
- By-Laws Committee - 1990 to Present
- Delegate - 1987, 1988, 1996, 2003, 2005 to 2015
- Alternate Delegate -1989 to 1995, 1997 to 2004
- National Volunteer Service Award - 1995

AHA Region 9

- Region 9 Bylaws Committee Chairman – 2014 to Present
- Region 9 Secretary 2005 to 2009
- Region 9 Vice-President TX / State Rep - 2004 to 2005
- Region 9 Vice-Director - 1999 to 2003
- Region 9 Jake Hoover Award - 1998
- Region 9 Treasurer - 1992 to 1997
- Region 9 Credentials Committee Chairman – 1997 & 2015
- Region 9 Volunteer Service Award - 1995
- Region 9 By-Laws Committee - 1995 to present
- Region 9 Financial Planning Committee Chairman - 2000 to 2014

AHA (IAHA) Club Level

- Texas Arabian Distance Riders Assn. President - 1998 to present
- Bluebonnet Arabian Horse Club President - 1988- 1990

Personal

Married to Carla Jo Bass for thirty seven (37) years. Own two (2) purebred and one (1) Half-Arabian horses. Forty two (43) years in the electrical industry with thirty seven (39) years as a journeyman electrician with the last thirty (32) years as an electrical estimator & manager.

Other Associations:

- National Association of Parliamentarians – Member #16654 - 2012 to Present
- Texas State Association of Parliamentarians (TSAP)
 - 2016 TSAP Annual Convention - Teller
- DFW Parliamentarians (a Unit of NAP)
 - Vice- President – 2013 & 2016
 - President – 2014 & 2015
 - Delegate to TSAP Convention – 2012 to Present

Russ Taylor

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Texas State Representative

When I was 14 years old, I was a 4-H kid with a quarter horse and I wanted to learn to ride English. I lived in a little place called Seguin, Texas, and the only person around who rode English was a newcomer to the area named Ginny Nokes. Ginny had Arabian horses, so I got introduced to Arabians as a part of taking lessons. I'm not sure at this point if it was Ginny's enthusiasm and kindness, or the kindness of the horses themselves, but I was hooked. That was so long ago that the horses are no longer something I do, they are part of who I am. Since then, I've served as President of my local club, something I am now doing once again. I've gone from the Alamo Club youth judging team to being an "R" judge in the Arabian division. I've served on the AHA Board of directors, and am currently the Chairman of the Arabian Breeder's Sweepstakes Commission. I've known many of the people in Region 9 for most of my life, and am proud to call them my friends.

What I love to do is bring up young horses, and young people in the same way Ginny did with her horses, and did for me and other young riders she took under her wing. I have spent time figuring out how to make some large shows successful, and to administer a large prize money program like Sweepstakes, and at the same time I've never forgotten Ginny's admonition that as I served in association management not to "forget the little people." That is big challenge today. How do we keep this love, and these horses, accessible to the largest possible cross section of people? I'm not sure I know all the answers, but I'm quite willing to pose the question until we find some.

Texas is a unique state, and Region 9 is a unique region. Making things work for an area as large and diverse as this is quite a challenge. Doing that in the face of an industry that is shifting and changing makes it doubly challenging. Times like these require, more than ever, that we keep an open mind, listen to the people working hard to have and enjoy their Arabian Horses, and work together to serve this amazing horse. As far as meetings go, I will, as many of you know, be at all of these meetings anyway, so you may as well put me to work. I will consider it a privilege.

Lindsay Williams

Candidate for Region 9 AHA Texas State Representative

To All My Fellow Region 9 Members:

First, I would like to thank you all for allowing me to run for this position within our wonderful organization. Anyone who knows me knows that I have grown up in AHA, and in Region 9 specifically. Whether you remember that little kid on roller blades breaking her arm, or the over-zealous club president soliciting a donation to try and save one of AHA's oldest horse shows, it's safe to say that the Arabian horse and Region 9 have made me into the person I am today. Currently I am president of The Arabian Horse Club of Texas, one of the oldest clubs in Region 9. Every year we put on the State Fair of Texas Arabian Horse Show, and with the help of many of you, I am proud to say that our numbers have tripled during my service.

I would love to bring a unique amateur and professional viewpoint to the Region 9 Executive Board. As both an avid amateur competitor, and the daughter of a former long-time professional trainer, I have a unique perspective to see both sides of many issues that face both amateurs and professionals in the industry today.

When I am not riding, you'll find me at my Law Firm, negotiating life-altering terms for kids who are faced with crimes that have long term effects on their futures. I am no stranger to working with many people, with different viewpoints, and coming up with a solution to what seems like an insurmountable problem in a short amount of time. This experience uniquely applies to working with the Region 9 board, as I know how important the decisions are that get made by the board, and how far-reaching that impact is.

It would be my honor to serve as the Texas Representative on the Region 9 Board. Thank you for your consideration.

