

July 2020



Newsletter

HAFLINGER HORSE BITS



Mooney Luray & Elise Curry



On the Cover....

Featured Youth:

Elise Curry and Mooney Luray

Elise is 11 years old, lives in Pineville, GA, and will be starting 6th grade in the fall. She has grown up around horses all her life. Her first horse is the 23 year-old Haflinger mare named Mooney Luray (Mean Machine NTF x Carnival) on this month's newsletter cover.

Last year was the first year for Mooney and Elise competing. They participated in local saddle club shows, and placed fourth in the youth challenge at the Georgia National Draft Horse Show in Perry, GA. Elise enjoys riding Mooney western, English, and bareback. She most enjoys driving Mooney, often taking turns with her identical twin sister Ella driving their grandparents and even the family dogs together.

Golden Path and Ambassador Awards Program Update

Congratulations to all our participants in the free Golden Path and Ambassador awards programs. You should have now received your 2019 personalized certificates, stall plaques and keychains.

Enrolled Haflingers earned the following in 2019:

- 7 Lifetime Achievement Ambassador Awards
- 31 Ambassador certificates
- 26 Golden Path Certificates
- 94 Haflingers active in Golden Path and Ambassador programs

Golden Path awards are for enrolled horses whose hours spent in recreational riding or driving are recorded, and Ambassador awards are for horses performing in shows, parades, and other public events. Both programs are completely free to AHR members! See the AHR website to enroll your horse and submit hours and points.

Continued thanks to Hendershot Haflingers for sponsorship of these programs.





Seeking AHR Directors

Current AHR members may submit their biographies as outlined to join the September, 2020 ballot. Three current seats are due for election. They include:

The **Central Region Director** must reside in one of the following states. They are Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Wisconsin, or the province of Ontario.

The **Western Region Director** will be from Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, or the provinces of Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, or Yukon.

One **At-Large Director** may reside from any US state or Canadian province.

The interested member should plan to virtually attend monthly director meetings with additional time in committee work. Send responses to the following biographical questions by August 15, 2020, to AHR Nominating Chair, John Dunkel at dunkeljohn@msn.com

- Briefly describe when you began with Haflingers and your history with them.
- Briefly describe the kinds of activities you engage in with your Haflingers.
- Describe past experience in business or other organizational activities that have been meaningful in preparing you to help lead and guide this organization.
- Describe why you want to be an AHR Director and your thoughts on the future directions of the American Haflinger Registry including special personal areas of interest and specific contributions you'd share.

Bits & Pieces *From the President*



American Haflinger 2020

National Showcase Postponed

The Board of Directors decided at its June 10th meeting that because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the uncertainty of the future with respect to restrictions on large gathering events that it would not be possible to hold our National Showcase Event in 2020. The event will be rescheduled for 2021, when we hope our lives have returned to a more normal routine.

The Board reviewed all the risks associated with operating the show under the current conditions.

- The economic upheaval surrounding COVID-19 resulted in the loss of over \$15,000 in sponsor commitments in the last few months, significantly increasing the financial risk of proceeding with the show.
- Cancellation of major fairs across the Midwest and other large shows around the country demonstrate the concern and difficulty of operating a horse show event in this environment.
- We see cases increasing again as we move to open the economy, increasing the possibility of restrictions on gatherings for social events to control the spread of the virus without crippling the economy again, if possible.

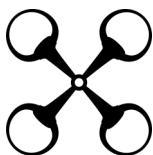


Bits & Pieces *From the President*

- We considered your responses to our survey on attending the National Showcase sent to members in May. The most significant concern of those that responded was the COVID-19 virus exposure, with many of you telling us it was too soon to have the show and others indicating that your plans to attend would change if the Coronavirus returned or there was an increase in new cases.

Evaluating all these factors and considering it highly probable that Coronavirus cases will increase over the next few months as we continue to open the economy and fall brings back flu season, the only prudent and responsible decision was to postpone the event until 2021.

I would like to thank the members of the National Showcase Committee for their hard work on organizing the National Showcase over the last 7 months. I know they are as disappointed in this decision as many of you. However, it is the right decision for the health and safety of our members, competitors and friends. We look forward to a bigger and better National Showcase event in 2021.



AHR and Haflinger Breeders' Co-Op Futurity

The combined AHR and Haflinger Breeder's Co-op ("HBC") futurity that was to be held with the National Showcase has not been cancelled. We are working with the HBC to continue our partnership on the futurity with the event tentatively scheduled for the first weekend in October. Although this event is subject to less of the risks than the full National Showcase event, we will monitor restrictions on large gatherings events over the next few months and along with HBC will make a final decision on the event as new information becomes available.

Chuck Hendershot

American Haflinger Registry President

Call for Youth! Join the Leadership Council

Dear AHR Members,

I'm excited to announce that the AHR has approved a new youth program for 2021.

The goal of the AHRY (American Haflinger Registry Youth) program is to educate and entertain the younger members of our Haflinger society (up to age 18) while emphasizing good sportsmanship principles. Youth members will gain understanding of the Haflinger breed and feel a sense of belonging within the Haflinger Community, leading to enhanced knowledge, lifelong friendships and lots of fun!

I am currently seeking youth under 18 to be part of a Leadership Council to help lead and inform this effort. Candidates should demonstrate ongoing commitment to the promotion of Haflingers, serve as positive role models, be involved in community activities and exhibit characteristics that exemplify positive sportsmanship principles.

Monthly Meetings will be held by teleconference and/or Zoom, if possible to kick off in late July, 2020. All youth council candidates will be required to



**Elise and Mooney are
“outstanding” youth competitors!**

sign a code of conduct and have their parent and/or guardian sign a release and waiver.

Haflinger youth, please help us create the program you want to enjoy! Email me at michelleatahr@gmail.com or

Correction:

Haylee Kemper, featured youth in our May Haflinger Horse Bits Newsletter, is 10 years old, not 11. Your editor regrets the error.



N^oVincible MJW 2020 overall Best of Show

Buckeye Haflinger Show 2020 Wrap-Up

We had a horse show! After many spring show cancellations due to Covid-19, the 2020 Buckeye Haflinger Show took place June 26-28 at Windy Knoll Farm in Sullivan, Ohio.

Friday, June 26, saw a full day of traditional and western dressage tests ridden and several suitability classes and driven tests as well. Judging by Ms. Carrie Woost began at 8:30 am and ran right through to the last ride at 5:29 pm. A total of 55 individual tests were judged, in addition to the group classes which made for a very full day.

Saturday and Sunday included a full complement of English, western, driving, in-hand, and games classes for youth, adults, and open exhibitors shown to judge Jenny Pierucki. Most classes filled nicely, with the hunter division hosting the largest class, Hunter Under Saddle W/T, showcasing a dozen beautiful Haflingers.

Exhibitors and organizers were pleased with the turnout and that a successful, fun show was held safely in a great facility. Congratulations to the winners, and all who attended the 2020 Buckeye Haflinger show. Hope to see you all- and more!- next year



Amy Wallace and Nifty Nevie GRS:



What's it like to go for a 14-year trail ride? Amy Wallace, a married mom with three children and an RN from Springboro, Ohio, can tell you.

"In 2005, my daughter and I were taking riding lessons together when I saw a Haflinger at the lesson barn, and although I hadn't owned a horse before, I said "That's the kind of horse I want!" A few weeks later I was at Cedar Lane Farm in Eaton, Ohio, looking at Haflingers, including Nifty Nevie GRS (Nevion Glyn Eyrer Rah x Sunny Marge PMH). Nevie, who's 19 now, was such a clown, and so beautiful, that I bought him and we've been rid-



ing together for fourteen years now!" Amy recalls.

Many, many hours, and many, many miles later, Amy and Nevie have accumulated 2,800.25 hours together in the Golden Path recreational riding program, and are the first pair to achieve the 2,500 hour award level. That's the equivalent of about two years of daily 4-hour rides, or almost 117 days of Pony Express 24-hour days in the saddle!

Most years since 2008, Amy and Nevie accumulated between 100 and 200 hours in the program that preceded Golden Path, but more recently, their average time has increased to

2,500 Hours on their Golden Path Together!

around 400 hours per year. How do they do it? By doing lots of activities together, including weekly lessons, and always tracking their hours. “Almost every Friday we do several hours of public trail riding with a group of between four and fourteen riders with my natural horsemanship trainer Helge Buflod. We do everything: departures, cantering in groups, backing up hills, going through water, obstacle courses, soccer, bow and arrows... after I came off Nevie a few times when I first had him, I found Helge and said “I want Nevie to be the best horse for me that he could possibly be. And we worked on that for many years. I gained so much confidence and Nevie became confident with me. We’ve even done some bridle-less riding, which is quite an accomplishment on a Haflinger when there’s green grass around!”

What’s next for this confident team? More riding, as Amy is finally buying her own horse trailer this year to take Nevie and her yearling Haflinger Apollo of Cedar Lane (Accolade of Genesis x Hope HOF) on adventures near and far. “I kept in touch with the lady I bought Nevie

from and when she had a new foal last year, I was there with a check the next day. I knew there would never be another breed that I would fall in love with other than the Haflinger and this was my opportunity to have two! Nevie is a great teacher, learning new obstacles and then quickly being able to inspire other horses to follow him, including Apollo.”

Congratulations Amy and Nevie, and Happy Trails to You!



Indiana Haflinger Horse Association Topeka Sale Report

Friday, June 5, saw 103 registered Haflingers pass through the sale ring at the Topeka Livestock Auction in Topeka, IN.

A good selection of horses of all ages from yearlings to aged sold briskly, with an average on the top ten of \$5,135 and an overall average of \$2,378 (including 10 unregistered horses.)

Congratulations to seller and breeder Raymond Wengerd who consigned a beautiful yearling mare named Kruse Morning Star WENFH (by Alert RWF and out of Kruse Control MMS) who left Indiana for Michigan with proud new owners Amy and Jessica Hanney, whose \$6,500 bid topped the sale.



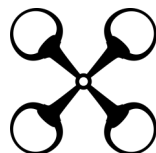
Using the new DigitalHorses software

Learning new software can be daunting, but the AHR office staff invites you to try the DigitalHorses Haflinger portal... it's fast and easy for most routine paperwork, and has free features to help you track your herd, pedigrees, and breeding.

In fact, you may find that it takes longer to log into your account than to actually process a transfer or registration... it's that easy!

Of course, this assumes that your records are in order, and in the case of registrations, that you submit and return DNA kits promptly and provide clear photos of white markings on horses.

Have questions? Need your login credentials? Not sure how to use the system? Call the office and ask for help- they are expert (and patient!) at helping you learn how to use DigitalHorses.



Meetings & Minutes

AHR Board of Directors Meeting March 11, 2020

The March 11, 2020 Board of Directors meeting was held with eight members. Chuck and Joey were excused from the meeting with notice.

February minutes were approved.

Financial information was approved with December 31, 2019 totals:

General checking \$50,199.52

Sale account \$1,663.67

National showcase \$10,598.31

Regular savings \$20,370.46

The first of our CDs has rolled over and is now in for one year. Others will roll in June, September, and December at 1.5% each.

The Board heard committee updates:

Planning for the National Showcase and Futurity is underway and sponsorships are being sought.

Inspection and classification dates were pushed back one week due to GLHA's event moving away from the July 4 weekend.

Youth prizes for 2019 are being ordered.

The Board was informed that the world show planning was on hold.

Personal information in DigitalHorses has been closed pending system update options for members-only retrieval.

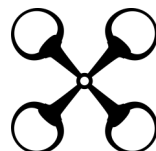
Haflinger enthusiasts are gearing up for a busy spring season. Banners, brochures, ribbons, and sponsorships are being distributed. Facebook traffic is tracking positive results. Ambassador

and Golden Path awards have been finalized and awards are ordered. The next Haflinger Horse Bits has been sent.

Policies and Procedures for inspection and classification were presented by the committee for approval. Following Dave Ayers second to John Dunkle's motion, the revision was approved unanimously. The document will be updated on the website.

After discussion via email exchange and during the meeting, Kyle Love moved to accept the frozen semen policy presented by the pedigree committee. John Dunkle seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,
Missy Shanahan, 1st Vice President



AHR Board of Directors Meeting April 8, 2020

All Board members except Dave Ayers (excused with notice) were present for the April 8, 2020 meeting.

With COVID-19 news, the Board learned that the world show in Austria has been cancelled for 2020. The AHR office is closed per the governor's order on non-essential business operation. On line work will continue.

Meetings & Minutes

(April 8, 2020, continued)

The Board approved by consensus the cancellation of the inspection and cancellation of the July event based on current pandemic concerns. A formal statement was generated for immediate release.

Equine Affaire and the sponsored Ride-A-Haflinger was cancelled. The IHHA sale has been rescheduled for June 5 & 6 due to the pandemic.

The National Showcase and Futurity committee has worked with the MEC to roll the deposit to 2021 and book the same weekend for 2022-2024. Due to the pandemic, the committee is reviewing responses from chairs of HBC and HCC for input. The committee strongly favors that the show be postponed until 2021. Concerns center around the financial stresses of potential sponsors and exhibitors. A firm decision needs to be made and information distributed to members as information unfolds.

On a more positive side, the membership and youth committee is working to revitalize a youth program.

Awards have been ordered, but are delayed due to vendor shutdowns related to the COVID-19 crisis. They include:

2019 Ambassadors: 31 horses

Lifetime: 7 (2018 Ambassadors: 38
Lifetime: 6)

2019 Golden Path: 26 horses with
3,044.43 hours (2018 Golden Path:
33 horses with 3,129.63 hours).

Respectfully submitted by,
Missy Shanahan, 1st Vice President

AHR Board of Directors Meeting May 13, 2020

May 13, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting with all members present.

Minutes of March and April, 2020 were distributed electronically to the Board of Directors. Kathie moved to approve March minutes. Suzi seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Kathie moved to approve April minutes. Kyle seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

A detailed financial report for the first quarter was distributed electronically to the Board of Directors.

AHR net income for the month is ahead of the average month for the year mainly because of reduction in expenses. Most of the reduction is the timing of expenses with projects like the printing of brochures and the publication of the newsletter or advertising in the *Horse Illustrated*. Revenue in April is below the average month primarily related to fewer membership renewals in the month. The other revenue sources seem to be in line with the monthly average.

With the annual software license fee and the newsletter publication costs of approximately \$300 I would expect that the May income statement could show a loss. We would still be profitable for the year, but depending on revenue flows we may have a shortfall for May

Our financial position is still strong with \$151,000 in our bank accounts and only \$1,260 in outstanding liabilities.

Meetings & Minutes

Recommendation to add a liability line item for pre-purchased DNA kits for \$2,000.

Missy moved to accept the financial report. Dave seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board reviewed several **Standing Committee Reports** with no action required.

After review of a proposal by the **Membership & Youth** committee, Dave moved to have the committee move forward with the proposal for 2021. John seconded. Motion carried unanimously. The Board also directed the committee to determine liability of AHR in the process.

An ongoing discussion regarding the **National Showcase & Futurity** included review of a brief survey requesting member thoughts on attendance as distributed via email. Results of the 251 sent include:

- 141 opened, 62 clicked on the survey, and 38 actually responded to the survey.
- 56.8% responded that they do not intend to attend in 2020. (43.2% plan to attend.) Most cited Covid-19 as a factor either in current show prep, travel, or fear of the virus itself.

Discussion regarding the financial aspect of a show. There are ongoing health/safety issues. Pros and cons were presented from various states. The consensus was the final decision will be made at the June board meeting.

The **Pedigree** committee continues to work diligently with the office to solve pedigree questions. Additionally, the committee proposes:

Rules Proposal to Address Bad Breeding and Registration Records

Over the course of the last several years we have had a number of instances of DNA tests not matching the records on the registration documents. This has caused a lot of extra work for the staff and committee members. Recently, we had one very bad case and the owner has several more foals to register. In one instance we had three mistakes in the parental identification, the sire, the dam or both listed on the registration papers did not match the DNA tests. We were able to resolve the identification issue because the mares and stallions were on one farm, so UC Davis helped us out. It still left us with one colt foal that had been registered without DNA and sold to another Haflinger owner with the wrong registered parents. In providing guidance to the owner on registering his remaining foals, we told him that if the records continued to be riddled with the same type of mistakes, so that we could not count on the sires and dams listed on his paperwork being correct, the Registry would require that all of his foals be DNA tested at the time of registration, including colts that would normally be exempted until licensed under Rule 15 below.

14. All filly foals are required to be parentage proved by way of parental DNA before they can be registered.

Meetings & Minutes

15. Stallions are required to be parentage proved before they can be licensed as breeding stallions

Therefore, I propose that with the concurrence of the Pedigree committee we add the language proposed below either to Rule 15 or as a separate rule in our rules and regulations.

While stallions are not required to be DNA tested at the time of registration, and if gelded the parentage never is confirmed by DNA testing, the Registry through a decision made by the Registration Secretary and the Pedigree committee may in its sole discretion require that all animals registered by a specific breeder be subject to DNA testing at the time of registration regardless of gender. This requirement is not intended to be the normal requirement for any breeder, but may be invoked when a breeder's records with respect to identification of the Sire and Dam on registration papers are proven to be unreliable based on the results of submitted DNA tests, identifying different parentage for the foal. The decision of the committee and secretary in this matter are final and may not be appealed.

Dave moved to accept this rule as presented. John seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

In discussion by the board the Registry will not recognize markings, stamps, medallions, or other items added to the pedigree certificate. Only the AHR office has authority to add information to the document.

Under **New Business**, Suzi presented:

- A) On behalf of AHR, I applied with USPTO to trademark the Haflinger "H" brand
 - i. Mark was applied for in 2008 by Haflinger Pferdezuchtverband Tyrol, then abandoned
 - ii. Cost to apply was \$225; may cost more to have an attorney advise AHR
 - iii. Expect 6-12 months for action on an application
- B) AHR should apply to trademark our current logo and name.

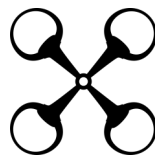
Discussion resulted in a motion to authorize \$500 to process the trademark of edelweiss and AHR logos by Michelle. Kathie seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The Department of Agriculture form for hosting an auction has been suspended yet will remain on file for 5 years should we resume this event.

Next meeting is confirmed for June 10, 2020.

Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,
Missy Shanahan, 1st Vice President



Quarter 2: American Haflinger Registrar's Report

April 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020

Registrations— 52 Total 2nd Quarter
175 for 2020

- Stallions: 12
- Mares: 32
- Geldings: 8

30 Registrations in the horse recording queue (waiting to be registered) for 11 members.

14 of these pending registrations are for one member.

Transfers— 232 Total 2nd Quarter
386 for 2020

Members/Renewals—

- Active Annual Members: 385
- Active Non-Voting Members: 49
(do not own a Haflinger)
- Lifetime Members: 57
- Junior Members: 6

Open Work Orders—82

6 in the Ready to Print queue

Work Orders Closed in the last 30

Days—67 with 241 line items

*Submitted by Registrar's Office,
Stacie C. Lynch*

{ **STICK WITH**
Haflingers }

**Our new logo is available
on full-color stickers!**



6" AHR Decal Sticker

2 for \$10

3" AHR
Decal Sticker

5 for \$10

Choose from 3" (great for small projects
and car windows) and 6"
(ideal for tack boxes, vehicles, etc.)

Email your request to
promotion@haflingerhorse.com



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Independence!*

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