



A Letter from the AzCHA Board of Directors to all Members and Friends – March 2015

2015 is off to a roaring start with all three completed shows being larger than the same shows in 2014. Two of the shows were the second and third largest shows ever for AzCHA. The “4 shows over 5 days” format adopted last year to keep the shows manageable has proven to be a wise decision. We strive to produce the best shows possible but with the increased show size we found a couple of unforeseen operational issues to address. We are committed to providing the best experience we can for our contestants and their guests. Many of you have driven further and bypassed other shows in order to come cut with us in Arizona. We sincerely appreciate the support we receive from the entire group of cutters attending our shows.

Thanks to all of you who attended the Wild West Show which ended on March 1. Special thanks to those who stayed through Saturday and Sunday with the threat of rain looming. Fortunately, the rain held off until Monday so we were able to make it through the show with no problem. We hope everyone made it home without incident as the rain did hit a very large area of the west on Monday.

With the increased size of the shows, many of you know that we have high demand for HPEC’s 40 RV spaces. We are very aware of the high demand and are working on a couple possible solutions with HPEC management. We hope to have news to report on this front prior to resuming our shows in the fall.

We have had sizeable participation in the Senior World Tour entries. We seemed to have smoothed out our registration system and are glad we have joined NCHA in offering this opportunity. Hopefully, some of our Senior AzCHA cutters will receive yearend awards in these classes. If you are not familiar with the Senior World Tour, information can be found on NCHA’s website and we also post information in the show office.

We have had lots of positive feedback about our new videographer, Classic Video. Lavoy Sheppard and his crew have done a great job with their customer service and prompt delivery of purchased videos. If you have not done so, stop in and see Lavoy. At the last show Creative Video did a live streaming of our entire show including both show pens. The address for viewing our shows is www.horseshowglobal.com.

We have had a few violations of the NCHA dress code and kindly ask your cooperation. If you are horseback in the covered arena, you are required to abide by Judging Rule 16.b. which can be found on page 124 of the 2015 NCHA Rulebook. We appreciate your cooperation.

Our Spring Fling/Novice Challenge show April 1-4 is an important one. This show is scheduled for Wednesday thru Saturday, so that all our cutters will have Sunday off to enjoy Easter. Since this is the last show that will count toward the 2014-2015 Youth Year standings, yearend awards for the youth classes will be presented on Saturday. Our Youth Coordinator, Laura Jorde, is planning a lunch and awards party for Saturday. Saturday will begin with a free breakfast for everyone, generously sponsored by Mike Wood Performance Horses (Mike Wood and Roper Curtiss). The show day will start with the Open, Non Pro, \$50,000 Amateur and Youth classes. We will then host our very fun Novice Challenge for our novice riders. The top two finishers in the \$500 Novice Challenge, the \$1000 Novice Challenge and the \$2000 Novice Challenge will compete in a shoot-out. All classes and the shoot-out will have awards sponsored by Ryan Else Cutting Horses (Ryan and Stormy Else) and T & K Performance Horses (Todd and Kim Adolph). This is always a fun event so we hope for a large participation and hope that everyone else will turn out to cheer on our Novice Challenge riders.

The competition is heating up for the \$50,000 Am Foto Finish as these riders compete for a custom painting by Jan Mapes for the winner and vests for the top ten finishers. There is a lot of cutting to be done before the winners are decided, so sign up and compete for these great prizes!

The ReRun Riot is back for the \$2000 Limited Rider, \$15,000 Amateur, and \$35,000 Non Pro classes. The winner of each class will win a Roo-Hide saddle and the top five finishers all receive buckles. Thanks again to Scottsdale Equine Reproduction Center (Parri and Jerry Longworth) and Roo-hide (John Burgun) for sponsoring these special awards.

Our sponsorship program for 2015 is off to another great start. Sincere thanks to all who sponsor AzCHA so selflessly!! If you are interested in joining our sponsorship group, there is information on our website or you can contact Dawn Chapman at 480-694-3602 or cattlac@aol.com.

The NCHA Western Nationals are scheduled for April 26 – May 5, in Reno, Nevada. The registration deadline of March 20 is upon us, so if you are planning to show in Reno, you need to get your entries in pronto. Information is available at www.nchacutting.com.

Our good friend and longtime AzCHA cutter, Tom Luge, took a nasty spill from his horse on March 15 and sustained significant injuries. Tom is in the ICU at John C. Lincoln Hospital c/o ICU, 250 E. Dunlap Avenue Phoenix AZ 85020, as he heals and they determine further treatment. Since he is in ICU no flowers are allowed, but we are sure that Tom and Carol would appreciate a card or a note. Their home address is 2605 E. Desert Lane, Gilbert, AZ, 85230. We all wish Tom a speedy recovery and ask you to keep he and Carol in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you so much for continued support!! We look forward to seeing you on April 1.

Wishes for good cutting to everyone,

AzCHA Board of Directors