

Region 17 Youth Report

Spring 2013

At the Western Canadian Breeders show held in Cloverdale B.C. last September, I planned a photo fundraiser. My dad, Kevin Johnson, took the win shots for the classes, pro bono, and then got them printed and available for sale the next day. We raised over \$500. With this fundraiser money I was able to organize a 4 day clinic with Liz Bentley which was held March 22-25th. The first two days she taught in Langley, B.C. at Willow Acres and the remaining Sunday, Monday she taught in Edmonton, Alberta. I had to organize it to be in two places because our region is so large and I wanted everyone to have the opportunity to take advantage of the clinic. I was also able to get the facilities donated. I want to thank Tara Lumb of Willow Acres and Barb and Sandra Schroter for donating their facilities. The clinic made approximately \$2500.

Again this year Region 17 will be able to supporting our \$1500 scholarship which we have been sponsoring for several years.

We also have several teams that compete in the AHA Regional Youth Team tournament, and the Region puts up \$1000 each year for prizes for the Champion and Reserve Champion teams.

This year our Regional show is coming back to B.C. and we are expecting larger turn out than we have had the last three years in Alberta, because of the venue. I am planning to have lots of activities, silent auction, 50/50 and other fundraisers going on all week for everyone to join in.

We have been having some disagreements in our Region about awards. Last year at the Region 17 meeting the members had discussed alternatives to Trophies and garlands. HOWEVER, with the change of venue, back to BC, suddenly members realized that there would be no trophies & garlands and they all started a campaign to bring them back. The Show commission re considered and for 2013 we will continue to award trophies, garlands and neck ribbons at our Regional show. Sometimes it takes something like this to open people's eyes and bring us closer together as a cohesive supportive Region. It also made a lot of members realize it is important to know what is going on in your Region and take part, you can make a difference!

I was fortunate to be named the 1st runner up for the AHA youth of the year in 2012.

I will be attending the Youth meeting at the youth Nationals ,again this year. I am hopeful that the trainers will again support the t shirt sponsorship., The last 2 years I have been able to raise enough to not only donate \$1000 to the youth Nationals , but also have T shirts made to give to our Region 17 youth with the participating trainers names on them. I want to thank all the trainers for their support.

We are really looking forward to this coming year with our youth in Region 17.

Katie Johnson
Region 17 AHA Youth Director