From the President’s Desk

December 15, 2020

What a year 2020 has been for many reasons, but what a positive year it was for the RHBA! With the current pandemic, showing horses seemed like it might be in question, but with some great teamwork we were able to put on two big shows this year and give everyone that feeling of normalcy and tradition that you are used to at the Spring and Fall Shows. Whether you came and showed or supported us in other ways, we thank you for help and support in a year that it was hard to give donations or make the trip. Under these circumstances, it was obvious that you wanted to show and participate and the numbers proved that. We wanted to create a safe environment for you, your family and friends at a time when we needed to see our horse show family. The atmosphere was very positive and upbeat and the horses were fantastic. All the divisions were represented well in the show ring and we definitely saw growth. We were happy to give the new “Country Speed” division a try and the horses were great and represented that new division well. It looks like something to stay for the RHBA! Cheers to our now 4 time WGC, High Sword & Jamie Lawrence! You have done something nobody has ever done and may possibly never come close to doing again, you and the Wester family have one of the living legends of our breed. Congratulations!

If 2020 has proved anything to us, it is that we had to make changes. Our board and staff were able to make necessary changes to allow us to exhibit and enjoy the Racking Horse. Some of these changes are still happening at the upcoming Winter Meetings. Due to COVID restrictions we will not be able to do our normal banquet and meetings at the Double Tree in Decatur, so to insure everyone’s safety and still have our meetings, we are having a one day event on Saturday, January 30th 2021 at the Morgan County Celebration Arena. We will start at 10:00am with a Judges Clinic and then the General Membership Meeting at 1:00pm. The arena will provide the space to social distance yourselves and have speakers so you can hear. The judges’ clinic will be videoed with horses brought in to show the different divisions and if you cannot make it to the clinic, it will be available to view for credit for your judges’ license. If you have any questions about the judges’ clinic make sure and reach out to the office or to Ricky Parker, head of the Judges Committee.

Four Time World Grand Champion
High Sword
Ridden by: Jamie Lawrence
Owned by: The Roy Wester Family
We hope to see you at the Winter Meetings and we also hope you have a very Merry Christmas and a happy and blessed new year. We are lucky to have such a great team in the office so, as always for our staff, we will be closed December 24th through January 1st and be back open on January 4th. It has been a pleasure to have been your President and I hope you're proud of the direction the RHBAA is moving, I hope and pray to see you all soon in the show ring or wherever you enjoy your Racking Horse.

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