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Dear MQHA Members:

As I write this letter on May 7, I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming Maple Leaf and Boystown Shows. This will be our first year in Columbia for the Maple Leaf. For those of us who spent many years of our lives in Columbia, both our horse show lives and our non-horse show time it always feels like Homecoming to come back to Columbia.

Additionally, by the time this letter is published, the MQHYA qualifying season for the AQHYA World Championship Show will be nearly completed. We have a great group of youth competing to represent our state in Oklahoma City in August.

Michelle Forness and Mike Tivoli report positive developments relating to our futurity show, which is set for August 27 through August 29 in Sedalia. First, with respect to the Breeder's Futurity, the Futurity Committee has approved a buy-in for stallions that did not sell in the Stallion Auction. If a stallion was donated and not sold in the auction this year, anyone (not just the stallion owner) can make that stallion's foals eligible (for this year's futurity only) upon the payment of a \$300 fee. If the stallion was not donated this year, the one-time fee to make colts eligible to participate in this year's Breeder's Futurity is \$500. And, 100% of the revenue generated through these fees will go into the Breeder's Futurity pot and be paid out to this year's winners. So, think about it. If you are a stallion owner, or if you just have a colt you want to show this year, you can simply make this payment, and all of that stallion's foals will be eligible to participate in this year's futurity. It's a true win/win situation. More horses eligible and more prize money available to the winners.

Additionally, the August AQHA shows accompanying the futurity have been approved for double MQHA points. So, please make plans to attend. It should be great fun, with the big, added money speed events scheduled for Saturday night and the extra activities that Mike Tivoli, Michelle Forness, and Dawn Smith have scheduled.

For those of you in the business, the MQHA now offers an additional marketing opportunity. Advertising on the MQHA website. For \$40.00 per month, \$180.00 for six months, or \$240.00 for a year, you can post a business card styled ad on the MQHA website,

[www.moqha.com](http://www.moqha.com). And, if you send your ad in a web ready@ format, in compliance with a specification that MQHA will provide to you, you will receive a 20% discount. This is a great opportunity to reach an interested target audience. Please tell all of the people that you deal with in horse-related businesses about this new form of advertising. If you have questions, call Kasey Mattern at 660-473-7064 for more information.

Finally, if you are shopping for insurance for your farm or ranch, I'd like to invite you to consider MQHA corporate sponsor, Segundo, Inc. Ed, Marcela, and Jim of Segundo are loyal supporters of the MQHA, and flat out good people. They will have a booth set up at both Maple Leaf and Boystown, they come to many of our other events, and are always happy to speak with you about your insurance needs.

Until next month.

Mike Murphy  
MQHA President