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Address effective Jan 1, 2009
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Dear MQHA Members:

The 2010 MQHA Convention in Kansas City is now history, and by the time you read this letter, the 2010 show season will be nearly under way. I think that everyone who attended the Convention had a great time. Thanks to Pam Downing and Diane Paul for all of the hard work that they devoted to making the Convention a success. We are already hard at work scouting out locations for the 2011 event!

At this time, MQHA has approved the following AQHA shows for 2010:

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| • March 6-7 | Ozark QH Show | Carthage, MO |
| • April 2-4 | Kansas Quarter Horse Assn. Show | Wichita, KS |
| • April 10-12 | Midway Expo QH Show | Columbia, MO |
| • April 16-18 | Ozark QH Show | Carthage, MO |
| • May 7-9 | Mapleleaf Show | Columbia, MO |
| • May 13-16 | Boystown Show | Lake St. Louis, MO |
| • June 26-27 | MQHA Spring Show | Columbia, MO |
| • July 3-4 | All-Novice Show | Sedalia, MO |
| • July 9-11 | Ozark QH Show | Carthage, MO |
| • Sept. 4-5 | Ozark QH Show | Carthage, MO |

Yes, that's right, we have approved the April shows in Wichita, Kansas as Missouri-approved shows. In a bit of an experiment, we have entered into a reciprocal arrangement with Kansas. They are sanctioning our March shows in Carthage, and we will sanction their April Wichita shows. While I recognize that for some of us, Wichita is quite a haul, I hope that you will consider the Wichita shows as you plan your show season.

I particularly want to call your attention to the Mapleleaf Show on May 7-9 and the Boystown Show May 13-16. These two shows, combined, present a unique opportunity to participate in eight shows (eight judges) over nine days.

Additionally, I am happy to announce that we will hold our 2010 futurities in Sedalia, along with two full-blown AQHA shows, on August 27-29, 2010. AQHA approval is

MQHA Members
Page Two
February 10, 2010

pending. Additionally, the night-time entertainment on both August 27 and 28 will be high level speed event classes, with a large added money barrel race planned for Saturday night. Futurity chairpersons Michelle Forness, Mike Tivoli, and Dawn Smith and their committee are hard at work planning that event as we speak. Stay tuned for more details. And be sure to mark your calendars accordingly.

I also wanted to point out some by-law/rule changes that were passed at the 2010 Convention. First, for purposes of 2010 year-end awards in the open classes, both the rider and the owner of a horse shown in the open events must be MQHA members in order for MQHA points to count. Second, in order to be eligible for year-end awards, an individual must earn a minimum of 10 MQHA points AND must show at a minimum of 10 shows (or 50% of the shows in which a particular class is offered, if it is offered less than 10 times during the show season). For a complete copy of the amended by-laws and rules and regulations of the organization, please see the website at www.mogha.com.

Finally, just a quick reminder. The MQHA is always looking for new members. As an MQHA member, we hope each of you will look for opportunities to recruit and encourage individuals and businesses that you support every day, in horse-related industries, to join our association. MQHA President Elect Denny Deischer suggested at the Convention that each of us should recruit our feed/supply stores, farriers, and vets to become members. We are working on a program to recognize businesses that support the MQHA—more on that later.

A highlight of the Convention every year for me is the Hall of Fame ceremonies. Inducted into the MQHA Hall of Fame this year were Dr. B.F. Byland of Maryville (posthumously), and Steve Lyons of Springfield. Dr. Byland was an early pioneer of the MQHA. And, I cannot think of anyone who has done more for the MQHA through the years than Steve Lyons. Congratulations, Steve, for a well-deserved honor!

Thanks again to Pam and Diane for a great Convention, and for all of the time and effort that each of you devoted to the MQHA in 2009.

Sincerely,

Mike Murphy
MQHA President