



**SHERRI LEWIS**, President, Futurity Chair, Fall Festival and Charity Horse Show Chair, 2750 Beckett Street, Lebanon, Ohio 45036, (513)934-1031, [lewisj@co.warren.oh.us](mailto:lewisj@co.warren.oh.us); **MARY LODEN**, Vice President, 1388 E. Jackson Road, Springfield, Ohio 45502, (937)605-6617, [lodenreining@yahoo.com](mailto:lodenreining@yahoo.com); **SHARON HANKS**, Secretary, 1090 Blue Jay Drive, Enon, Ohio 45323, (937)864-1337, [schanks137@earthlink.net](mailto:schanks137@earthlink.net); **LOUISE MICHELS**, Treasurer, 13 Mary Lane, West Alexandria, Ohio 45381, 937-839-0058, [l.michels@core.com](mailto:l.michels@core.com); **SUZY ZECH**, Membership Secretary, 991 Spring Valley Alpha Road, Xenia OH 45385, (937)376-1339, [suzy.zech@wright.edu](mailto:suzy.zech@wright.edu); **MARCIA DONCASTER**, Past President, Sizzler Chair, 7627 Horseshoe Bend Road, Ludlow Falls, Ohio 45339, (937)698-6917, [dawnkhato@aol.com](mailto:dawnkhato@aol.com); Board of Directors: Krista Bowman, Amanda Brooks, Debbie Glasener, Tammy Hawkey, Linda Laufer, Michael Sonntag.

If you were asked the question, “What is your favorite thing about OVAHA”, how would you answer? I know exactly what I would say, “Our ability and drive to make a difference in the community through our horses”. On **March 17, 2009** I invite you all to visit River of Hope Ranch, where healing flows and dreams run free. The Ranch is conveniently located in between Dayton and Cincinnati at 7565 N SR 42, Waynesville, Ohio 45068 on 31 acres. OVAHA will host the residents of Mary Haven Youth Center from 3:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. with funds we raised at the Fall Festival and Community Horse Show. Thanks to all the volunteers who made that show a success and ultimately permitted us to donate funds to the Mothers’ Group of Children Services as well as Mary Haven Youth Center. I look forward to giving you an update on the Mothers’ Group and their use of the funds. Hopefully you caught our segment on Fox 19 or in the Cincinnati Enquirer! Send me an email and advise as to your favorite thing about OVAHA. [lewisj@co.warren.oh.us](mailto:lewisj@co.warren.oh.us)

On Feb. 11, 2009, the Lexington-Fayette County Health Department confirmed a case of rabies in a Thoroughbred. Two skunks in the area have also tested positive for rabies. There have been 5 reported cases of rabies so far this year in Fayette County, that’s *one more* than for *all* of 2008. Rabies is zoonotic, meaning a disease of animals that is transmissible to humans. Rabies is fatal to horses and all mammals and can be fatal to you. Make sure that all your animals are current on their rabies vaccinations. Rabies is a core vaccine recommended by the American Veterinary Medical Association. Read more about core vaccines in “Guidelines for the Vaccination of Horses” at [www.aaep.org](http://www.aaep.org).

The National Veterinary Services Laboratory confirmed a case of Contagious Equine Metritis in a stallion on Dec. 15, 2008 in Woodford County Kentucky. The affected premises are under quarantine and testing of exposed horses continues. CEM was discovered during routine testing of semen for export. There have been 11 confirmed positive stallions. If your horse has been exposed you will be contacted by a state vet and/or your vet. CEM is a highly contagious, sexually transmitted disease that could have a huge financial impact on the horse industry. Mares can be chronic carriers and often no clinical signs are evident. For more information, visit the U.S.D.A. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service website at [www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_health](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health).

Hopefully you have received the notifications from our Regional Director, Dave Daugherty regarding the Region XIV Awards Banquet to be held on March 21, 2009 at

the Kings Island Inn Resort and Conference Center in Mason, Ohio. Voting is underway and I encourage you to visit the Regional website for more information. You may also print the ballot and email to [Cindy@CindyClinton.com](mailto:Cindy@CindyClinton.com) OVAHA proudly sends forward for your consideration: Deb Glasener and Larry Kineer (Volunteers); Caitlyn Zech (Sport Horse and Dressage) and Pamela Brooks (Amateur). Good luck to our nominees. Show your pride, “vote early and often” as **SUNDAY IS THE LAST DAY TO VOTE!** Ohio Valley will hold a general meeting and high point awards on March 21, 2009 at the Kings Island Inn Resort and Conference Center. We have a guest speaker and hope you can all make the meeting. Following the OVAHA meeting Region XIV will conduct a quarterly business meeting at 3:00 p.m. There is no charge for our high point meeting but you are encouraged to stay for the Region XIV banquet to include dinner for \$25 per person. For questions regarding the OVAHA high point meeting, please contact Tammy Hawkey at [tiaraarabs@aol.com](mailto:tiaraarabs@aol.com).

Are you wondering why you have not received the January Arabian News? Unfortunately, it is reported that the owner has decided to discontinue the publication. We have not received official notice from the publication but were informed of this news at the January regional business meeting. I will attempt to keep you informed via newsletters.

The board has been hard at work this winter. Linda Laufer has arranged the first in a series of events for our membership to-wit: **SPORT HORSE CLINIC** to be conducted by Alex Ramage on **April 11, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.** at 801 Hill Road, Covington, Ohio. Please plan to attend and if you do, bring a covered dish to share. What a great way to kick it off this new campaign! For questions regarding the sport horse clinic, please contact Linda at [llaufer@woh.rr.com](mailto:llaufer@woh.rr.com).

Should you have suggestions for programming, please contact the following board members:

1. January – Marcia Doncaster
2. March – Linda Laufer
3. May – Tammy Hawkey
4. July – Louise Michels
5. September – Michael Sonntag
6. November – Krista Bowman

In an effort to increase general membership attendance, the board will meet the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. We will soon make an announcement as to our favorite watering hole.

If you are interested in the Summer Sizzler, please plan to attend the committee meeting on Sunday, March 15, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at Pop’s Diner off Miller Lane. We do value your input, but we need to hear from you.

Who guessed that Dale Pitcock and Lori and Laura Woodruff were the first members to be featured in the Guess Who column? I certainly enjoyed reading about them and hope you did too. Here's the next featured member:

## GUESS WHO?

Date of Birth: November 10, 1966

Occupation: Mom/horsetender/former graphic artist

Family demographics: Mostly born and raised in Troy (Miami Co., OH). Husband Mark is originally from Chicago area. Children: Andy Jane (15), Will (14), Jack (10) and Calvin (7). (One girl, three boys). My daughter has horse fever worse than I ever did, and at least two of our sons are developing it! My husband has become a convert, too!

Something no one in the Arabian horse industry would know about you: Practically anything, at this point!

Favorite past time: Well, riding, DUH!

Favorite division: Hunter/jumper

Favorite horse moment: When my 11 year-old daughter, who has been riding since she was 5, and I went to a weekend horse camp (before we had our own horses). She fell off at a canter in a muddy field. All the novice-rider moms gave me the most horrific look when I stayed on my horse and told Andy to dust herself off and hop back on! (which she did, of course, since she was also experienced in falling and getting back on!). I'm sure they must have called child services when they got home...

What would you change about the Arabian horse industry: I am far too much of a novice in this area to even be able to comment!

Name: [squeak6@aol.com](mailto:squeak6@aol.com)

Don't forget to check our website periodically for updates and deadlines! If I may ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

OHIO VALLEY ARABIAN HORSE ASSOCIATION

Sherri J. Lewis, President  
(513)934-1031

**Thought for the Day** To avoid criticism, do nothing, say nothing, be nothing. Elbert Hubbard, 1859-1915, American Author and Publisher.