**PAT BARTON**

**Nominee for Region 9 AHA Director**

As a nominee for Director of Region 9 AHA, I would like to share my background with the members of our Region. On a personal level, I was married to Bob Barton for 38 years before he passed away in 2014. I have one daughter, Amy Fuhrmann who is married to Ken Fuhrmann, and two wonderful grandchildren, Emma and Nick. I returned to selling real estate after Bob died and currently I am a Sales Associate with Ebby Halliday Realtors in Flower Mound. I have been involved with Arabian horses since the late 1970’s and remain actively involved within the Arabian industry to this day.

I am a member of the North Texas Arabian Horse Club and the Arabian Riders & Breeders of NW Arkansas. Currently I am serving my last year as Vice Director of Region 9 (2016-2019).

My experience at the National level includes being a club delegate or delegate at large to the AHA National Convention since 1987 for the Oklahoma Arabian Horse Club, the A-OK Arabian Horse Club, and Arabian Riders & Breeders of NW Arkansas and as a Past Director At Large. I have served on various AHA committees including the Snaffle-Bit Committee in 1995; U.S. National and Regional Classes Committee from 1991-2014 (when committee was disbanded)**;** Regional Boundary Ad Hoc Committee from 2009-2010; Amateur Committee from 1996 to present and the Working Western Committee since 2017. I also served as a Youth Nationals volunteer for 6 years when show was held in Oklahoma City.

On the Regional level I have served as Region 9 Vice-Director and on the Board of Directors from 1996-1999 and 2004-2007. I was Region 9 Director from 2008-2011 and served as Past Director from 2012-2015. Over the years I have been on several committees in the Region, including the Region 9 By-Laws committee, Region 9 Financial Planning Committee, and the Show Approval & Youth Show Funding committee. I also served on the Region 9 Championship Show Committee from 1993-2005 and 2008-2011. Also co-managed and/or co-chaired the Region 9 Championship Shows from 1995-1998 and from 2000-2005. I was the recipient of the Region 9 AHA Volunteer Service Award in 2000 and am extremely honored to have received the Region 9 Jake Hoover Memorial Award in 2002. I was instrumental in getting the Texas State Funding approval for our Region 9 Show, which continues to this day. This program has helped to make our Region financially solvent once again!

At the Club level I have served as president, vice-president, board member, executive show committee member, club delegate, editor and publisher of club newsletter and various other capacities for the Oklahoma Arabian Horse Club. I have been club delegate for the Arabian Riders and Breeders of Northwest Arkansas for the last several years. I have helped organize and manage several Class A and open shows in Oklahoma.

For 35+ years I have served the memberships of local clubs and all of Region 9. Trying to stay attuned to the developing and changing needs of our widespread Region has helped guide me in my goal of continuing to serve this remarkable Region and to keep the membership as informed as possible of what is happening in our industry, not only at the National and Regional levels, but at our Club and “grass root” levels. We cannot grow the Region if we don’t listen to what our Club members’ needs are! That being said, the Clubs should be informative to the Region Board of their needs and accomplishments. The Clubs need to be more visible and vocal in their local areas by getting their horses in front of the youth and adults that at looking for family friendly activities to do. This can sometimes be a difficult task, but it can be done! Our Clubs need to come up with new ideas, share those ideas with other Region 9 Clubs, and then get out there and share our amazing Arabians and Half-Arabians with everyone in our Region! We can make good things happen for our beloved Arabian and Half-Arabian horses and show the equine community what a great breed we have!”

Should you have any questions of me, please fill free to contact me at [patbarton1@msn.com](mailto:patbarton1@msn.com) or give me a call at

940-262-0335.