

November President's Press 2021

Welcome NAHRA members and families! As we are on the recovery side of the COVID pandemic I would like to extend my personal thanks to everyone who has made the extra effort to support our organization and your fellow members. A special thanks to the board of directors who have been working diligently through the changing environment to sustain this organization through their diligence and integrity. It has been a challenging year.

Numbered among the things to be proud of is getting our testing schedule back on track! I was fortunate to attend several tests this year as a participant, a judge and as an observer. I am always impressed by the creativity exhibited by our judges and watching dogs and handlers working together to figure things out! For those who missed it, we had an exceptional Invitational this year! The planning and execution of the entire event was a thing of beauty! The 2022 Invitational committee is already hard at work striving to set the bar even higher! If it is within your reach to qualify this year, I encourage you to jump in and make the run. It will be worth the effort! I would like to thank Ray Esboldt and all of our 2021 Invitational committee members for a memorable Invitational experience. The Invitational judges: Todd Francisco, Jeff Riebling and Greg McCowan for their hard work and creativity. I would also like to thank Dake Dietrich for being our first Invitational Heckler! And of course, all of our friends who sponsor and support our NAHRA activities!

We are updating the website so take a look. If you have an idea, can lend a hand, or find something that is not working, please let me know. We are always looking for good ideas and good people to make them work. Speaking of which, our election cycle is coming up soon. We have two regional director positions and an open VP position. If you know of someone who is willing to share their talents with us, please let your RD know so we can reach out to them.

Shout outs by the Pres!

I would also like to thank Jim Tracy for inspiring me to expand my vision of NAHRA and for keeping me on track in my West Coast judging assignment. Thank you to Dick Ofstedal who after retiring from his central region RD position has remained a driving force in NAHRA and a great sounding board as I find my way in my new role. Thank you to Dr. Joe Grohs who is bringing a whole new group of dogs to the NAHRA game. And thank you to Larry Housman, whose traveling this year for tests is the stuff of legends.

Have a Safe and Happy Thanksgiving,
Phil Hines