



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Exciting Changes in VHCF Arabian Series

The Virginia Horse Center Foundation was fortunate to celebrate its 25th year of operation in 2011. To honor that milestone, Foundation leadership and the board of directors reviewed each show series owned by the Foundation to identify ways to improve the experience for our exhibitors through management, scheduling, and facility improvements.

Arabian horses and riders have been a huge part of the Foundation's story and success. The Foundation is pleased to announce a new management team of Marie Taylor and Matt Kwapich who will manage the re-named series, Heritage Arabian Classic and Blue Ridge Arabian Classic horse shows.

Marie Taylor comes to the Foundation with significant management experience with the Old Dominion Arabian Series, and is known for her dedication, friendliness, and attention to customer service. Matt Kwapich hails from the Southwest and has been highly involved with Region 7 and Region 12 Arabian competitions.

Dates vary slightly with the re-imagination of the Arabian series; the first Heritage Arabian Classic "A" show will be March 23-25; June 14-17 will introduce the Blue Ridge Arabian Classic – a two-part show with Thursday and Friday comprising one show and Saturday and Sunday the next; and the second Heritage Arabian Classic running August 30-September 2. However, exhibitors can expect to see the elements of the show they love and enjoy with new features and conveniences that will mark a new era for the series.

While change can be difficult, it is necessary to elevate and challenge the status quo. Veronica and Sherrie Re, contract managers of many of the Arabian shows held at the Virginia Horse Center, oversaw the evolution of a strong Arabian community, organized fundraisers and the Foundation will always be grateful for their extensive contribution and wishes them the best in future endeavors.

Arabian horse shows include Arabian, Half Arabian and Dressage competition opportunities. Featured divisions are Sport Horse, Dressage, Working Hunter, all seats of Equitation, Sidesaddle, Halter, Liberty, English & Country Pleasure, Western & Hunter Pleasure, Native Costume, Trail and Western Horsemanship competitions. The Virginia Horse Center Foundation's series are AHA, USDF, and USEF "A" rated shows.

Please visit www.horsecenter.org for more information and, remember, that these shows and more are free and open to the public.

The Virginia Horse Center Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization which owns and operates the Virginia Horse Center. The Foundation is proud to support a 600-acre facility that serves 400,000 people; functioning as a classroom, land reserve, market place, and recreation venue. The VHCF manages 110 events annually, most free and open to the public, and hosts the Hoofbeats Therapeutic Riding Center.