

ALSA Members

We the ALSA Board of Directors take great care in making decisions for our membership. We do not take our responsibilities lightly.

As of November, we had the entire Grand National Committee resign. We, the Board of Directors, decided that we could not ask of our membership, which we wouldn't be willing to do ourselves. With Jim Doyle at the helm of the Grand National Committee, we wanted to move forward with building a successful ALSA Grand Nationals. We the ALSA Board of Directors have decided to run the 2013 ALSA Grand Nationals.

With this being stated, the ALSA Board went over the financial statements meticulously. The ALSA Grand Nationals lost approximately \$5,000 for 2012. The Lincoln Facility was quite expensive as well as always having our ALSA members competing with the Nebraska Football game crowds just to get hotel rooms. The elevated hotel costs were unacceptable. Looking at the hotel room reservations, the prices increase drastically for those football game weekends, which is always during the ALSA Grand National show. We had multiple complaints regarding the safety of the stalls for the animals, the dirty conditions of the facility, and the lack of amenities in Lincoln. We took these and numerous other complaints to heart and are listening to our membership.

Since January, research went into trying to find a more suitable facility which was more financially economical. After many calls and realizing we were running out of time, we had to make a decision regarding where to hold the 2013 ALSA Grand Nationals. We realized that many people all across the United States have attended the Celebrity Show and Sale in Oklahoma City, so this must be an acceptable distance for people to travel.

We researched the Heart of Oklahoma Exposition Center in Shawnee, Oklahoma. This facility is 38.3 miles farther east than where the Celebrity Show and Sale. The Heart of Oklahoma Expo Center is capable of growing with ALSA, working with ALSA and being financially more acceptable to ALSA. The RV area is paved and the facility has shower accommodations and is really remarkable. Shawnee, Oklahoma has numerous hotels willing to work with pricing to be more competitive for our members, than in Lincoln, Nebraska. The area of Shawnee has restaurants and family entertainment, which will rival most metropolis areas.

The Board of Directors did not mean to offend or cause hurt feelings to our membership regarding the location of the 2013 ALSA Grand National show or researching alternate facilities. The decision to hold the ALSA Grand National Show in Shawnee, Oklahoma is for one year. We really were running out of time. We would sincerely hope that our ALSA membership would work together with us and volunteer to research multiple facilities for our 2014 show.

Please accept our sincere and humble apology for any hurt feelings. We have honestly tried to make the best of a difficult situation.

This is our New Beginning.

The ALSA Board of Directors

The facility website: <http://www.shawneeexpo.org/>