

NWMHC GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - JANUARY 31, 2009 **Ford's Prairie Grange Hall, Centralia, WA**

President Dave Miller called the meeting to order at 2:50 pm.

There were 32 members in attendance.

Minutes of the November 1, 2008 General Membership Meeting were approved as presented.

OFFICERS' REPORTS:

President Dave Miller reminded members that in order to chair a committee and to vote you must be a current member. Also a reminder that anything that was decided on at the fall meeting cannot be changed unless new, important information has come to light.

Dave introduced the newly elected officers: Nancy Rivenburgh remains as Vice President, Kate Sherry remains as Director, and Barbara Ashby is the new Treasurer. Also, LaVon Read is the new Administrator, taking over for retiring Mary Ann Lewis.

Dave also announced that former club President, Alden Eld, was injured when he fell in the icy weather. He is having back surgery. Also, member Cindy McPike lost 3 pregnant mares when her barn roof collapsed in the snow and ice storm.

Administrator LaVon Read has membership forms for anyone needing them today. Please get them in. The membership booklet will go to press soon.

Treasurer's Report – Barbara Ashby.

The current balance in checking is \$4,924.41. Insurance and venue deposits have been paid. Restricted funds amount to \$13,412.86 – this includes Gelding, Year-End, Youth, and Futurity deposits. The BOD has voted to roll over \$5,000 of the \$10,000 in CD #2 to give us some cushion in the account for expenses incurred before income starts coming in. Based on the profit/loss of each of the shows last season, this year each show needs to make \$5,000 for the club to break even – this is unlikely. At the fall meeting decisions were made that cut approximately \$10,000 in our costs, this should help the bottom line. Last year's trail course at McKenzie River Classic cost \$746.90 and brought in \$1,392 – that was a big success. Reminder to clean up tack rooms, remove nails, etc, throw trash in garbage – facility management checks all stalls and charges the club if they have to clean up after us.

AMHA DIRECTORS' REPORT – Joanne Ross and Dave Miller

Updates of several topics:

- There will be no World Sale at the World Show in 2009
- No Champion of Champions at the World Show. Instead they will showcase each of the Grand Champions
- No permanent measuring cards – all horses are measured
- World Show will end Sat night, no Sunday classes.
- There will be a web cam for the national meeting. Banners to scroll across the screen are being sold.
- The possibility of changing the order of classes at the World Show will go through due process before any decisions are made. Currently it is Youth, Amateur, Open. Possible change to Open, Amateur, Your for 2011.
- Regional Shows – AMHA will continue to run with local people as coordinators. Bob Kane will be the western local coordinator
- World Show Jackets – not enough sponsors so far this year. Looking at a less expensive jacket/design
- Protests – World Show is considered a "stand alone" show according to an attorney, thus protest could be filed at the end of the show.

Topics that will come up for discussion at the National Meeting in San Diego:

- Hold all Grand Champion classes on Saturday
- Wave points requirement? Horse must have been seen by 6 judges for each class entered but do not have to have received any points
- Measuring – ratify the National Board of Directors' decision to nullify the rule of measuring at the base of the withers. Measuring to remain at last hair of the mane.
- Member mail-in ballots. This would require a by-law change

Straw Ballot so that our Directors know how the members of the NWMHC feel about topics:

- Promote vote by mail? For Show Rules – no; for Rules & Regs – no; By-laws – yes (2 opposed); Elections – yes (1 opposed).
- Permanent measure at age 3 years – NO; leave at 5 years – yes.
- Ratify the BOD's nullifying of the withers measurement – yes.
- Add a "classic driving" class – no.

SHOW COMMITTEE

Chair Nancy Rivenburgh announced that the schedule is on the website. Review of shows:

NWMHC SCHOOLING CLINIC: Cowlitz County Fairgrounds, Longview, WA. Coordinator: Margaret Slape. March 7-8. Margaret has applied for a \$500 grant from AMHA again this year. Hot Chocolate & donuts and pizza are being provided by Gallery Originals and Gallery Training (Betty Kennedy and Lisa Pichler). The date on the website is incorrect, needs to be changed.

NWMHC SCHOOLING SHOW: Mt. Hood Equestrian Center, Boring, OR. Coordinator: Kate Sherry. March 27-29. Judge: Roger Eitel. The facility has had many improvements. Regular halter obstacle and jumper classes will be Friday night. Clinics start on Sat morning. The regular show will start at 12:30 on Sat and 8 AM on Sunday. This year will include a new halter obstacle jackpot: \$100 to open, \$74 to amateur, \$50 to youth, and \$35 to novice. These classes will be run like they do at big horse shows: a 2-hr window each day for exhibitors to complete the course. Points will be given for each obstacle. There will be one go on Sat and one go on Sun. The highest combined points will win in each division. Ribbons to 6th. Flyers have been done and it is on the club website.

SEA-TAC CLASSIC: Grays Harbor Fairgrounds, Elma, WA. Coordinators: Ron & Dorothy Whiteman and Greg & Tammy Osgood. April 17-19. Judges: Lewis McCann from BC, Pat Hough, Judy Wright (World Judge). Fees have not changed. Ron will need some help with moving panels on Thurs night.

EMERALD VALLEY CLASSIC: Oregon Horse Center, Eugene, OR. Coordinators: Darrell & Cherie Smith, Brian Reid, Sharon Bullington, Gary & Sharon Dickens. May 26-28. Judges: Roger Eitel, Michael Goodwin (from New Zealand), Austin Van Wyck, Ray Randall. No price increases. Stall decorating contest again this year.

CAN-AM CLASSIC: Washington Horseman's Inc. Tacoma Unit #1, Spanaway, WA. Coordinators: David & Lael Sandeno and Wayne & Tiffany Porter. June 19-21. Judges: Portia Kalinka, Kim Sipe, Richard Petty, Sid Hutchcraft (World Judge). New location for this show, 3 year contract. This move saves the club \$3,500 from last year. Everything is under cover. RV parking will be \$45 for the show for electric hookup or free for dry camping. Anyone parked in an electrical space will be charged whether they are hooked up or not, so dry campers please do not park in those spaces. There are 288 stalls. Stalls will be \$55 for the show. Stalls will be locked until the individual arrives. Arrival not before noon on Thurs. No charge for using the arenas on Thurs. The facility charges vendor space at \$35 + \$10 if they use electricity. There are heated showers, hot water washrack, and concession stand. For hotels, Puyallup fairgrounds hotels are not too far and are less expensive than nearby hotels. Info will be listed in the premium book.

AMHA WESTERN CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW: Reno Livestock Events Center, Reno, NV. July 23-26. Contact: AMHA Laura Mullins 1-817-783-5600. Bob Kane is the local coordinator for arrangements.

McKENZIE RIVER CLASSIC: Oregon Horse Center, Eugene, OR. Coordinators: Dave & Jill Miller and Brian Reid. August 14-16. Judges: Mary Ann Morrison, Sally Jo Freund, Patty Hughes-Fudge. Trail Challenge will happen again this year. Stalls are counted from midnight to midnight; this may affect the move-in possibility for doing the trail challenge. Dave and Jill will negotiate some of the contract issues with Major. Shavings will be charged at "market price". RV reservations are through OHC online or via phone.

OREGON STATE FAIR: Oregon State Fairgrounds, Salem, OR. Coordinators: Marge Robinson, Darrell Smith, Bill Sample. August 24 – Sept 3, exact date not yet known. Darrell reported that there is a chance of getting back the big tent for the stall area. The Mexican Rodeo will be in a different arena this year but their horses will be stalled on the warm-up arena side of our group of stalls. The fair folks would like the NWMHC to sponsor some part of the costs of the tent and shavings. Darrell will contact local businesses like Home Depot and Les Schwab for support, as well as those members who show at the fair – looking for a total of \$2,000. Some of the other breeds were not invited back, so there is more time for mini classes. Cherie has submitted a class list with additional performance classes.

AMHA WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SHOW: Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth, TX. Contact: AMHA Laura Mullen, Show Manager. There had been a proposal to change the schedule of the World Show to Open, Amateur, and Youth. This has been killed for 2009 but will be discussed at the national meeting. Currently the youth show on the first Fri and Sat.

Show Manager's Report – Barbara Hento

Reminder that at the fall meeting the membership decided that only one premium book will be printed this year. All show information and entry forms will be included. This will save printing and mailing costs. Also at the fall meeting, it was decided to print day sheets each day rather than printing a "show program" for each show. Barb asked if anyone would be interested in advertising in the premium booklet – she got immediate positive responses from several people. Cost of a ½ page ad will be \$50. Business card ads can be placed on the back of the day sheets for a cost of \$20. Ads need to be camera ready when emailed to Barb and must be to her by the middle of Feb, as she has to get the printing accomplished.

PUBLICITY – Kate Sherry

Ads will be going in the NW Rider again this year as approved at the fall meeting. Kate has reworked the ad to include show dates. Kate and Bill Sample will be working with the AMHA publicity program to send out information about shows to local media.

2009 ALBANY EXPO: at the fall meeting the club voted not to attend this year due to the costs. Cherie and Darrell Smith will be taking some of their horses, so miniatures will be represented there.

HANDS ON HORSES EXPO: this expo in Vancouver, WA is postponed until 2010.

YEAR-END AWARDS – Jessica Kimball

It was agreed that the requirements for show attendance for year-end points/awards will continue to be 3 shows for adults and 2 shows for youth.

Rookie Awards – **MOTION** by Jill Miller to Change requirements of the *Youth Rookie* to attend 3 shows. **PASSED** with 1 no and 1 abstain.

There are 220 High Point and Reserve trophies awarded each year. There are still 31 classes that have not been sponsored at \$40 each. Awards chosen must fit within the budget of \$40 for the two awards for each class. If not all classes are sponsored, the cost of the awards must be reduced accordingly.

FUTURITY – Jill Miller

Two-year old Futurity at Emerald Valley, yearling futurity at Can-Am. There has been some confusion about which set of futurity rules is in effect. Jill is checking all locations they are posted and will be sure that they are all up-to-date. Deadline was extended to Feb 1 due to the bad weather this winter. So far there have been 20 2-year-olds sustained, 39 yearlings, and 68 mares nominated.

AUDIT – Bill Samples

Nothing new to report.

BY-LAWS – Vacant

Dave asked for a volunteer to chair this committee. Lisa Pichler volunteered.

NEWS – Barb Ashby

Barb recommended that the NEWS list only the shows that count for our high point plus the NorCal shows. The full page of listing all AMHA and AMHR/ASPC shows costs \$55 each issue and amounts to free advertising for all the clubs in the northwest. Discussion about good will towards other associations.

MOTION by Barb Ashby to list only NWMHC shows and those that count toward High Point plus the NorCal shows in the NEWS. **FAILED.**

ELECTIONS & NOMINATING – Matt Davern

Elections this year will be for President, Secretary, and 1 Director.

MOTION by Mark Bullington to destroy the counted ballots. **PASSED.**

GELDING INCENTIVE – Matt Davern

Current balance in Gelding Fund is \$4,826 from donations and auction at banquet.

RECOMMENDATION from Gelding Committee to auction centerpieces at the fall banquet. **PASSED.**

RULES AND REGULATIONS – Annette Helgeson

Annette will send updated Rules and Regs to Barb Hento for publishing in the Premium Book.

WEBSITE – Sheryl Peterson is chairman.

Johnny Sayles is doing a great job as webmaster.

Recommendation to the Website committee to review the site content and update. Anyone with recommended changes please send them to Sheryl Peterson.

WELFARE – Rozee Bird is chairman.

Two horses were placed within hours of Rozee being notified of their need. If anyone is aware of horses in a bad situation please notify her.

WINTER MEETING – Nancy Rivenburgh

Kudos to Donna Hinton and her team for another meeting well done. Donna reported that using the grange for 1 day was the same price as for the weekend.

YEAR-END BANQUET – Helen Halderman

Looking for a new place for the meeting and banquet. The Oak Tree is in Chapter 11 and we do not know what the future will hold. Other facilities get booked up quickly so we can't wait long to find out about the Oak Tree. Other facilities will be more expensive – we have been spoiled by the set-up and costs at the Oak Tree. We will do our best to find a satisfactory venue with a reasonable price between Woodland and Portland. If anyone has suggestions, please let us know.

YOUTH – Summer Sayles-Rueger is chair.

Nothing new to report.

NEW BUSINESS

*Rose Parade – Matt Davern has been contacted about participating. Club will not sponsor financially, individuals will be responsible for everything. It is a very fun event to participate in but takes personal commitment of time and money. There was no interest in participating.

*Lisa Pichler has signed up to participate in a Christmas parade in WA. She asked permission to use the NWMHC name but did not want any financial sponsorship. The only concern was about insurance. Permission to use “NWMHC represented by Gallery Originals”.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen Halderman, Secretary