

General Membership Meeting 2/3/24

In person @ High Rocks, Gladstone, OR

Attendance- Directors: Sheryl Peterson, Joanne Ross, Sharon Bullington, Katie Hansen, Sharon Hardt, Linda Van Fleet, Tammy Osgood, Bambi Roylance, Mary Houts. **General Members:** Dorothy Whiteman, Danna Ash, Lisa Brostad, Sue Moore, Julie Wines, Jean Howard, Judy Howard, Kathy Howard, Melissa Henthorne, Charissa Aldredge, Beth White, Leslie White, Roxane O'Bryant, Helen Halderman, Wendy Wright, Jessica Kimball, Kelsey Erickson, Leif Erickson, Linda Dougall Soto, Lisa Abboud, and Suzi Durdell. **Youth:** Ben Hansen

Meeting called to order @ 1:00

We currently have 43 paid members. Quorum: 30 voting members in attendance.

We had an amazing morning with judge Chris Bickford, we learned a lot. The Sunshine committee should send him a thank you card for his time spent with us.

President's address: Sheryl Peterson

We have quite the year ahead of us and are not in a good financial state. We will likely have to dip into our CD this year. We ran into a tax situation this year and discovered that we had lost our 501c5 status a few years ago. It is paramount that we take care of this tax issue first before we can put on our shows. We are going to have to cut back on some things that many will not be happy with but we have to take care of our club. We need to get sponsors for our horse shows, not just from members, but from businesses and corporations. We need to fund the club more than the awards programs, if we can't hold horse shows we won't be able to give awards. We are unable to retain the T3 management team and will be using volunteers: Sharon Bullington will be the Show manager, Ring steward and measurer as she will not be showing horses. Sheryl Peterson and Sharon Hardt will be helping run the show office but will not have any contact with the judges so they will still be able to show. Mary Houts has offered to do some of the gate duties but will need other members to step up and help with gate, course setting, and handing out ribbons. Please have patience and show respect to the volunteers that will be running the office. Please make sure that you are filling out your entry forms completely with amateur and youth card numbers, front and back colored copies of registration papers. Incomplete forms may be subject to late fees. Please close out your show bills early. You will be able to send entries via email for a \$5 fee per packet, there will not be an online option for entries. We are working on a credit card option to be able to run cards at the show. We will need to deposit money as it comes in so we have the funds in our account to pay for judges and facilities.

This is not doom and gloom, we will all have an opportunity to help bring this club back to life. We are a great group with a ton of talent, let's work together to turn this year around.

Lisa Brostad has been putting together a handout/flyer about the NWMHC that can be taken to tack shops, feed stores, 4H clubs, wherever you think we might get the word out about our club and shows to gain new members

Vice President's report- Joanne Ross

As the VP she helps Sheryl and steps up to help when Sheryl isn't available. Also as the Show committee chair, responsible for making sure we get show contracts. Will give a show report later

Treasurer report - Sharon Bullington

Sharon has separate savings accounts from the General checking account, GIF, Year end awards, Youth Scholarship. Class sponsorships go into the General fund. We have just over \$1500 in the General checking account. The CD is about \$14,000. We do have the sponsorship of the Judges, Sharon is holding this money separate from the General fund so we have the money to pay the judges. Judges for 2024 are getting a flat fee is \$1400, Susan paid for 3 judges at this rate and Linda V partial sponsored a 4th judge (Rutledge, who was won with a \$60 bid for a day of judging, valued @ \$300, from the AMHA online Auction)

Recording Secretary report - Katie Hansen

I am excited to be a newly elected part of the directors. My goal as secretary is to make sure I am able to provide the membership with detailed and easy to read minutes.

AMHA Director report- Sheryl Peterson

AMHA finished the year in the black once again, and continues to grow in both membership and registrations. While rumors of mismanagement of funds in the office circulated early in the year, our investigation and audit showed no inappropriate use of funds and no missing money. Thanks to our treasurer, Ailene Tarap, and the auditing company for performing a thorough review.

The rule book is at the printer and should be posted online and available in print by the first of March. You can request a hard copy be sent to you if you would like to have one.

AMHA RULE CHANGES THAT TOOK EFFECT ON JAN 1ST

- The World Show will award Honor Roll points! One set of points will be awarded Show
- Protest fee has increased to \$200 Height Protested horses may be lunged for up to 15 mins
- 2024 World Show Horse and Youth Qualifications remain the same as 2023
- Pay-To-Play World Show Qualifying fee is now \$300/horse/show
- Judges may stay on the show grounds in certain instances
- New Fees as of Jan 1st Amateur Card - \$20 Youth Card - \$20 Open Card - \$30 Permanent
- Height Card - \$50 Returned check fee - \$50

Be sure you have renewed your AMHA membership for 2024, and also your amateur card. Youth cards on good for a youth's lifetime and do not need to be renewed.

Looking forward to a great 2024!

Lisa Brostad would like to donate flowers to be sent by the club to Val at the AMHA office. The sunshine committee will work to get those sent.

AMHA is still looking for a show manager for the world show.

A recent survey was sent out to AMHA members; the purpose was for a committee looking into the possibility of online voting. The world show dates are set despite rumors on Facebook. The annual meeting dates have been corrected on facebook. Again just be careful who you trust with information about AMHA on social media. Go to the official AMHA pages, ask the office and directors.

Sheryl presented Sharon Hardt(2022) and Bambi Roylance(2023) with gifts as outgoing president.

Sharon Hardt director report:

Sharon Joined the club because she wanted to learn about miniature horses, then joined the directors to offer help where she could. Goals are to master the show program and have been working on the Bylaws and rules and regs. She wants to see everyone have fun.

Linda's Director report:

I'm an active member of several committees:

Bylaws and Rules & Regulations

Helped with re-writing the Bylaws and Rules & Reg. that are being voted on at this meeting

Presented my own membership change proposal that is being voted on at this meeting

Year End Awards

Store and recycle donated trophies

Help point keeper by double checking totals

Help set up awards at Banquet

Show Committee

I try to be an advocate for member concerns

Came up with Belt Buckle Series idea and found a sponsor

Wrote the Rules for the Belt Buckle Series

Helping with recycling ribbons

I am the chair and manager for the Clinic/Schooling Show

Publicity

I just check in with this committee and sometime give ideas

Tammy Osgood - Directors report

Has been a member of the club since '92 and thinks of many of the members as family. Wants to help build us back to what we once were, and bring us back to a feeling like a strong community.

Club Administrator - Mary Houts

Daughter Sarah is working on the website and Mary posts on social media but needs help with that. Need to promote our horses and gain new memberships. Going to parades, fairs, retirement centers, anywhere we are welcomed.

Show Committee Report - Joanne Ross

1. The three proposed AMHA 2 day show for 2024 are:

Capital City Classic April 27&28 Salem, Oregon Judges - Cindy Weight Carter and Sami Scheuring.
Western Washington Classic May 25&26 Ridgefield, Washington Judges - Chris Bickford and James Rutledge,

Grays Harbor Classic June 15&16 Elma, Washington Judges - Cindy Carlson and Kim Sterchi

2. Our Volunteer Show Team: show manager Sharon Bullington, Office volunteers Sharon Hardt and Sheryl Peterson. Sharon Bullington will be ring steward. A volunteer gate manager will be appointed for each show. The volunteer show announcer for all three shows is Catherine Ayres, Grays Harbor
3. Show Coordinators will be responsible to arrange for transport of trailer and arena set-up. Howard Stables has volunteered to transport the trailer for Grays Harbor and Western Washington. Tom Soto will haul the trailer to Capital City.
4. Volunteer Announcer costs clarification: Lunch provided at each show. Room and Transportation will be provided by Tammy and Dorothy to Western Washington. Catherine Ayers lives nearby Grays Harbor. Salem show will offer gas reimbursement/mileage to be determined. Joanne Ross has offered her "Bunkhouse" for housing the Capital City show announcer.
5. A 2 day class list was developed and adopted for 2024 shows and sent to the board for approval.
6. The show fees were analyzed and proposed to make the shows profitable. I suggest that immediately after the Capital City show we review the profit/loss and adjust our prices accordingly for Western Washington and Grays Harbor.
7. Susan George, Salem, Oregon has Sponsor a second judge for all three shows and Suzi Durdel offered to match Sponsorships; please thank both these wonderful ladies if you see them!

Need to get as many sponsors as possible to make our show profitable.

Capital City show coordinators: Joanne Ross and Tom Soto

Joanne - Ag Fest weekend, be careful leaving valuables at stalls we have had theft during this show in the past due to the public. We won't be able to have a silent auction as items have walked off the tables in years past.. Be inviting to new members, entertain the public as that might encourage new members

Western Washington show Coordinators: Kathy Howard and Lisa Abboud

Kathy reports that she plans to have a silent auction and a 50/50 raffle, Coffee and Donuts both mornings, potluck planned for Saturday evening, Starlake tack will have a booth set up, Kelsey Erickson will be the show photographer, looking into having a food cart. There will be an event/ concert that might cause some issue with exiting or entering the grounds.

Kathy has been offered wooden signs made by John Sayles to use as show high points by Dawn Sayles. Discussion was had on how and when to use these signs. It was decided that we want to accept the signs and will table the decision on how/ when to award them at a later date (directors meeting)

Grays Harbor show coordinators: Tammy Osgood and Dorothy Whiteman

Elma is not appalachia! Please support the show. Rvs will need to be booked through the grounds. There will be a car event the same weekend. Book your RV spots early. They plan to offer breakfast (biscuits and gravy), will have donuts, plan to hold a raffle for a collapsible wagon filled with feed store goodies. Idea to lessen the Ribbon bill, want to try giving colored silk flowers in place of ribbons, every entry will get a bud vase with each number. Dorothy volunteered to donate the flowers for the Elma show.

Jessica made a motion to give Silk flowers in place of Ribbons at the Grays Harbor show. Melissa Henthorne seconded Discussion: Grands/ Supremes would still be given. Beth would like to have ribbons available at the show for pictures Motion passed.

Show managers Report

New premium and entry forms were created. RV reservations will be booked by the grounds except Capital city. Please include RV license number so we can get an accurate count for RV reservations paid. If you want to stall with someone send your entries in together. Youth/VSE/COOL \$14 per class, AM/ Open \$24 per class. The Office fee is now \$20/ horse. Entries are due 10 days prior to the show. The \$3/class post entry fee will be enforced Please get your entries in early for our volunteer management team.

Judy made a proposal to add verbiage to the show rules in regards to VSE horses to follow AMHA rules. Current rules read: All horses will be judged in accordance with the current rules of the American Miniature Horse Association....

Proposal change to read: All horses, including VSE equine, will be judged in accordance with the current rules of the American Miniature Horse Association....

Melissa Henthorne seconded Motion passed

Youth Committee

Need a chair and committee members. Leslie White- Chair, Beth White, Roxanne O'Bryant and Ben Hansen volunteered.

Flnance Committee

Linda Soto had to leave, no report was given

By-laws/Rules and Regs - Sharon Hardt

The committee spent a great deal of time reviewing and comparing the two documents. Most of the changes proposed are clarifying language and grammar.

As stated in our letter to the membership, in both documents the term Board of Directors has been replaced with Directors or Director. This change is for liability reasons as advised by our insurance agent.

We are proposing the position of Club Administrator to be eliminated. It has been determined that the need for this position has changed and the duties have been realigned to improve the flow of information and finances. The membership form, dues and sponsorship forms will now go directly to the Treasury/Secretary, sending all monies to one individual.

These proposed changes have been reviewed by the Directors and have their full support.

Additionally, we will present two new proposals for both the Bylaws and R&R's. These proposals have been made by Club members for your consideration. Both proposals are asking for a change in Membership levels and fees.

We will first vote on the changes presented by the Bylaw and the Rules/Regulation Committee for the current documents. Once the discussion and vote on these proposed changes then the individuals who are proposing the new changes will present their proposals. After which, we will discuss and vote on those proposals.

On another note, I will be leaving this committee for the balance of 2024 due to other duties I have taken on in the Club. I will follow through with updating any changes we decided on at this meeting. These final documents will be posted to the website as soon as possible.

Our President will be appointing the new chair. Thank you to a fantastic team and it has been a real pleasure working with every one of you.

Bambi made a motion to accept the Bylaw changes as posted. Helen Halderman seconded. Motion passed

Bambi made a motion to accept the Rules and Regs changes as posted. — seconded. Motion passed.

Sheryl called for a vote on the proposal of adding an individual membership. Discussion to add that this will go into effect for 2025 memberships. Bambi seconded. Motion passed

Kathy H made a motion to accept the associates membership as written. Melissa Henthorne seconded. Discussion that this membership will go into effect immediately. Motion passed.

Clinic/Schooling show Report - Linda Van Fleet

3/30/24 at state fairgrounds, Salem ,OR

Contract for rental of OSF is being signed today

Deposit and contract will be mailed to OSF this week

The clinicians are:

Jessie Skerjanec for Versatility (driving, halter, hunter)

Bambi Roylance for Halter/Stock Type Halter

Cherie Jensen for Showmanship and Obstacles

Joanne Richie will be assisting with the clinics where needed

Judge: Alicia Hannigan

Steward: (Helen Halderman offered during the meeting)

Announcer: Ben Hansen

Office: Linda Van Fleet & Judy Howard

Gate: (Jean offered to help during the halter classes,

Set up Crew: AJ Ericson and anyone else that can help

Tack/Clothing Sale: Kathy Howard

Photographer: Kelsey Erickson/Midnight Studios

Club Trailer: Mary Houts offered to haul the trailer from Joanne's

Stalls: Gina Hannigan is going to help manage the stalls

Please, everyone share the information and entry form and PLEASE bring horses to show! We need this event to be successful!

Sunshine Committee- Sharon Hardt

The Sunshine Committee has team leads set up for the year. Each member has volunteered to send out cards to current and past members who have passed or are facing an illness. We rely on the membership to notify of these occurrences.

We would like to have a spot on the website letting the membership know what we are about and how to reach us. We will be working on developing a statement for the website to be posted soon.

Website Committee - Sheryl

Currently Sarah Houts is the webmaster, Her job is to add and remove items we want, she is not responsible for the content. We want to have a committee that will be responsible for the content, Sheryl will chair but need committee members - Bambi, Leslie and Charissa volunteered.

Gelding Incentive - Katie Hansen

The GIF balance is currently \$1584.00 from the blanket auction and donations given at the fall banquet. Ribbon tickets donations will not be added to the fund from the shows this year and will just be going into the general fund. We need to brainstorm some ideas to promote/increase the fund for a bigger payout to our amazing geldings.

Year End Awards- Katie Hansen

This year we will need to match the individual awards to our class list. This will eliminate some class categories that we have had in the past. In Open halter the categories will be Junior division by Wealings, Yearlings and 2 year olds (no height breakdowns) Senior division will be broken down into 2 heights 32 & under and 32-34. We also don't have the Amateur classes broken into level one and level two. For this year the Year end awards we will just be awarding champion and reserve Amateur per class. Maybe with sponsorships and a successful show season we can give lv1 and lv2 but we can't promise that right now.

Sheryl has some trophies and plaques to donate for year end awards, Lisa Brostad has some good ideas and has been added to the committee.

Publicity Committee report - Beth White

We had a great first newsletter. The Feb issue will be out soon. We are working on having some fun events to bring people in at Ag fest as well as other things out in the community. If you have any ideas please reach out to Beth.

We need to be more active on social media. We currently do not have a Tiktok or Instagram in the club name, would like to add these social media platforms to connect with the younger generations,

Fall/winter meetings - Beth White

We have the same place in WA for November, we are going to just redo the same menu and set up from this past year. We do have a deposit at The Oaktree. Discussion about the \$800 donation we had last year, not sure if we'll have that again this year, That donation Covered Gratuity, Taxes, Salad bar and Desserts. The room was free to us for the day if we bought food.

Sheryl proposed that we look into some venues closer to Eugene to include our southern Oregon members. We need to move our meetings around to the north and south to include all members. Our club covers a large area.

Old Business

Ribbons- we need to order 1st and 4th place ribbons, we could go to a flat ribbon to decrease the overall costs Rosettes are \$2.20 a piece. If we keep the ribbons the same as we had in the past the ribbon order is \$700, If we change to flats the order is \$2

Kathy asked if we have enough ribbons to cover Capital City and could we do the silk flowers for the other 2 shows?

Kathy made a motion that we do the flower awards in place of ribbons for Western Washington and Grays Harbor shows and use ribbons at Capital city. Bambi Seconded - Motion passed

Calendar - Do we want to produce a calendar this year? Sharon H believes that we are losing money on the calendar and should not continue to have a calendar.

Bambi made a motion to continue the calendar as long as we can get the sponsorships. No second.

The pages are sponsored \$125.00/page. All pages were sponsored = \$1500, the cost of production was around \$800. Calendars are given to each sponsor and with membership. Additional calendars are sold @ \$7. The initial idea of the Calendar was to be a benefit to the members

Joanne made a motion to table further discussion to the directors meeting

New Business

Show committee chat was unruly, unproductive and not fun to chair. Joanne proposes to limit the committee to 12 members. All show committee meetings will be in person and open to all members.

Joanne made a motion that the show committee be limited to 12 working/ voting members consisting of: the vice president/chair, two show coordinators from each show, the points tabulator, one show management member. Any

additional open/vacant seats will be elected at the next club meeting or appointed in the interim by the board. Bambi seconded. Motion passed

Leslie asked if you sign up for a committee, please be a productive, active member.

Charissa made motion to adjourn, Bambi seconded Meeting adjourned @ 4:32pm