

Northern California Walking Horse Association

Meeting Minutes 5/1/09

Location: Brookside Equestrian Center , Elk Grove , California

Officers in attendance: Fran Cole- president, Shayna Shaw-Kingsbury- vice president, Kris Herman- secretary, Tammy Chance- treasurer.

Persons in attending: Fran Cole, Kris Herman, Tammy Chance, Shayna Shaw-Kingsbury, Lucinda Romero, Diane Sanzonie, Alexa Rauchfuss, Leslie Erickson, Donna Armas, Christine Lester, Susan Cole, Ginger Barton, Wendy Shaw, Lauren Shaw

The meeting was opened by President Fran Cole. The next NCWHA meeting will be held at the Woodside Horse Show on June 6, 2009. She mentioned that she would like to see additional NCWHA members there.

The Youth Committee report was given by Shayna Shaw-Kingsbury. The Youth Committee pizza lunch meeting is to be held May 2, 2009. Shayna will make an announcement of where the luncheon will be held. The goal of the luncheon is to allow the kids to get acquainted with each other and allow Shayna to get an idea of what the kids would like to be involved in. Shayna will have sign up sheets and membership forms available. The luncheon will be held during the lunch break for the show.

Tammy Chance reported on the NCWHA website. She mentioned that she and Diane Sanzonie have been working on the website. The last few pages of the site still need to be approved. The domain name was purchased and it should be "live" in the next couple of weeks. Ginger Barton asked what the fee was to members to list their services i.e. trainers, boarding, etc. Tammy said there is no charge. Advertising in the member's business directory is FREE to all NCWHA members at this time. All of the horse expos, trail rides, clinics, etc will be listed on the events page of the website. There will be a full calendar, bios on each officer, photo album, forms, hi point programs, trail challenge, and links will be available. The website will have a Special Announcements section. It will not have a chat function but email links to all board members will be available. Tammy invited attendees to look at the Website binder she brought with her for examples of what the website will look like if anyone was interested.

Diane Sanzonie gave the Trail Committee report. There will be an NCWHA trail ride held on May 30 at 10am at North Shore Lake Comanche. The trails are easy and good for any level of horse and rider. The ride can last anywhere from 1 to 4 hours. There will be a lunch held after the ride. The cost of the ride (lunch and insurance) is being covered by a grant from the TWHBEA. All NCWHA members can ride for free. There will be a \$15 cost for non-NCWHA participants. All breeds are welcome. It is mandatory that reservations be made by May 22. Diane also spoke about the NCWHA Trail Challenge. Any NCWHA member is eligible. Each participant would log his or her own hours on an honor code. There will be recognition for participants at the end of the year.

Shayna Shaw-Kingsbury gave the Fundraising Committee report. There will be a 50/50 raffle held at the Brookside show and the youth are actively selling tickets. There will be a silent auction at the Woodside Horse Show. So far, Shayna has gotten donations of two stallion breedings (SimplyDangerous and Bright Lights Big City), a full page black and white VOICE ad, items from World Champion Horse Equipment, 5 year subscriptions to Walking Horse Chat and Walking Horse World, gift baskets, and training by Shayna herself. Donations are needed and very welcome.

Tammy Chance announced the NCHWA High Point Program. This will start with a Members Class Program and will consist of NCWHA members only classes at the Woodside Gaited Horse Show, the Jen Hackney Memorial Horse Show, the PCFTA Fall Tribute Horse Show, and the Oktoberfest Horse Show. The Oktoberfest will be a double points show. There will be three categories of members only classes offered: youth 2 gait, amateur two gait, and open three gait. The classes are open to liteshod, trail pleasure, and country pleasure horses. Members will receive points based on placings and the number of entries in each class. The same horse cannot show in more than one category. There will be awards for the members with the most points in each category at the end of the year. There is also a Trainer of the Year High Point Award where trainers will earn points from the horses they train in the members only classes at the above shows. Tammy is trying to develop a more formal high point award program for the near future.

Tammy also reported that the arena is booked for the Oktoberfest Horse Show. She is looking at judges based on the list she developed last year from surveying various people. There was discussion about adding a trail class. Unfortunately, there is not any room for a trail class on Saturday night and there is not another arena that can be used to hold the class during other sessions. However there is interest in having a trail class and Lucinda Romero suggested holding the trail class early in the morning before the show starts. Several people seemed agreeable to that plan and indicated they would be willing to participate. Kris Herman volunteered to look into getting someone to volunteer to judge the class so the show judge would not get overloaded.

Fran Cole made the announcement that the Mother Lode Open Show in Nevada County on June 27, 2009 will be having open gaited breed classes. She said that she would be willing to help stable any horses that are coming from a long distance at her ranch. There was discussion about possibly having a clinic on June 28 at Moondance Ranch.

The Membership Committee report was given by Ginger Barton. She said that all NCWHA members are members of this committee and membership is vital to the success of the organization. She stressed the importance of a new infusion of members and the need for member representation from all areas of Northern California . She encouraged people to talk the club up and said that any interested persons can be directed to her. There is also a need for more members to get involved in the various committees. Organizations fail when there is over reliance on just a few people.

Lucinda Romero spoke about the dressage clinic she has organized. The clinic will be held on June 20 at Cayetano Ridge Equestrian Center in Livermore , California . The clinic will be taught by Beth Nehse, who is a well known FEI dressage instructor. So far only one member has signed up for this clinic. Please contact Lucinda if you are interested. This lead to a discussion about clinics the NCWHA may want to hold. Some ideas have been for all the area trainers to get together and hold one big clinic. People need to give input about what types of clinics they would be interested in participating in so there is good attendance.

Kris Herman reported on the 2009 Western States Horse Expo. The Tennessee Walking Horse is officially in for a breed demonstration. She is looking for four horses to participate and has received interest from Susan Cole, Shayna Shaw-Kingbury, and Lucinda Romero. The breed demonstration and booth is supported by the National Walking Horse Association this year and several individuals in the NWA made donations to make this happen. Volunteers to help staff the booth are greatly needed.

Fran Cole announced that Keith Dane, Director of Equine Protection at the Humane Society of the United States is coming to speak about soring in the TWH industry at Moondance Ranch on May 14 at 6:30pm. She is hoping for a good turnout to show support for the anti-soring cause.

Tammy Chance reported on the NCWHA financials. There is currently \$6,656.84 in the Horse Show Account. As of April 30, there is \$1,809.63 in the General Account. The current outstanding obligations for the organization include \$213.75 for the final website payment, \$385.00 for the annual website maintenance contract, and about \$900.00 for preparation for the organization taxes. After the outstanding bills are paid, the organization will only have \$310.88 in the General Account. So fundraising and new memberships are extremely important.

The next NCWHA meeting will be at the Woodside Gaited Horse Show on June 6, 2009. The meeting was concluded.

Respectfully submitted,

Kris Herman

Secretary