

February General Meeting

Following a pot luck luncheon the general membership meeting was called to order by President Kathi Albanese, February 12, 2011, 12:30 PM at the home of Danny & Jeanne DeBruce. The meeting was attended by 46 members and guests. All members of the board were present with the exception of Dianne Van Dyke who was ill.

Maryan Baker introduced Yvonne and Ray of Ray's Grill Catering who will be our new food vendor. They brought bar-b-que ribs, macaroni and cheese and baked beans for our pot luck lunch. They received a round of applause and thanks.

1. 2011 Show Season. Kathi reminded everyone that club membership runs Jan. 1st to Dec. 31st. In order to show as a club member, for the first show, you must renew or join no later than Mar. 1st.
2. Treasurer's Report. Wendy Anderson handed out copies of our 2010 year end financial report and a schedule recapping just show income and expenses. Wendy took questions and explained how the two reports fit together.
3. Journal Ad. Karen Layman Clark said the Journal Ad for this year has sufficient members signed up so the Club does not have to pay anything toward the ad. However, some of the signed up members still need to make payment. Today would be a good time to do so.
4. Class Line-Up. Kathi said we now have 140 classes. It will be even more important to keep track of how the classes are running, including cancellations, in order to be at the gate on time. We need to keep the show moving and will enforce the 2 minute rule for holding the gate. Kathi recommended using the pre-entry flat fee to enter all the classes you think you might be interested in. You can simply scratch your entry at the gate if you decide against the class. If you want to add a class you will have to pay the penalty of a late single entry fee. If your horse does not measure into your pre-entered class there will be no penalty to simply move you to an appropriate height class. If your horse measures above 38" you will forfeit your grounds and drug fees. In recent years we have listed Liberty class "as time allows." AMHR did not catch it before but now states if we list it in the premium we must have the class. For this year we will have Liberty at every show.
5. Year End Contribution to High Point Contest. Kathi stressed the importance of securing class sponsorships in order to give good High Point Awards. She announced a contest to see who could get the most sponsors signed up. The prize will be a new E-Z Entry Cart. The rules include a minimum of \$500.00 in sponsorships to qualify for the contest. You must go outside the club membership in order to get your sponsors. Copies of the rules as well as sponsor forms were available. Wendy is working with the banner vendor. She stressed you need to get your sponsors in touch with her as soon as possible if they want their banners displayed at all four shows. Kathi reminded us the February Featured Farm is still open on the website as well as some upcoming months.

6. Area VII Report. Earl O'Bannon brought us up to date. The LAEC has our show booked in June and it will be followed the next week with the AMHA So Cal Show. LAEC will accommodate horses and owners showing in both shows to stay throughout by not having to pull out and come back. Cathy Brubaker is signed up as Judge and she will also be judging Nationals this year. John West, who was the photographer last year, is signed on again for this year. Laurie Villapando is Show Manager and Mary Hensley will be Show Steward. They haven't lined up anyone as Ribbon Presenter yet. He said they are smoothing out the class lineup. In working with AMHR office he learned they were going to send out the complete set of ribbons for the show. In order to save the organization money he, his wife, Larry & Barbara Whittington took inventory of the left over ribbons. AMHR is only sending what is needed. He addressed having a pot luck dinner on Sat. evening. Due to people still showing through the afternoon and evening we would have to go with just setting it up for 6 PM with people coming and going. Lynell Darnall suggested we could have a kick off the show pot luck on Thursday evening when no one would be showing. There was a positive response from people planning to be there.

7. New Business. Our current supply of show ribbons is only sufficient to cover the first show of the season. The board has considered this would present the opportunity to change the style of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards. Wendy did a lot of research checking more than one supplier. In the end it was decided to continue with Hodges, our current supplier. Wendy negotiated a lower price for the ribbons from \$1.30 to \$1.00. The new style of award will be a medal on a neck ribbon. 1st will have a blue ribbon with a gold medal. Second will be a red ribbon with a silver medal and third will be a yellow ribbon with a bronze medal. All printing will be in gold lettering. All the new ribbons will have the club logo as well as the medal. The savings on the ribbons will mostly offset the higher price of the medals.

The matter of the increased cost to the club inspired a detailed discussion between members and Kathi and Wendy. Several members pointed out they always donate their ribbons back to the club. Kathi acknowledged it does save money but we need to know for sure that we will have enough for every placing. It is expected with the flat rate entry the classes will have more entrants. Earl asked why not just order what we need? Wendy explained in order to receive the lower negotiated price plus a 10% discount, if ordered by Feb. 15th; we must place the minimum order of 1,000 awards per placing or a total of 6,000. If we order just what we need it would end up costing us more for fewer ribbons. Kathi asked for a vote whether to accept the new awards or go with all ribbons. By a show of hands the new medal awards were chosen.

Laura McIntyre asked why we are using the club logo including flowers when it had been voted down some time ago as a cost saving measure in favor the logo without flowers. Kathi said she was unaware of that vote. Karen Bennett did the design at no cost to the club and it does not incur any additional costs to use it. Kathi asked for a vote on whether to use the logo with the flowers or the logo without them. By a show of hands the vote carried for the logo with the flowers.

Kathi reminded us of the use of the wood token for 1st place winners. It is worth \$5.00 in merchandise at the show vendor's tack trailer or \$4.50 if redeemed back to the club. If you choose to redeem them for cash you will need to save them to be redeemed at the end of the show year.

Carrie Campbell introduced Amy Wheeler, President, of the AMHA So Cal Mini Club. She invited us to their club shows in April in Las Vegas. Unfortunately our show coincides with theirs for that date. There will be a play day show June 5th at Norco. It will be for horses 38" and under. Everyone will be on the honor system as there will not be any measuring in. Finally they have a show at the LAEC the week following ours.

Lisa Dunn expressed concern over the proximity of show dates between Area VII and our last show, July 10th, with three judges. Several members thought entry fees would rise to \$30.00 per class because of having three judges. Kathi assured everyone the same fees would apply regardless of the number of judges.

Meeting was adjourned by Kathi Albanese at 1:37.

/respectfully submitted
Sandy Champlin