



## **Virginia Walking Horse Association**

### **Minutes, December 6, 2009**

President Richard Lloyd called the meeting to order at 1:45pm, on December 6, 2009, in a conference room at T-Bone Jacks Restaurant in Waynesboro, VA. His welcome included an appreciation for everyone in attendance. The following 6 people were in attendance of the meeting: Richard Lloyd, Bill Reel, Mary Swecker, Kay Swisher, John Upson and Donna Skelly.

In the absence of Treasurer Brooke Martin, Mary Swecker gave the treasurers' report. As of December 5, 2009, the association had a balance of \$2,115.47. A check for \$500.00 needs to be written to our raffle winner once we learn who that person is. So actually we have an available balance of \$1,615.47. Donna Skelly gave a treasurer's report for the Youth Council. As of December 5, 2009 the Youth Council had \$1,573.68 in their regular account; the scholarship fund had no activity since our last meeting so the balance remained \$461.75.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Kay Swisher reported that our high points program has 16 active divisions. The shows that we affiliated with this past year was 2 shows from SVHA, Elkton, Eastern Classic, Pine Spur, Tazewell County Classic, Chatham and VWRA. It was agreed upon by the members in attendance not to present a Juvenile Rider of the Year Award at this years banquet; this was due to our financial situation and the two eligible juveniles have already won this award.

Mary Swecker suggested that we hold our 2009 Awards Banquet at Pano's Restaurant in Harrisonburg, VA. She said they have a smaller conference room that will seat 70 people and there wouldn't be a charge to use this room. We could also order off the menu, which would omit us from making a commitment on the meal if lesser people come than expected. Richard suggested asking Sharon Rice from TWHBEA to speak at our banquet and possibly someone else that may have knowledge on what our industry holds. Richard will contact Sharon to see if she would be interested in joining us. No band or excessive expenses will be needed; we'll just have to pay for the awards and the expenses of our guest speaker(s). A tentative date for our banquet would be January 30, 2009. The schedule for the evening includes social time for 1 hour, enjoy our meal, guest speaker and then presentation of the awards. Mary and Kay volunteered to take care of ordering the awards.

Donna Skelly reported on behalf of the youth council. There are currently no members for 2009, therefore there is no one eligible for the scholarship this year. It was also noted that the youth council still has the saddle that was donated by Winners Circle. It was undecided on when to auction or raffle it off so that fundraiser is idle at the moment.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

We tentatively set the date of March 27, 2010 for our Open House/Colt Preview. Richard will be contacting Bobby Moss to see if Larry Davis will host our event this year at his beautiful Greystone Farm in Charlottesville, VA. More details will be discussed at our next meeting.

In order for the organization to be in existence, we need to have a horse show and let people know we are still in operation. Many ideas suggested were making it an all breed show, having it on July 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend, making it a one day show instead of a two day show, have the show in an area where there the show horses are and asking a non-profit organization to help with the show in some way. After much discussion on pros and cons of our ideas, the following places will be contacted and share what they learned at our next meeting:

- Harrisonburg Show Grounds, upper ring – Bill Reel
- Green Hill – John Upson
- Virginia Horse Center, the outside show ring – Richard Lloyd
- Broadway/Timberville American Legion – Mary Swecker
- BHS Boosters for providing/serving food and/or working the gate for parking – Donna Skelly

Regardless what is finally voted on, we need to get away from loosing money at our show!

Our next meeting will be via conference call. President Richard Lloyd will notify members when that call will be scheduled. The members present agreed in having our next meeting conducted that way. The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Skelly,  
VWHA Secretary