

## **SWVADA MINUTES**

17 May 2010

Next Meeting: 7:00 p.m. Monday, June 21, 2010

At Hollywood's Restaurant

(Come early for dinner!)

The regular monthly meeting of SWVADA was held on Monday, May 17, 2010 at Hollywood's Restaurant, in Roanoke. President Gary Goodale called the meeting to order. Board Members present: Janet Brown, Emily Grabarek, Gary Goodale, Katherine Graman, Marie Klimchuk, Blanche Mahoney, Mary McFee, Beckie Mithcell, Laura Nelson, Pat Nelson, Nan Palmer, Annette Massey Shaw, Cindy Sours, Tracey Oliver-Smith. Members Absent: Sue Halterman. Guests present: Kim Ellis

### **President's Report: Gary Goodale**

Welcome and Introductions.

Gary relayed that Lynn Jendrowski will be doing a Freestyle demonstration ride at the Roanoke Valley Horse Show on Thursday evening, June 24<sup>th</sup>.

Gary expressed concern that some of our board members did not receive the last newsletter via email. She asked that they check their spam folders and will re-send.

Our newsletter has been sent to Lynda McGarry, editor of the Roanoke Valley Horseman's Association's newsletter, with the understanding that Lynda may publish some of our news and upcoming events in the RVHA's newsletter.

### **Vice-President's Report: Laura Nelson**

Laura has received the contracts back from all the judges. She also noted that Beckie Mitchell has agreed to judge for Harriet Peterson at the May 29<sup>th</sup> schooling show due to a conflict with Harriet's schedule.

### **Secretary's Report:**

VOTED to accept the April minutes as posted.

## **Treasurers Report: Blanche Mahoney**

Checking account: \$9502.48    CD: \$3,492.18    Total Assets: \$12,994.66

Blanche noted that many of the uncashed checks on SWVADA's books have been added back into the total.

Blanche and Ginger Edwards have come up with a projected budget for 2010 which she distributed to the board members for their review. The budget was compiled using last year's membership total of 120. We currently have between 80 and 90 members. Additional membership dues will need to be collected to make this budget viable.

She also spoke with the attorney, Jen Wolz, who is reviewing policies recommended by our accountant: "Conflict of Interest", "Whistleblower Policy", and "Record Retention" Policy.

A \$500 donation was made to the VA Tech Equestrian Team for their trip to Germany in 2008. The donation was claimed as a charitable deduction on our tax returns, but the check was never cashed. Our accountant advised that we make a donation in the same amount to the charity of our choice forthwith.

VOTED to donate \$500 to GHPEC.

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Educational Sunday: Laura Nelson**

Laura gave a final report on Educational Sunday. Attendance, based on the number of people who signed in, was 77. The total expenses were \$1,075 which included a \$500 donation to VA Tech. Laura expressed gratitude towards all the volunteers especially, Annette Massey Shaw, Nan Palmer, and Chris Young who jumped in at the last minute to serve lunch to the participants.

### **Clinics: Blanche Mahoney, Sue Halterman**

Blanche reported that volunteers are still needed for the June 19th Fix-a-Test. Nan Palmer volunteered to help.

Gary suggested putting information on the August 14<sup>th</sup> Freestyle Clinic with Evelyn Susol on the website. Blanche relayed that Evelyn would like to schedule a lecture before teaching individual lessons.

## **May Schooling Show**

Pat Nelson reported that she currently has 16 rides scheduled. Mary is still looking for a few volunteers to help run the show. Katherine Graman volunteered to help out.

It was noted that there will be a saddle fitting clinic with Bill Woods at GHPEC on the same day as our May schooling show. A discussion ensued about SWVADA's responsibilities concerning other park users in such situations. It was decided that it is not SWVADA's responsibility to "police" other park members with regard to checking coggins and/or enforcing other such GHPEC policies.

## **Publications: Beckie Mitchell**

No new business to report.

## **Webmaster: Emily Grabarek**

Gary suggested that Emily add some links to other related sites such as GHPEC.

Marie suggested that some of the "tagged" photos from the photo gallery page be used to create a banner on the home page.

## **Horse Shows Committee: Gary Goodale, Sue Halterman, Blanche Mahoney, Mary McFee, Beckie Mitchell, Pat Nelson**

Gary initiated a discussion on the opportunity classes. There is some controversy, as well as confusion, regarding the new "opportunity classes" that allow non-members of USDF and USEF to compete at Licensed Shows. The contested issue is whether such competitors should be allowed to accumulate points and win year-end awards, and if so, in what division. An additional concern that was raised is how easy, or difficult, it will be for the Points/Award Chair to keep track of this. After some discussion amongst board member the issue was tabled for another meeting.

Blanche reported that SWVADA was charged a \$75 fee by the USEF for the reserved date for the May Licensed Show which we voted to suspend for 2010.

Gary asked the board members to consider the possibility of SWVADA hosting a Licensed Show in 2011. Some discussion ensued regarding the financial feasibility, the availability of judges and the dearth of volunteers. No decision was made. Gary decreed that a definitive decision must be made by the August board meeting.

## **AT LARGE POSITIONS**

### **Awards: Janet Brown**

Janet has already delivered the ribbons for the May show and the June Fix-a-Test. She will determine if she needs to order more ribbons for the rest of the season after the May show.

### **Equipment: Bob Whitehurst**

Gary reported for Bob that we need additional copies of the instructions for the arena tool set-up. There is currently only one left. He has also placed the short arena chain in a plastic container with a blue lid.

*Addendum:* Laura has given one of the original copies of the arena tool instructions to Beckie who will have it laminated and then take it to the storage trailer at the park.

### **GHPEC Liaison: Bob Whitehurst**

Gary relayed that Tammy Nichols has been occupied with a family emergency and the Green Hill Committee has therefore not yet determined if there is permanent storage space available at the park for SWVADA to purchase.

Gary reported for Bob the following details from the last GHPEC meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup>:

- The committee has decided to add another fund raising show for the park in July. It will be held on July 29th, 5 p.m. — 7 p.m. and will (tentatively) follow the same format as the Winter Series shows. Volunteers are now being sought.
- There have been some issues concerning dragging the arenas, such as shows setting up too early and contractors dragging too late, that need to be addressed.
- Bob Whitehurst has sold the old sound system for \$182. He also will be taking the old manure spreader and donating \$200 to the park for it.
- The park now has a new picnic area beside the round pen and three barns have been stained to match the others thanks to the Boy Scout's projects.

### **Hospitality: Katherine Graman**

Gary suggested that we start working on securing a venue for the Awards Banquet in September. Laura suggested we look into area restaurants instead of a hotel banquet room. Marie suggested the Social Club in Bedford as they are willing to open on Sundays for private parties.

**JR/YR: Emily Grabarek, Mary McFee**

Emily has put together a SWVADA Junior/Young Rider Team to compete at the USDF Youth Team Competition at Morven Park in Leesburg on July 24-25. She is currently trying to enlist more riders to comprise a second team.

**Membership: Pat Nelson**

Pat reports that we currently have 80 regular members and 10 life members.

**Points: Robin Jones**

No new business to report.

**Public Relations: Mary McFee, Nan Palmer**

Nan is now assisting Mary in distributing information about our events to other horse publications.

Gary asked that Mary send SWVADA news to Nancy Lowey to include in her monthly VADA report for the Virginia Horse Journal.

**Media Library: Katherine Graman**

Katherine reports that we have 3 new titles in our DVD library. They are Clinton Anderson's "Dressage with Kenneth Levy," Parts 1 and 2; and Clinton Anderson's "Groundwork," Part 1.

Katherine also inquired about the funds available to order new videos. The funds are generated from our participation in the Southern States Label Program and go directly into our checking account. Determining exactly how much money is available at any given time to purchase new DVD's is unclear, but due to the amount of money that has recently been deposited in our account from SS labels, Katherine was encouraged to order a few more DVD's.

Gary asked if members were using the library. Katherine reported that on average 3 to 5 DVD's are out on loan at any given time.

Katherine suggested scheduling a "movie night" for the general membership providing a chance

to socialize and utilize the library.

### **Southern States Labels: Cindy Sours**

Cindy returned collected labels to Southern States and just received check back for \$107.80.

### **VADA Representatives: Janet Brown and Tracey Smith-Oliver**

Tracey reported the following gleaned from the last VADA teleconference on April 19<sup>th</sup>:

- VADA currently has 723 members and over \$112,000 in the treasury.
- The Board has appointed a new committee that will be chaired by Jessie Ginsburg, VADA's Treasurer. The committee's task will be to look at the club's finances and make recommendations to the Board regarding improving the Silent Auction and other fundraising activities. They will also be increasing the chapter grant funds and starting a separate "rainy day" fund.
- Chapter grants for 2010 will increase from \$400, \$600 and \$700 to \$600, \$800 and \$900. Future increases will go to the Finance Committee for review. Grant amounts will be determined by the chapters' membership.
- VADA will be hosting the 2011 GAIG's Region One Dressage Championships. New Jersey will be hosting the 2011 BLM Show.
- A donation to the Virginia Horse Center for stall footing is under consideration. Tina Longaker recommended that \$5,000 be donated. The finance committee will review the recommendation.
- The USDF will be increasing its membership fee in 2011.

Gary asked Tracey to check with VADA to determine if the grant amounts will be based on 2009 membership or current membership numbers.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Roanoke Valley Horse Show**

Gary announced that we have been asked by the RVHA to support the Roanoke Valley Horse Show by contributing a \$100 sponsorship for the Exhibitor's Tent.

VOTED to contribute \$100 to the RVHS for an "Exhibitor's Tent Sponsorship."

The BLMs will be held at the Horse Center in Lexington on October 21-24. SWVADA has been asked to be a "Daily Level Sponsor" by contributing \$200 as we have done for this show in the past. Laura suggested that we wait until the next meeting to make a decision so that we can see how profitable our May schooling show is.

### **Camp 2010**

Nan noted that the date on the camp ad on the website is incorrect. Emily will correct it.

Marie reported we currently have 5 people signed up, although no deposits have been collected yet.

Supplemental lectures have been added to camp. Ruth Mitchell has agreed to do a talk on myofascial release and then be available to work on horses and/or riders. Schleese Saddlery is tentatively planning to be there to do a saddle fitting lecture and then be available for individual saddle fitting consultations. Tracy will follow up with them to confirm their availability on that date. Morgan Dillard Harris has agreed to do an Introduction to Groundwork demonstration.

Emily volunteered to organize the gift swap.

Laura volunteered to take care of the rider's gifts (ie: saddle pads, polo shirts, tote bags)

Marie will discuss with Jan the possibility of an auditor's lunch on Saturday. Gary suggested Morgan's demonstration be scheduled at the same time.

Marie distributed promotional literature detailing what to expect at our dressage camp to board members requesting that they distribute to likely prospects.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 21, 2010.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Marie Klimchuk, Secretary

