

NLEA Board Meeting
February 21, 2011

Members present: Raegan, Katie, Sig, Donna, Paul, Martha, Erin, Maggie
Absent: Wendy (excused)

Meeting called to order: 7:00pm

Officers are elected as follows:

President: Donna Kroenhke
Vice President: Raegan St. John
Secretary: Katie Arnoldy
Treasurer: Wendy Faith

Committees are as follows:

Points: Katie, Raegan, Donna
Horse Show Committee: Maggie, Sig, Raegan, Katie
Social: Erin, Martha, Raegan
Website: Katie, Martha
Equipment: Paul

Claude Price will be official horse show photographer for Double Rainbow Farm shows and club shows. He agreed to photograph all shows. Erin Woods will announce all shows including club shows. Katie emailed the Fat Apple about concessions but has not heard back from them. She will email again and if we don't hear back, Sig knows a person with a burrito stand who might be able to provide concession.

Raegan announced that the Double Rainbow Farm shows have received LHJA approval. Erin made a motion that the club requests approval for club show to be approved as well. Raegan will contact LHJA for approval. One of the requirements for LHJA is to have a "R" or a "r" judge. Donna is concerned that for the Wildwood show if the jumper entries are down, they won't be able to afford a rated judge for both days. Raegan suggested that maybe the Wildwood show only request approval for hunters and equitation, and not jumpers. The cost is \$50/show for recognition fee.

Raegan and Katie also announced that the Double Rainbow Farm shows will be a 2 day, Sat. and Sun. format. They will be adding hunter and jumper classics, medals (including the LHJA medals), a finals championship show at the end of the season and a high point rider award, which will be a saddle. This will enable riders to have all day Friday to school and an exhibitor's party Sat night. Katie passed out a sponsorship form for the 3 shows and finals if anyone is interested in sponsoring a division or classic. Class prices will NOT go up for the shows and a discount stall fee will be available for the weekend.

It was noted that the Pony Club show raised their class and division prices this year. (\$5/class and \$10/division)

It was decided that the date for the banquet is **January 7, 2012**. It was discussed that there are many options for location but after much discussion, it was narrowed down to East Ridge, The Shreveport Club, Louisiana Downs, and The Petroleum Club. Erin, Sig, and Martha will inquire into prices, availability, and options and club will decide at next meeting. Some of the concerns are food, availability of a hotel or atmosphere, cost of plate, cash bar, valet, parking, size of room, and centralized location among other things. Erin reported the cost of this years banquet was \$25/ plate (including coffee, tea) and that the total head count quoted from the U Club was 147 but the board thinks the number was closer to 160-170. Erin also reported that buffets are usually more expensive than sit-down dinners and should be considered when researching a new venue.

A big concern of the club is that at the banquet the number of people who paid at the door was considerably larger than in past years. There was a scramble to add tables for everyone and place cards were not helpful in reserving tables for barns. Raegan suggested the cost of a ticket at the door be much higher to discourage people from showing up and not sending in RSVP cards. It was also suggested that there be a place on the invitation for reservation name. It was even discussed that name cards be used to alleviate barns not being together. It was decided that sending the invitations out earlier next year would alleviate some of the problems with RSVP also.

The horse show committee will re-design the prize list for the club shows this year and it was discussed if they should still use Hillburn Printing. There were many problems with the items printed last year and Raegan wondered if it was the fault of the printer. Donna and Martha assured the board that the problems were not the fault of the printer. Donna communicated with Hillburn many times and feels they will be acceptable. It was also questioned as to whether the club will host exhibitor parties Friday nights or have concessions available instead.

Erin suggested that the membership list not be accessible to the general public on the website that includes personal information. Others shared her concern and it was decided to have Jackie remove the member list or have it only available to board members. If any potential horse show manager needs the list, they can gain access from a board member. Erin said Wendy has updated information from the banquet and will update list for this year.

Raegan does not think she has received a recognition fee from K-9 or Pony Club but she will check her records. Sig said she will check on recognition packets as well. It was also discussed that Pony Club and K-9 needs to pay a jump usage fee for use of jumps at their shows. No fee was paid last year. Katie suggested that the Pony Club needs to pay for course designer and show manager duties that are being provided by Katie and Donna.

Raegan voiced concerned about representation of all farms on the board. There was discussion about professionals and amateurs helping with horse shows and being noticed by the voting body. It was noted that the meetings are open and posted on the website and those interested in volunteering can attend a meeting. It was also noted that there are 3 amateurs on the board.

Maggie suggested she would like to see magnets with NLEA available for purchase. She would also like to have t-shirts designed. Katie reminded the board the club has many hats to sell at shows. It was suggested that T.J. at Horsetrends can do the t-shirts and Raegan will ask him about design and price. The design suggested was a front left chest and a bigger logo on the back. Wendy does magnets and Erin will talk to her about pricing.

It was noted that Wendy has cash from the banquet that needs to be sorted and put into the account. A treasures report is due from Wendy as well and the board was reminded that an independent audit is to be done once a year; a treasures report is due twice a year.

Next meeting: March 21 7:00pm Luck Palace

Meeting adjourned: 8:13pm

Katie Arnoldy