

**PENN-OHIO MORGAN HORSE ASSOCIATION**

**Meeting Minutes: March 13, 2010**

**Perkins Restaurant, Meadville, PA**

Members present: Ron and Betty Rice, Tina Babnis, Mike and Curly Schell, Diane Simkins, Janet Patterson, Linda Mowry, Al Zinz, Tiffany Foust, Mimi and Gary Horne, Kent and Carolyn Warman, Billie and Scott St. Claire, Charlie Heilman, Lee Sutherland and Julie Schmidt.

Al called the meeting to order. The members had a moment of silence in honor of Jim Stewart, a long-time horseman and Penn-Ohio member who passed away on March 12, 2010. Al welcomed the new faces at the meeting with the hopes of getting new ideas for activities for the club.

Treasurer's report: Curly reports that the balance as of January, 1, 2010 was \$9,140.88. The total income for January was \$120.00. The total expenses for January were \$174.00. The balance as of January 31, 2010 was \$9,086.88. The total income for February was \$3,591.00. The total expenses for February were \$3,233.96. The balance as of February 28, 2010 was \$9,443.92. Mimi made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as read, Carolyn Warman seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Horseshow: Julie reports that David Earehart sent the contract back for judging the upcoming show. Barbara Dunham will be the show secretary again this year. Curly has the contract for the Fairgrounds. Linda will need help with show sponsorships. Carolyn suggests we forward all show sponsorships directly to Curly. Al and Carol will organize the pizza party again Saturday night. Julie reports that we don't have a sponsor as of yet for the welcome party Thursday night as we have in the past. It usually costs around \$300.00 for that party. Julie asks if the club wants to pay for the party if there is no sponsor. Tina made a motion to pay for the welcome party Thursday night, Lee seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion was approved.

Julie brings up the amateur package as a continued way to draw horses to the show. A discussion ensued and the members decided to open the package up to any classes, not just amateur classes. It was decided that the package will still consist of 2 shed row stalls but would now include 3 classes of your choice. The camper fees were brought up as a way to cut costs for the exhibitors. Unfortunately the club is not able to cut camper fees because we charge the exhibitors what the fairgrounds charges.

It was also brought up that a trophy will be donated by the Stewarts in honor of Tim O'Gorman and will be given out to the Park Harness winner.

Julie brings up a previous question about renting tables and chairs versus buying tables and chairs for the show parties. After a discussion, it was decided that due to a lack of storage and man-power, we would rent them again this year. Julie will check on a few other places for prices but reports that we get a good deal now for delivery Wednesday and pick-up Monday.

Julie would like to set up a schedule as we get closer to the show for those that are willing to give their time to help run the show. There is a lot of set-up help needed on Wednesday and Thursday as well as clean-up on Sunday. There is help needed many places during the show including but not limited to hospitality and ribbons. We will also need to check into tractor rentals from other places this year, as the usual place did not have tractors available for our show last year.

There was a discussion about whether or not we should continue to hold a UPHA Pink Ribbon class. It was decided that we would not hold one again this year due to the struggle to get sponsorships for the show. It was discussed that we could have a pink ribbon session encouraging all to wear pink and pass the hat for donations toward the cause.

Gold cup: Gary Horne mentioned that Brian Stewart was interested in representing Penn-Ohio Morgan on the Gold Cup board. The club will keep that in mind until a later date to see if he is still interested.

Tack swap: Carolyn reports that we did well considering the weather. We sold over 50 tables and most who reserved them came. The turnout was low but not bad. Tiffany states we need to get payment for the banquet dinners in advance since the club is responsible for the number of dinners ordered. Tiffany also informed the members it is getting harder to stay within the budget and still give nice awards for our high point members. The members want to keep the program going but only give out awards to champion and reserve champion. Third through fifth places will still be acknowledged in the program and online. It was also decided that we should give awards to all the kids no matter the number, as they are the future of our breed. There was also an idea presented about awarding points to the high point winners and allowing them to pick their own awards from a catalog based on the number of points earned. Tiffany will look into the idea. Mimi thanks Carolyn, Billie and Tiffany for their hard work on the banquet.

The meeting minutes from January 10, 2010 were read. Tina made a motion to approve the minutes. Mike seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Treasurer: Carolyn made a motion to pay the ribbon and trophy order when they came in. Diane seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Old business: Al reports that he attended the AMHA convention in Lexington where he received the club nominated Master's certificate.

Sweepstakes: There will be two classes this year and that will end the sweepstakes classes. A 3 year-old park saddle and a 3 year-old English pleasure class. There was a discussion about why the sweepstakes is ending. Members stated that there was just not enough local breeding support. But if things change in the future we could always bring the program back.

New business: An idea was presented to bring in another breed to our show as a way to continue having a successful show. A discussion ensued, the Saddlebreds were mentioned and it was decided that we needed to find out more information about the possibility in order to make an informed decision. Gary offered to discuss the possibility with several Saddlebred people he knows to see if there is an interest. The members felt it was very important to make sure we keep our A-rating for the Morgan division.

It was brought up that we would like to send a card to Linda, Brian and Kathleen expressing our heartfelt sorrow at the loss of Jim. It was also mentioned that Mike, Mimi and Lee are donating a memorial trophy in his honor.

In other new business, Al wants to start a by-law committee to see if they need changed. He would like the committee to review the by-laws and report back on their findings of any updates needed. Tiffany, Diane, Mike, Curly, Mimi and Gary volunteered for the committee. Al also requested we form an audit committee. He reports that Todd Trushel is interested. Lee and Tina also volunteered. Al would also like to form an activities committee. Charlie and Betty volunteered and it was also mentioned that we should put that in the newsletter for members who may be interested in helping with ideas for club activities.

Betty reports that she is trying to put a newsletter together. She requests that members email or call her with information for the newsletter. It will be posted online and mailed out as well.

Al brought up the membership booklets. There was a general consensus that we need to put the books out again this year. Many members report having old books from years past and find them an invaluable source of information. Julie usually puts them together at a minimal cost.

Al also reports that he would like to get a list from AMHA for all people owning Morgans in the area, so we can send a card/letter to let them about our club. Al would like to include a letter from the president as well as a list of club activities.

Website: Al needs all club members to keep Glennly up to date on club activities for the website.

Next meetings: It was decided that we would schedule our meetings for the second Saturday of most months. We will have a later start time now that the weather is improving. It was decided we would rotate between the locations of Perkins in Meadville and Frankie's in Hubbard. The next meeting will be April 10, 2010 at 6:00 at Perkins in Meadville. We will meet at 5:00 for the committees. The following meeting will be held May 8, 2010 at 6:00 at Frankie's in Hubbard, 5:00 for committees. We will not hold a meeting in June unless deemed necessary. We will hold our July meeting at the show as usual Thursday evening shortly before the welcome party. We will not meet in August either unless deemed necessary.

Tina made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Lee seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tiffany Foust  
POMHA Secretary