

Minutes
Annual AHR Membership Meeting, October 20, 2011, Ashland, Ohio

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by AHR Board President Bill Jameson. Bill thanked Susie Raber of Baltic Meats and her staff for the excellent dinner provided. Each of the Directors and staff introduced themselves followed by an introduction by those in attendance. Members and Haflinger enthusiasts from eleven states were present (West Virginia, Texas, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Ohio, New York, Delaware, Michigan, and Pennsylvania).

Youth awards were presented by Aileen Ayers and Carolyn Sutton. Scholarships were awarded to Emily Hummel of Medina Ohio and Oliva Van Winkle of Mount Vernon, Ohio. First place in the Youth Poetry contest was Sara Sheats of Townsend, Delaware, and second place went to Kelly Cooper of Chesterland, Ohio. Kelly also won the writing contest and the drawing contest with Sara Sheats placing second in the drawing contest. The Senior photo contest winner was Emily Hummel and the Junior photo contest was won by Sara Sheats. The High Point Youth Award went to Emily Hummel. Youth Committee Co-Chair Aileen Ayers encouraged everyone to get their young people involved with a youth membership.

Bill Jameson presented retirement awards to Bob Duvall, Paul Sutton, and Don Jackson who are leaving the Board of Directors. Bob served on the board for eight years. He thanked the members for the opportunity to serve. Paul Sutton served on the board for nine years with five of those years being Board President. Paul thanked his family for their support over the years of taking the AHR booth to scores of Haflinger events which they plan on continuing to do (even though Carolyn might disagree sometimes). "The more t-shirts you buy, the more reason we'll have to bring the booth to events!" Paul stated that it has been an honor to serve and that he has made lots of friends due to his association with Haflinger people and even though he is going off the board, he'll still be around making new friends. Don Jackson was not present at the meeting but we'll be shipping his award (the Austrian auto hufeisen) to him.

Lou Sutton presented the "Best of Show" awards. The Pleasure Best of Show went to Showme Haflingers, Brian & Dana Mitteer with Syndee New of Showme. The Best of Show Draft went to Penn Grove Haflingers, Bill & Shirley Powell with Willo's Captain CHA. The 2012 National Show will be held September 6-8, at Champions Center in Springfield, Ohio. There was a question on the dates of the National Show and couldn't it be moved to before school starts so more young people could attend? Lou explained that we couldn't conflict with the Indiana State Fair, Michigan State Fair, and Ohio State Fair if we were going to have any draft exhibitors at all. It was also felt that the National Show should be the culmination of the show year. Mrs. Bradshaw noted that she had gone to her daughter's school principal and explained the importance of the National Show and her daughter was excused to attend. Terry Schott thanked the AHR for a well-run National Show.

Bill Jameson announced the election results and advised the members that several names had been turned in for the open Director seats. The Board will review those names and contact individuals for additional information.

Phil Greenisen gave the AH Fund report and reminded attendees that the Fund accounts were not growing due to poor interest rates at this time. He asked that people consider making tax deductible donations to the Fund so scholarships could continue to be awarded to our Youth members.

Paul Sutton gave the Futurity report and thanked OHA, Chuck Hendershot, Kim Spann, and HOPE for their support of the AHR Futurity and wished a successful show to the exhibitors. There was a brief discussion on the feasibility of moving the futurity earlier in the year but that move would have created a conflict with the Indiana State Fair. Lou Sutton stated that having the Futurity in conjunction with another event was the most cost effective since much of the expenses as far as facility were already covered.

Andrew Yoder gave a sale report including the information that this was the first time AHR had allowed uncataloged horses. He stated that the Sale Committee reserved the right to reject any uncataloged horses that arrived at the sale that did not meet a minimum standard. Dave Wilson thanked the consignors for their participation and support of the AHR sales and stated that suggestions are welcome for ways to improve the sale.

Julius Heil reminded attendees that Nutrena Feeds has a program that pays AHR for labels. Robert Eicher reminded attendees that Tribute Feeds was offering payouts to offspring of inspected horses placing in the Futurity.

Gary Leisure gave a report on our breed magazine *Haflinger Horse*. He stated that advertising and content were down and encouraged people to submit advertising and their stories and articles for publication. Using the magazine inserts to mail timely information to members helped save the Registry money. Gary said "We feel the magazine is a very important communication tool. We tried hiring a contract employee to sell advertising and that didn't work." There has been discussion on dropping the magazine from six issues to four issues so that question was put to those in attendance. Dave Ayers asked why we would change if we're not losing money. Bill Hendershot said that if we were to cut communication down to four times per year we would lose a lot. The members at the meeting overwhelmingly voted to keep the magazine at six issues. Any Haflinger story that you enjoy telling to your friends would be a welcome addition to the readers of our magazine. Bob Duvall stated that they sent pictures and wrote an article about last year's Light Up the Night Parade in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania which he and Tom Nesbitt from Arizona will be participating in again this year.

Bill Jameson thanked everyone for coming and the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 pm.