

## MINUTES

### January 24, 2009 - Annual Meeting

**Present:** (16) Leslie Schmidt, Ron & Vickie Nyhouse, Hal & Sandy Burdsall, Dian Pinney, Dan Boone Dineen, John Jones, Mike Snell, Lynn Mach, Don & Corky Smith, Donna Gabbei, Jerry Heinrich, John Trochinski and Steve Plantz.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by President Leslie Schmidt. Secretary Sandy Burdsall was present.

**Minutes:** Copies of the minutes of the October 11, 2008 meeting were distributed. It was moved by Hal Burdsall and seconded *to approve the minutes with a typo corrected*. Motion adopted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Vickie Nyhouse distributed copies of the 2008 General Ledger, reported very little recent activity and an end-of-year balance in the treasury as \$5,360.57 at January 20, 2009. Dian Pinney moved, and it was seconded, *that the Treasurer's report be approved*. Motion adopted.

**Wisconsin State Horse Council (WSHC) Report:** WDMS Rep Corky Smith reported that there has not been much WSHC activity. The WSHC Convention is coming up in March. Don Smith will be a presenter on kids' confidence building at the Kiddie Korral at the Midwest Horse Fair. The club will apply for another WSHC Education Grant in 2009; Corky recommended that we ask for \$800 this year. Ideas for a youth grant activity were discussed including a grooming/clipping clinic or a showmanship clinic (2008 judge Anita DeModica might be willing to give one for expenses only).

**Midwest Horse Fair (MHF) Report:** The Midwest Horse Fair will be held April 17-19, 2009 with the theme of "Superhorse." Chairman Leslie Schmidt reported that WDMS will again try for 14 stalls - hopefully including booths for tack and feed. Stall fees will be \$35 each. Jerry Cosgrey of Indiana has joined WDMS and committed to bring a team of driving mini donkeys. Jeff Isenring will bring minis again but is unsure if there will be a baby. Smiths might bring Munro if we need an extra donkey. Mike Snell will probably not be able to bring his mule team and wagon due to the 4-day on site commitment required for MHF participation. Leslie appointed Sandy Burdsall and Dian Pinney to the MHF Committee and they will get the WDMS Coloring Book materials from Nelsons for 2009 use.

#### **State Show Report (June 6-7, 2009):**

**2009 Site, Contract & Judge:** Co-Chair Hal Burdsall reported that a contract for the 2009 State Show was finally received from Heartland Stables for the June 6-7 dates. Alternate sites were researched and a handout showed comparative information for the 4 most likely possibilities. It was moved by John Jones, and seconded, *that we hold our State Show at Heartland Stables this year but that the*

**State Show Committee and club officers be authorized to change the site and make other changes if necessary.** Motion adopted. President Leslie will sign the contract and mail to Heartland Stables. Hal reported 3 current possibilities for show judge. Sandy Burdsall moved, and it was seconded, **to allow a max of \$550, to include all judging expenses, for 2009 judge costs.** Motion adopted.

**2009 Show Bill** changes include an order change for halter classes such that all of one animal type (minis, donkeys, mules) will be judged before going on the the next type. **Rule changes include:** 1) clarification of “Leadline” (rider assisted by 2<sup>nd</sup> person leading animal) vs. “In Hand” (animal being led with no rider) classes, 2) rider “assistance” as any kind of assistance and/or supervision by a second person in the ring with the rider/animal, and 3) assistance (of any kind) for one rider may not interfere with the participation of any other rider. **Award ribbons** have been ordered for #1-#6 class placings.

**10 & Under Leadline:** After discussion, it was agreed to add three (3) “10 & Under Leadline” classes for 2009: 1) a Leadline Pleasure class, 2) a Leadline Plug Race and 3) a Leadline Trail class. The “10 & Under Leadline” classes will be non-point, either a donkey or mule may be used, and the same animal may be used for more than one rider entry.

**Fun Show Report:** Chairman Leslie Schmidt reported that the 2008 site of Red Ridge Ranch in Mauston worked great, it was the easiest venue we’ve used, and they would welcome us back for 2009. John Jones moved, and it was seconded, **that we have our Fun Show at Red Ridge Ranch again this year.** Motion adopted. Tentative dates of August Saturdays are subject to availability and will be announced later.

**WDMS Web Site:** Web master Sandy Burdsall reported that hosting fees for the site continue to be \$29.94 every 6 months (reimbursed by WDMS) and all her labor is donated. Detailed reports of 2008 monthly site hits were circulated for the year ending December 31, 2008 and included the following:

- 52,000 unique visits for the year
- 4,300+ average unique visits per month
- Unique visits ranged from 83 to 280 per day
- 86,537 total Page Views for the year  
(average 7,200 per month - doesn’t count partially loaded pages)
- **10 Most Popular Pages for the year:** 1) Home Page, 2) Classified Ads, 3) About Mules & Donkeys, 4) Links, 5) Club Info, 6) Members, 7) Events, 8) Message Board, 9) Midwest Horse Fair, and 10) News

**Club Sales:** Hal Burdsall reported that he ordered 108 new shirts (with the phrase: *Longears: the intelligent equine*) and (50) new hats as instructed at the Oct. 11, 2008 meeting. The new inventory is available at this meeting and it was agreed that prices will be as for past items, i.e., short sleeve shirts \$10, long sleeve shirts \$15 and hats \$12.

**2009 Trail Rides:** Possibilities were discussed and the following 2009 sites & dates were agreed upon:

- **Spring Trail Ride** - May 16-17 at Kettle Moraine SouthernUnit (Palmyra)
- **Fall Trail Ride** - September 26-27 at Smith Rapids (west of Minocqua)

Sandy Burdsall moved, and it was seconded, *that the club front the money to rent the Kettle Moraine Southern Unit group site for camping.* Motion adopted. The club will again provide the meat for members attending the Saturday night potluck suppers.

**Meeting Dates:** Dian Pinney moved, and it was seconded, *that the next meeting be held October 10, 2009 in Westfield and that the next annual meeting be held January 23, 2010 in Westfield.* Motion adopted.

### **Elections:**

The following members were elected to WDMS Offices and Board for a 2-year term ending in 2011:

Vice President - Steve Plantz (Ballot vote: Steve Plantz - 8, Hal Burdsall - 6, Dian Pinney - 1)

The remaining elections were by voice vote as there was only one candidate for each position:

Treasurer - Dian Pinney

Director - John Trochinski

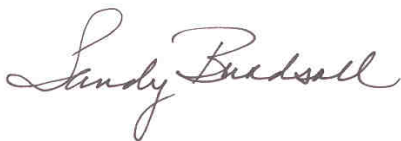
Director - Jerry Heinrich (Dan Dineen & Don Smith were also nominated but declined.)

Director - Lynn Mach (Corky Smith was also nominated but declined.)

Continuing terms (to 2010) are Leslie Schmidt (President), Sandy Burdsall (Secretary), and Directors Mike Snell, Hal Burdsall, John Jones and Donna Gabbei.

### **Adjournment:**

It was moved by Corky Smith, and seconded, *to adjourn the meeting.* The motion was adopted and the meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.



Sandy Burdsall  
WDMS Secretary

Approved at October 10, 2009 meeting