

## Oklahoma Dressage Society

### January 26, 2013 Annual General Meeting (AGM) Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Oklahoma Dressage Society ("ODS") President, Sherry Guess. The meeting was held at Cattlemen's Restaurant in Oklahoma City, OK. Sherry Guess, Lisa Jewell, Sharon O'Banion, Marta Koenig, Kalea Maxwell, Rainee Boyd, Clydette Womack and Beth Circle were the attending board members. There were approximately 64 others in attendance.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Summer General Meeting July 21, 2012 Minutes**-emailed to attendees in advance (Lisa Jewell)

**Motion;** The motion was made by Lyn Francik to approve the minutes. Rainee Boyd seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed.

**PRESIDENT REPORT** (Sherry Guess)

Reminded everyone that the ODS board is staffed with volunteers. Introduced the board. Announced that Rainee Boyd is stepping off the board after serving faithfully for many years, she will continue as Schooling Show Coordinator. Rainee was presented with a ODS Saddle pad as a gift. Announced the names of some of the many other volunteers that help to make the club work; **Jeanie Eaton**, webmaster and designer of our new website. **Sue Twitty**; Newsletter editor for the past two years, stepping down and **Carol Miller** from AR will take over the task-Carol would welcome suggestions for a newsletter "name". **Fran Ferrari**; produces our yearly membership directory. Members that donated their time in a manner that brought monetary funds to ODS: **Pam Armstrong, Rainee Boyd** and **Deryn** and **Paul Stewart** earned \$1000 in grant money from their employer, Conoco-Phillips for volunteering at our show. **Rainee's** volunteer work earned another \$500 from Phillips 66. **Laura Eddy**; volunteered at both schooling shows and our recognized show and her employer, Walmart, gave us 2 grants of \$250 each, for a total of \$500. **Susan Peacock**; gave us an opportunity to earn \$500 working at the Morgan Show last fall, 9 members volunteered their time at the Morgan show, **Fran Ferrari, Stacia Gray, Sherry Guess, Luan-i Jackson, Marta Koenig, Susan Lang, Chantel Leiker, Deena Moore** and **Julia Peacock**. Championship show volunteers earned \$1,625.08 for ODS, the largest amount of any of the GMO's in the region. Houston Dressage Society, which hosts the Championships, has a silent auction and those funds are divided up among the GMOs relative to how many hours their worker's volunteer. **Marta Koenig** went to Houston as did **Cheryl West**, and Cheryl took a car load of kids to volunteer also...**Aubrey Fore, Jayden Matthews** (and her mother **Terri**), **Kari Nichols, Kayla Sherrill, Emily O'Melia** and **Kristen Acevedo**. That is a total of **\$4,125** that a handful of our members have earned for ODS and we definitely want to thank them for their efforts!

ODS hosted the Region 9 Summer Business Meeting at the Brickyard in OKC. Anne Kuhns returned from KY to attend. Susan Peacock and Sherry Guess also attended. Region 9 paid for a portion of the expense and a donor paid for the rest, so there was no expense to ODS.

We also have the Reg 9 Omnibus for sale. The omnibus contains all of the tests, including the new rider's tests and show dates with entries, etc.

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT** (Sherry Guess)- As of January 19 we had only 106 members (we typically end the year with over 200), 51 joined the Green Country Chapter, 28 joined the Great Plains Chapter and 8 joined the North Central Chapter. Next year we will have a drawing for a free membership, to be eligible you must send in your membership by Nov 30.

**HORSE REGISTRATION REPORT** (Sherry Guess)-For 2012 we received 83 new lifetime registrations, 4 owner changes and 3 annual registrations.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**-emailed to attendees in advance (Marta Koenig)-As of December 31, 2012 ODS has \$12,361.21 in the checking account and \$22,501.45 in the savings account for a combined total of \$34,862.66. We have received a \$500 donation and a \$250 donation for the Spring Show High Point winners.

**Motion;** a motion was made by Sharon O'Banion to accept the financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Lyn Francik. The motion was voted on and passed.

**ODS EDUCATION** (Sharon O'Banion)-Recap of Instructor's Showcase held in March 2012, 44 attended and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The 2013 event will be on March 23-24 with Debbie Riehl-Rodriguez, titled "Dressage for Horses of 'Different Shapes'", it will be held at Lily Pond Estates and Sharon has secured a Dressage Foundation Grant in the amount of \$2000.00 to help cover the expenses. The application for demo riders and the auditor registration form will be available on the website in the next 7-10 days.

**SHOW COMMITTEE REPORT** (Lyn Francik)-Diane Smith has been a tremendous help with marketing, she has drafted a letter (emailed to attendees in advance) that members can take to retail establishments that they do business with in an

effort to gain sponsorships. Dede Wasemiller brought up several points regarding the lack of information in the "marketing letter/packet":

- To whom and to where do the sponsors send the money?
- Where is the show being held?
- What do sponsors get for their money?

Amanda Edwards apologized for the oversight and the committee will update with needed information and re-send (via email) the "packet" out to ODS members. Let Diane know when you drop a letter off and she will coach you on follow up. Fran Ferrari has agreed to manage the used tack sale, Judy Rivers is designing a poster. The Holmes Organization is sponsoring the exhibitor party, which will provide door prizes. Amanda Edwards explained that the spring show was going to offer the USDF opportunity classes, which waive many of the fees associated with a recognized show, and they were including the Introductory classes also. Information packets were available to anyone that was interested in showing at the spring show. Kalea Maxwell is keeping a record of requested judges to be used for future shows.

## CHAPTER REPORTS

- **North Central Chapter** (Raine Boyd) – They had no shows last year, many of their members attended the Great Plains Chapter's shows. They have 4 shows scheduled for this year.
- **Great Plains Chapter** (Stacia Gray) – GPC has 45 members, they held 3 Schooling Shows and 1 Recognized show. Financially they broke even and have \$470.00 in the bank
- **Green Country Chapter** (Richal Flannery) – GCC held the Green Country Classic Recognized show and numerous schooling shows as well as a Schooling Show Championship, which lost money. They are in discussion with GPC about joint hosting the SS Championships to make them bigger and better and would like input from members. They held a Junior Camp which was only half full but all of the attendees received double the lessons. They have another scheduled for October 11-13, 2013.

**ODS' RECOGNIZED SPRING SHOW** (Stacia Gray) – The show will be in Shawnee this year and if we have the same # of entries as last year we should at least break even. It has been dropped to a Level II show with the intent to grow it from the grass roots level.

## NEW BUSINESS

**WESTERN DRESSAGE** (Paula Walker) – As President of Western Dressage Association Oklahoma (WDAOK), Paula Walker thanked Sherry Guess and ODS for allowing the Dressage Foundation Grant to be used by WDAOK. Western Dressage is Classical Dressage ridden in a Western Saddle. The 5 board members of WDAOK are all on various committees with Western Dressage Association of America (WDAA) and they are going to work hard to keep it classical. WDAA has 6 established affiliates in the U.S. with 10 more pending. Oklahoma is the only affiliate not started by western riders. WDAA is a non-profit. Both WDAA and WDAOK are on Facebook and have websites. WDAOK has 7 members and are looking for suggestions to grow that number, membership is \$25.00 for WDAOK and a required \$25.00 for WDAA. They are going to offer jackpot classes at the schooling shows. There are 16 new tests for 2013 and new rules.

- Western Dressage is not allowed at USDF recognized shows.
- Western Dressage has generated a lot of revenue to our area schooling shows and is a good way to expand the market base.
- The resistance by USDF to Western Dressage has to do with the fact that there are 3 organizations that are trying to be the "leaders".

**Motion:** A motion was made by Pam Byers to include one schooling show award for Western Dressage (High Point). This should be an amount commiserate with other rewards, not more than \$70.00. Patty Couch seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed.

**SCHOOLING SHOW AWARDS**-Lyn Francik brought up the subject of how to generate more income to cover the cost of schooling show awards. The schooling show revenue of \$20.00 per show currently helps pay for the awards.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Pam Byers to raise the schooling show fee to \$25.00. Raine Boyd seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed. The discussion then turned to when to implement the higher fee as several shows are already on the schedule and have paid their fees. Laura Eddy offered to pay the \$5 difference for the 16 shows scheduled for 2013, a total of \$80.00.

**LOGO** (Sherry Guess)- A new logo was shown to attendees that included a "ribbon" with an "established year" on it. The year needs to be verified.

**Motion:** A motion to approve the new logo with a corrected “established date” was made by Amanda Edwards. Lyn Francik seconded the motion. The motion was voted upon and passed.

**CLARIFICATION OF SHOW COMMITTEE DUTIES** (Sherry Guess)

- Select judges and back-ups to be contacted from ODS list
- Provide a competitor’s party
- Fund raising for the show
- Make suggestions to the board as far as needed changes in the show
- Members are encouraged to contact the show committee with suggestions and ideas regarding our shows

**SCHOOLING SHOW AWARD REQUIREMENTS**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Heather Lieblang to drop the requirement of having at least one score from the top test of the level in the Introductory division due to the fact that Intro C requires canter which some riders are not yet confident to do. After much discussion, with good arguments both for and against, a vote was taken and the motion passed. Introductory Division riders will be eligible for year end awards based on their scores from only tests A and B, without having to have a score from Intro Test C.

**NOTEWORTHY**

- Sherry Guess is the interim Director for USDF Region 9.
- The Bee Pape fund has an anonymous donor that will match funds for donations in 2013 to a maximum of \$1000

**ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS** (Sherry Guess)

We have 3 open positions on the board and 3 nominees to fill those positions. The nominees are Pamela Byers, Kalea Maxwell and Clydette Womack.

**Motion:** Heather Lieblang motioned to accept the nominees. Peggy Blair seconded. The motion was voted upon and passed.

**Meeting was adjourned at 12:05p.m.,** followed by lunch, presentation of year end awards and the announcement of silent auction winning bids.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Jewell, ODS Secretary**