

Wisconsin Harness Horse Association



Message from the President

You will find all the info you need to know for the upcoming Annual Meeting & Banquet

in this issue. It's looking to be a bang-up banquet again, so be sure to get your reservations in early! Reservations are due no later than **January 16th** so we can ensure there is enough food for everyone. I cannot stress enough how important it is to not wait until the last minute to get your reservations in – the planning process is a grueling one, and the sooner you get them in the easier it is for the board and the hotel to get things together.

Our morning speaker this year will be from the University of Wisconsin Madison Vet Hospital. Dr. Sam Morello specializes in breathing problems, which obviously is a hot topic in harness racing. She will be discussing various options to a host of problems and can reference procedures done in Madison that could prove to be beneficial for many of us.

I encourage everyone to join in on the WHHA Annual Business meeting as we will be discussing the good, the bad, and the ugly from 2016 as well as listening to each location's race secretary/supt. Of speed. Now is this time to bring up any thoughts for 2017 that could be improved upon.

We are very lucky again to bring a national name as our keynote speaker ... Dave Magee will be joining us to talk about the transition between World Champion Driver and working in the judge's stand. This should prove to be a very interesting topic!

A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS goes out to Dean Magee for being inducted into the Hall of Fame this year! Dean has driven for many of us here in Wisconsin, so I hope you all come out to help him celebrate.

I must put a plug in for our fund raising auction. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year ... if you have items to donate, please let Becky or myself know so we can "advertise" them prior to the banquet. In case anyone needs ideas, we are always short of equipment.

Finally, you will notice a modest increase in Membership dues for 2017. The board had a lively discussion on this topic and ultimately decided it was time to raise our dues from \$20 to \$25. No one could come up with when the last time this occurred (I know it has been at least 17 years) ... and this will help us in trying to keep a balanced budget. The Board is looking very closely at keeping a break even bottom line for cash flow to ensure racing well into the future.

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays!

Gabe



AWARD WINNERS

Come help us celebrate and congratulate the recipients of our three most prestigious awards!

Wisconsin Harness
Racing Hall of Fame
Dean Magee

Horseperson of the
Year
Rick Davis

James Laird Memorial
Award For Excellence
**Gabriel & Robert
Wand**

Service Awards
Mickey Barnes
Wayne Moldenhauer
Kay Walker
Jeanne Wendricks

Jay Eye See
Traveling Trophy
Flash of Valor

Golden Miss
Traveling Trophy
Gooch's Bad Boy

Memories from
the Past
Members & Friends are encouraged to bring (at their own risk) harness racing memorabilia to share with the group! We will have tables set up for pictures, articles, etc. if you want to bring to share with the membership and spend some time talkin' bout da good ole days!

WHHA Annual Meeting and Banquet

Howard Johnson Plaza Hotel
3841 East Washington Avenue
Madison WI 53704 608-244-2481
WHHA Rate of \$77.00 per night
(includes free hot breakfast buffet!)

Friday, January 27, 2017

6:00 – 10:00 pm Videos of the 2016 Racing Season. Please bring your own beverages and snacks.

Saturday, January 28, 2017

9:00 am Registration Table Opens
Complimentary Danishes, Coffee & Juice
9:30 – 11:30 am Dr. Sam Morello, DVM
UW Madison Vet School "Breathing Issues and Options"
11:30 – 12:30 pm Lunch (On Your Own)

12:30 – 2:30 pm WHHA Annual Business Meeting
2:30 – 2:45 pm Break
Complimentary Desserts & Soda
2:45 – 3:30pm USTA District 4-B Mtg (Gabe Wand / Robert Yohn)
3:30 – 4:30 pm SPEAKER: David R. Magee
"From Race Bike to Judges Stand"
4:30 – 5:45 pm Cocktails in Northwoods Bar
Complimentary Chips & Salsa, Cheese & Crackers
5:45 pm – 7:00 pm Dinner
7:00 pm Awards
8:30 pm Live Auction

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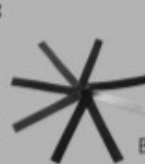
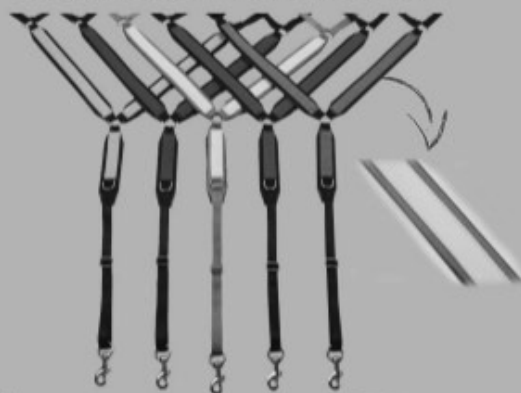


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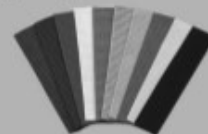
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**Wisconsin Harness
Horse Association
Board of Director's Meeting
October 23, 2016
Dane, WI**

Present: Nichole Glynn, Becky Swinehart, Del Moldenhauer, Gabe Wand, Patty Strand, Susan Schroeder (on phone), Jeanne Marquis Observer Wayne Moldenhauer

Absent: Sara Weaver, Jay DeLong

President Gabe opened the meeting at 10:30 A.M. Minutes from the last meeting, March 13, 2016 had been previewed via e-mail and moved approval by Del, seconded by Becky and all concurred.

Treasurer Sara had e-mailed her Treasurer's Report. We made \$4700 on the Calendar Raffle and sold the mascot which we didn't use this year to the OHHA for \$750. Patty moved that we accept the report. Del seconded. All approved. See attached.

2016 Season Racing Review

Bruce Alexander has something to discuss with us regarding Westfield but says it's nothing bad! The crowd was definitely lighter this year and we speculated that it was the threat of rain which kept fans home. They did make money on their paddle raffle. (est. \$950)

Elkhorn fair board president informed Becky that he was very happy with the huge crowd this year and that Larry, the new manager, definitely wants us back next year. Becky felt that our advertising was effective. Jeanne, from her post in the grandstand, reported that the brand new fans needed to be informed about the benefit of buying a program. Nichole bemoaned the fact that she did not have a sound system early but was able to do much explaining during the later program. Becky felt that folks in the barn could have been better about getting their horses out quickly. This issue will be addressed at the annual meeting.

Rice Lake got 58 horses for its very hot 2 days. No one complained about having to go 2 heats. Wednesday evening had lots of little problems for Patty to resolve, like the gate having to leave the fairgrounds to get gas after the field was out and rain early in the day. She felt that the Thurs. evening crowd was thinner than expected because of the heat and the fact that Canterbury publicized the

cancelling of their races because of the heat. Patty reported that the advanced press on Tattler's Jet drew many people to the barns and many folks walked through and visited the horses as invited. She is working on getting funds and sponsors for the second meeting which had been very successful last year. She reminded us that the fair does not give her any money and that she has to raise all the purse money herself. The fairgrounds are owned by stockholders who are looking to restore the barn built in the 1800's and thus save it.

No issues were raised regarding the meet at Viroqua except Gabe's request that the starting gate not wait for horses who are back of the field trying to time the gate (unless the horse is having problems turning or has broken equipment).

Mineral Point is grateful for some Iowa guys who came up to fill fields. They had fun and might come back. Del felt that judging at this meet was not up to USTA standards. He reminds drivers to complain immediately by speaking to one of the starting gate judges or stopping at the judge's stand so decisions can be made before the placings. The board raised the possibility of another official's seminar at the annual meeting. Those who question the way races are split are reminded that all entries are fed into USTA computer for the draw. According to rule, races are to be split (1) by owner, (2) by trainer, (3) by lot.

Ironwood drew 13 horses and managed to put on 2 days of racing. Next year the fair will return to usual date early in August, but still may not be able to

draw more horses.

Marketing committee reported that the TV commercials were beneficial for Elkhorn but not for Westfield. Gabe feels it might be difficult to get the grant for the third year. The \$1000 is for air time to show our commercial. The Entry Booklet for Elkhorn had a harness horse on the cover.

Conrad Lewison has the starting gate stored for the winter. Patty has asked Tom and Butch for detailed list by the annual meeting of things they feel need to be addressed before the next season. Jay will pick up the gate in the spring with the list for his mechanics.

Annual Meeting will be held at the Howard Johnson on Jan. 27th and 28th. The meeting agenda will be similar to past years. Suggestions for morning speaker included a horseshoer who is up to date on shoeing/gaiting problems. Don Nolen and Reed Remley will be approached as possibilities. Gabe is working on getting Tim Tetrick or Linda Toscano as an afternoon/evening speaker. He entices speakers by telling them about how much fun we are!! Reportedly, there are folks who have very old racing memorabilia! We thought that a display for Friday night might be fun for sharing memories.

Jay DeLong, Susan Schroeder and Nichole Glynn have expiring terms on the Board of Directors. Jay is a yes for continuing. Susan is a no/yes. And Nichole is a no in order to have more mom time. She will continue as webmaster. Nomination committee Sara and Jeanne will seek 1 or 2 of the willing.

Season winners and points have been

WANTED: WHHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS NOMINEES

Three seats on the Board of Directors will be open for election at the Annual Meeting. All current WHHA members are eligible to run.

- **If you have someone in mind that you feel would be a good board member**
- **If you know someone that is interested in running**
- **If you want to serve on the board**

Please contact a member of the Nomination Committee - Sara Weaver or Jeanne Marquis.

The WHHA Board of Directors consists of nine (9) seats, three (3) of which are up for re-election every year. The dates listed to the left indicate the last year of Directorship



Wisconsin Harness Horse Association
Membership, Banquet Tickets, and Auction Pre-Registration
January 2017

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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Email _____

MEMBERSHIP			
Membership	QTY	Extended Price	
Active Annual	\$25		\$ _____
Active 3-year	\$65		\$ _____
Subtotal			\$ _____
BANQUET TICKETS			
	QTY	Extended Price	
Banquet Tickets	\$22.50		\$ _____
Subtotal			\$ _____
TOTAL			\$ _____

AUCTION BUYER # REQUESTS	
<i>Please list names of individuals wanting a buyer number for the auctions at the banquet. Each buyer # will be billed separately. The same # will be used in both the live and silent auction bidding.</i>	

Please make checks payable to **WHHA** and mail to:
Jeanne Marquis
6651 Hyslop Road
Dane, WI 53529

Questions about auction #s? Contact Nichole at (608) 333-5278 or whha.webmaster@gmail.com

Please mail by January 10th.

Help demonstrate the importance of the Equine Industry

Tuesday, December 06, 2016 - from the American Horse Council

Washington, DC --- Every day it seems like we hear about the economic impact that a mainstream business or industry brings to the table -- the beer industry more than \$252.6 billion; beauty industry \$56.2 billion; NFL football teams \$5 billion to their respective cities. How can we show the value of the equine industry in order to compete for the limited time and attention of consumers, and stress the importance our industry has on the U.S. economy?

The American Horse Council Foundation has the answer: updating the Equine Industry Economic Impact Study in 2017. This study documents the economic effects of racing, showing, recreation, rodeo and other segments of the horse industry on the state and national economy. It provides invaluable data on the number of horses, jobs, and related industries that are impacted by horse ownership, and it shows the diverseness of individuals like yourself that are involved in this industry.

The study is widely used to educate the public, media and elected officials in congress and state legislature about the industry's size, reach, impact and importance. The data is also frequently used to help underscore buying power (vehicles, trailers, feed, fencing, etc.), tax effects, and tourism resulting from the horse industry.

To underwrite the significant cost of the study, \$400,000, the AHC is reaching out to all industry stakeholders for funding assistance. We're horse lovers, you're horse lovers; this study is needed to ensure your voice is heard, and your interests are protected and preserved. Let's work together to make this study happen!

The two previous studies could not have been done without the generous support of organizations and individuals like yourself. A donation as small as \$50 will help us jump-start this incredibly important project.

Contributions can be made easily online by visiting the AHC website [here](#), or a pledge form can be downloaded [here](#), and the accompanying donation sent to: American Horse Council Foundation, Attn: Economic Impact Study, 1616 H Street NW, 7th Floor, Washington, DC 20006.

All donations through the AHC Foundation (a 501c3) are tax-deductible.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the AHC.

(WHHA Board of Directors Minutes continued from page 3)

counted and awards have been finalized. Susan will order appropriate trophies/plaques from the same company as last year. Del will pick up.

Hall of Fame committee needs recommendations to be written up in detail and submitted to the Committee by Nov. 7. The suggestion of a new category of "Ambassador" needs to be defined, presented as a formal motion, and voted on by everyone at the Annual Meeting.

Del reports that the cost of insurance is going up as the number of our drivers is declining. Del proposed charging all drivers \$10/year to go towards the insurance. After considering possibilities of allowing for this and the fact that our membership dues have been the same for a long time, we determined that the best way to raise this money is to raise our dues. Susan moved that after Dec 31, 2016 dues be raised to \$25/year and \$65 for 3 years. Becky seconded. All approved the increase. Those who have paid 3 year memberships will not be affected until their membership expires.

Horse Fair stall applications must be made by Nov. 15th. Jeanne announced that she does not want to be in charge again and that she has enlisted horse fair seasoned participants Amber Sawyer, Abby Bayer and Michelle Sinn to take over responsibility. The Board requests that they submit a detailed plan for the demonstration and display before the next board meeting. They also request that the script be submitted for approval in the spring. In the meantime, Jeanne will apply for 10 stalls and indicate our intention to put on a demo with 6 or 7 horses.

We determined that we would have a booth at the Association of Fairs meeting in January at the Dells. Gabe will try to get a day off to attend.

Next Meeting will include the Hall of Fame committee and be held at Nichole's home on Nov. 27th.

Nichole moved that we adjourn at 1:00. Patty seconded. All agreed.

WHHA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gabe Wand, President - 2018
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Susan Schroeder - 2016
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Del Moldenhauer, VP - 2018
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Becky Swinehart - 2018
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Patty Strand - 2017
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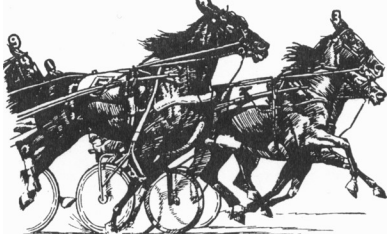
Jesse "Jay" Delong - 2016
608-295-6881
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Jeanne Marquis, Secretary - 2017
608-849-7669
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Sara Weaver, Treasurer - 2017
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Wisconsin Harness Horse Association

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