

MAQHA General Membership Meeting
Saturday, January 19, 2008

The meeting was called to order by President, Brenda Rhode.

Due to weather related cancellation a meeting was not held on December 1, 2007 in Hutchinson. The minutes from the January 2007 meeting were read. John Winkelman moved to approve the minutes as read, Jay Cain seconded, motion passed.

The Treasurer's Report was read by Anita York. Anita reported the numbers for 2007, Income of \$115,285.43, Expenses of \$124,544.39 with an overall total of -\$9,258.96. The cash balance in the bank account is \$24,975.86. The loss for 2007 was primarily due to a loss from the Corporate Challenge. Rosie Hauge moved to approve the Treasurer's Report, Paige Broekema seconded, all were in favor. Treasurer's report was approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Rosie Hauge reported on the MAQHA Year End Awards. The award method for 2007 is different than in the past. In years past for each horse and rider combination in the Top 6 the award was the same regardless whether you had one award or multiple awards in various divisions. Last year it was decided this could be fairer with a different system. In 2007 the awards are gift cards from Pard's Western Shop. Pard's provided MAQHA a 20% discount on the purchase of the cards. For each Top 6 placing someone had they receive \$14 of gift card credit with Pard's. The jackets were ordered and picked up. Janelle Stang already had a jacket and therefore received a gift card in lieu of another jacket. Discussion followed on the jackets.

Terri Shaleen reported for the MAQHA Clothing Sales. Terri indicated she had ordered new inventory the end of 2006. She has received requests for jackets, she indicated these were a little spendy to keep in inventory; perhaps a special order could be done. She will pick out a couple of styles and perhaps offer them for ordering.

Sandy Jagger reported on the Open Show Award Program. They are having the award presentation today after the meeting. In 2007 Sandy was able to obtain a Bank of America grant for \$1100 to be used for advertising the Open Show Program. In 2007 there were about 30 amateur and youth participants. In 2008 Midge Mulcahy will be the chairperson of the Open Show Award Program.

A Horse Expo sign up sheet for volunteers is being passed around.

Anita York reported on the Corporate Challenge Committee. The meetings this year are more organized, they are trying to control expenses as well as tighten the budget. Judges have been hired; Jay and Patrice Thesing will be the show managers. Anita York will be the awards chairperson. In addition to the existing sponsorships for Corporate Challenge, a mailing for a new fundraiser went out to all Amateur members for a donation to a sweepstakes drawing. The prizes for the sweepstakes drawing include a TV. There was a round of applause for all the hard work done by the Corporate Challenge volunteers.

The nominating committee did not have nominees proposed for the election. Positions to be filled included Vice President due to a resignation and four board member positions. Brenda Rhode requested nominations from the floor. Jay Cain nominated Amy Darnell for Vice President, nomination seconded; there were no additional nominations for Vice President. Due Amy's nomination to Vice President her previous board position will need to be filled. Nominations from the floor for the 4 expiring board positions and 1 vacated due to this election were accepted. Warren Wilson nominated Tiffany Stevens and Crystal Estrem, Jay Cain seconded the nominations. Susan Wilcox nominated Jason Shaleen, Tammy Winkelman seconded. Brenda Rhode nominated Terri Shaleen, Jay Cain seconded. An additional nomination was needed to complete Amy Darnell's position on the board. Barb Charpentier nominated Susan Wilcox, Tiffany Stevens seconded. There were no further nominations from the floor. Jay Cain moved a White Ballot vote be cast for the Vice President and Board of Directors, Lynna. Gresfrud seconded, and all were in favor. Welcome new Vice President and Board Members!

Volunteers were solicited for the 2008 Nominating Committee. The 2008 nominating committee consists of John Winkelman, Dr. Roland Wohlin and Judy Wohlin. For the December 2008 elections a full slate of officers will be needed as well as 3 board members.

It was reported the Membership Welcoming Committee never got off the ground. Discussion turned to some experiences, both positive and negative, that members shared from the Fall 2007 Masters show from new participants to Quarter Horse showing. Ideas discussed included a potential mentor type program, announce at the shows or a banner or notice at the shows in the office to direct new people if they want some assistance to ask at the office. The Office could then direct them to MAQHA mentor type volunteers. It was decided to leave these decisions up to the committee. Two additional committee members volunteered, Amy Darnell and Kathy Baumgartner.

Rosie Hauge reported on the Futurity as the Futurity meeting was being held simultaneously with the MAQHA meeting. Rosie indicated they would no doubt be looking for a donation for the NonPro Versatility award. This award is presented to the 3 year old with the most points accumulated through their showing at the futurity. In the past MAQHA has donated \$1000 which was split between the NonPro Champion (\$600) and Reserve Champion (\$400). A motion was made by Dr. Wohlin and seconded by John Winkelman that MAQHA make a donation to the futurity. Discussion followed and it was suggested due to our financial loss in 2007 to refer this to the Board of Directors for a final decision. Jay Cain amended the motion for the Board of Directors to accommodate a donation within the budget; the amended motion was seconded and passed.

Rosie Hauge moved that all committee reports be approved, John Winkelman seconded and the motion passed.

OLD AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Anita York reported on our clarification of our non-profit status. MAQHA is a subset of MQHA and we turn all of our records over to them. She is not aware of an audit or accounting review for MQHA records.

Rosie Hauge was wondering about what affect not taking credit cards at expo had on our clothing sales. Volunteers who worked at the expo reported that it wasn't a problem; the problem was the booth location. The booth for the last two years has been in the sheep barn, in the far corner. Sales were reported in 2007 to be \$1,300, 2006 \$1,700 and in 2005 when the booth was in the cattle barn \$6,400. In 2007 memberships were also being sold. It was confirmed that MQHA has already sent in the renewal for the joint booth last fall. Expo volunteers indicated they needed their old location in the cattle barn back and more support, such as brochures and things from AQHA. It was recommended that the committee handle this.

Discussion then was also brought up by Rosie regarding the silent auction that the Amateurs had done for several years and this year is being done by District 4. Last year it was decided not to do a silent auction this year, to do a different fund raiser. Next year the meetings and banquet will be in District 5, will the Amateurs do a Silent Auction or will District 5? Dr. Roland Wohlin indicated their District was not planning a Silent Auction in conjunction with the banquet. From this discussion a Fund Raising Committee for MAQHA was established. Members are: Susan Wilcox, LaDonna Schultze, Jane Rocheleau, Tammy Winkelman, Judy Ballard and Karen Lawrence. Additional discussion ensued regarding various types of fundraisers possible throughout the year including a contest fundraiser class. It was determined this would be left up to the Fund Raising Committee.

Crystal Estrem inquired about the amount of funds we received for dues in 2007, MAQHA has approximately 300 members. Anita York reported that we have not received any money from MQHA for the Amateurs dues. They are collected all together as to be a member of MAQHA you must also be a member of MQHA. Anita will check again with the MQHA Treasurer regarding the status of the dues.

NEW BUSINESS

Anita Darnell brought up that an additional meeting is needed during the year. Discussion followed and it was decided the next Amateur membership meeting will be during the MQHA State Show on Friday, April 4, 2007. The time will be either the later of either 6:00 p.m. or 30 minutes after the last Amateur class. The State Show will be held this year at the Red Horse Ranch Arena, Fergus Falls, MN.

Communication was also discussed. The MQHA Newsletter allows us to report news to the newsletter for publication. Amy Darnell volunteered to write a column with Amateur News for the newsletter. Additional suggestions included to keep reminding people of the meetings and what's coming up.

With no further business, Jay Cain moved the meeting be adjourned, seconded by Tiffany Stevens. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Julie Cain, Secretary
MAQHA

Open Show and MAQHA Top 6 Awards were presented after the meeting adjourned.