



Fairfield-Westchester PHA Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2014

The meeting of the FW-PHA chapter was called to order at Coker Farm on 9/15/14 by President Scott Tarter at 7:10 pm. There were 22 members in attendance.

Reading of the previous meeting's minutes were tabled.

Naomi Gauruder read the treasurer's report, it was accepted as read.

Horse show report - Lynn Peters reported that the Horse Shows were very successful this year. The horse show committee will re-visit the pay scale for officials and show employees for next year. Likely next year's July show will be 'inactive' as it falls directly on the July 4th holiday.

Correspondence - Thank you notes were received by Stacie Shepski, thanking the FWPHA for her aid to members, and by New Canaan Mounted Troop for our donation.

Aid to Members - no report

Charitable donations - The FWPHA will be sponsoring the USHJA Zone 1 finals, and the ASPCA Maclay Regional Finals at Fairfield Hunt Club. A donation will be made in Walter Distler's memory to the Alzheimer's Association.

Junior PHA – the Junior members have some ideas to make our awards banquet more fun, such as Baskets to be auctioned off & a photo booth. They will continue to explore new ideas. The Junior PHA needs more members, Anyone is welcome to join! Also, we need help from the junior PHA for other areas as well - anyone interested in Graphic Design, Art or Photography can be of assistance, Members can become involved beyond 'just horses'.

High Score Awards Dinner - This year's dinner will be dedicated in the memory of Walter Distler, who chaired the dinner for many years. The Junior PHA will also be presenting the 'Walter Distler Jr. PHA Award' to the most active Junior PHA member in Walt's memory. Any suggestions for this award should be directed to Lisa Sherman. The dinner will be held November 14, 2014 at the Italian Center in Stamford CT.

Membership - Scott Barry (W.J. Barry Horse Transportation) and Caroline Flynn Cote (Forget Me Not Farm) were presented for membership. Voting will be held over to next month's meeting.



Greek Neff Award - any nominations should be directed to Scott Tarter

Frank Flynn Award - any nominations should be directed to Easy Kelsey

Jack Rockwell Award - This year's topic is "What inspired your passion for horses and riding". Applications are available on the FWPHA website, and are due to Norman Bray by October 27.

Website - The calendar is in need of updating. Christine Nastasi will be handling updating the calendar.

High Score Committee - There has been some confusion over the 3' Mini Medal and which class at the shows will count towards points for the FWPHA 3' medal. Ideally, the show should list "FWPHA" in the title of the medal class, however, if they do not, then points will default to the THIS Medal. Shows may also continue to offer the FWPHA/THIS medal, or the FWPHA/M&S/THIS medal, or the FWPHA/M&S 3' medal. However, if FWPHA is NOT listed, then the THIS medal will be counted towards points.

The Walk Trot division specifications will now read " Open to beginner riders of any age WHO HAVE NOT SHOWN IN CLASSES WITH FENCES AT 2' OR ABOVE AT A FW-PHA HORSE SHOW". Any class listed as "Walk Trot" (regardless if specified as Equitation, Hunter U/S , Pleasure or Ground Poles) the points will be awarded to the rider.

PHA National Finals - This is the first year for the National PHA finals, held October 24-26 at Centenary College. The top 5 riders from the FWPHA in the offered divisions will be invited to the finals. If any of the top 5 are unable to attend, invitations will be extended to further placings. Please contact Chris Dwyer if you are interested in attending and representing the FWPHA at Nationals!

The National Finals will also offer our junior and associate members the opportunity to Mentor with show officials, and other PHA members to learn more about roles such as judging, stewarding, secretary etc. Please contact Karin Immerman if you are interested in being Mentored at the finals.

Scholarship - the FWPHA will match the Academic Scholarships awarded by the National to our members.

The next meeting will be held on October 20, 2014 at Coker Farm. Dinner 6:30, meeting 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Naomi Gauruder