

North Country Horsemen Annual Meeting/Fundraiser Minutes for January, 2018

The Annual Meeting was called to order on January 27th, 2018, by President Kristi Westlund. Kristi welcomed everyone and thanked members for their hours of volunteering and dedication which is a crucial part in making North Country Horsemen a successful organization. Kristi said 2017 was a fun and many times challenging year with 71 memberships and 192 members.

Secretary's report: The NCH Annual Meeting Minutes from February 2017 was an attachment to the agenda. Mardy Anderson motioned to adopt and a 2nd from Dayna Melvie, motion passed.

Treasurer's report: NCH's 2017 year-end numbers from Mardy Anderson: General Account: \$656.54. TTT Account: \$50,305.77. Motion to approve by Barb Geer and 2nd from Sharon Holmstrom, motion passed.

Old business:

NCH's Youth Sponsorship Program: Eleven \$100 youth sponsorship grants were awarded in 2017. Grant recipients were Madelyn Westlin, Faith Lyberg, Kinzie Melvie, Rachael and Chisum Schmiedeberg, Dylan and Colton Nyegaard and Teahna Anderson. Also, Brooke, Hope and Paige Lyberg applied and received one grant together.

Madelyn Westlin, Kinzie Melvie and Chisum Schmiedeberg commented on their experience at the Minnesota State Horse Show and thanked NCHSC for their grants.

Committee Reports:

Marketing Committee Report - Kristi Westlund reported that Shirley Horien had combined the Trails To Treatments and North Country Horsemen webpages under one webpage with a new website address:

www.northcountryhorsemen.com.

Trails To Treatments Committee Report - given by Co-Chair Mardy Anderson. TTT had a record breaking fundraising year, raising \$87,671.73. 517 grants were given from Oct 5, 2011 through December 31, 2017 totaling \$252,100.00. 120 grants were given out in 2017 totaling \$72,000, so with only \$50,305.77 in the checkbook, it shows how important every donation is. Also teams have made a huge impact on the TTT fundraising results, raising over \$40,000.00 in 2017. TTT grants will remain at \$600, but will be reviewed again at the end of 2018. The 10th Annual NCH TTT Cancer Benefit & Ride fundraiser will be held again in Middle River on Friday and Saturday of Labor Day Weekend. TTT's walleye supper fundraisers will be held on Friday, March 2nd and March 23rd.

Arena Committee Report - given by Co-Chair Mardy Anderson. In 2017 a storage shed for the tractor, tin for the food shack and wood for the bleachers were purchased. Other updates planned for 2018 are a door for the storage shed and repairs for the food shack. A NCH Burger Night Fundraiser will be held on Wednesday, January 31st at the American Legion in Middle River.

Food/Fundraiser Committee Report - given by Sharon Holmstrom. Sharon expressed appreciation to all who have helped with food!

Trail Ride Committee – given by Co-Chairs Sharon Holmstrom and Melissa Galland. Sharon announced that NCH sponsored trail rides, including riding in parades, will count as double hours. For those that sign up tonight, they will get to record 5 free hours. Due to the number of participants achieving the required hours and the cost of prizes, the single trail riding fee for 2018 increased from \$15 to \$20.

2017 Trotting the Trail awards were awarded based on hours ridden from March 1, 2017 to October 1, 2017.

- **Bronze Award Winners (75 to 110 hours):** Tessany Blazek with 79.5 hours, Hailey Espeseth with 88.5 hours, Sharon Holmstrom with 94 hours.
- **Silver Award Winners (111 to 150 hours):** Kristi Westlund with 121.3 hours, Kinzie Melvie with 133 hours, Jennifer Kalkis with 133.8 hours and Honna Westlund with 131.5 hours.
- **Gold Award Winners (151 and above hours):** Ronnette Anderson with 151 hours, Christine Foster with 152 hours, Amanda Tungseth and Ashley Swenson with 170 hours, Shirley Horien with 171.3 hours, Lily Helm with 175 hours, Shannon Peterson with 176.8 hours, Melissa Galland with 177.2 hours, Madelyn Westlin with 183.5 hours, Sue Helm with 214.5 hours and Sadie Gornowicz with 255 hours.

Show/Game Committee – Kristi Westlund thanked everyone for attending and helping at the 2017 show events. She provided totals of show attendance for the 2017 Game Shows. June 3rd had 70 participants, June 25th had 59 and the October 1st had 52. There were a total of 36 lead-line kids for all three game shows. Kristi announced next year's show dates are June 9th, June 30th and September 30th. Game Show's Year-end awards were announced by Tanya Peterson and presented by Kristi Westlund and Shirley Horien. Winners were:

- **Lead-line:** Member Participants Autumn Lindemoen, Courtney Gilland, Mya Epseth, Tessany Levenhagen, Jace Tungseth, Kenneth Maurstad, Lauryn, Brody and Colin Brons, Claire and Keira Gornowicz, Emma Brekke, Maddie Torkelson, Naveah and Justin Olson, Kember and Keston Klasen, Meri and Zander Erickson all received a halter and lead.
- **Dedication Award:** Eri Housey received a purple halter with a leather decorative nose band.

The remaining winners each received a buckle.

- **Small Fry:** High Point – Hailey Espeseth on Candy; Reserve High Point – Ireland Klasen on Sky
- **Pee Wee:** High Point – Emily Hanson on Prince; Reserve High Point – Savannah Anderson on Max.
- **Intermediate:** High Point – Chisum Schmiedberg on Spice; Reserve High Point – Faith Lyberg on Trigger.
- **Junior:** High Point – Ruthie Finney on Hollywood; Reserve High Point – Kinzie Melvie on Salsa.
- **Senior:** High Point – Ashley Swenson on Xena; Reserve High Point – Brooke Finney on Fergie.
- **Classic:** High Point - Ronnette Anderson on Pokey; Reserve High Point – Shawn Lyberg on Tazz.

After asking for any further old business and committee updates, we moved to new business.

New Business:

There were no new nominations submitted prior to, or during the meeting for any of the officer positions. The Election of 2017 Officers was held and officers remained the same for 2017 as 2016.

- **President:** Kristi Westlund
- **Vice President:** Tanya Peterson
- **Secretary:** Shirley Horien
- **Treasurer:** Mardy Anderson

After asking for any further new business, Kristi asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ronnette Anderson made a motion to adjourn and that was seconded by Dayna Melvie.

The balance of the evening's activities included kid's games and silent and live auctions.