

North Country Horsemen Annual Meeting/Fundraiser Minutes for Feb 4, 2017

Meeting was called to order by President Sue Helm. A welcome was given and Sue recognized that 2016 was another record breaking year with 83 memberships and 214 members. Previous record was 2015 with 80 memberships and 193 members. Sue thanked and attributed the North Country Horsemen's success being due to the hours of volunteering and dedication of the NCH's chairs, committees and members.

Secretary's report: The NCH Annual Meeting Minutes from February 2016 was an attachment to the agenda. Jack Bieto motioned to adopt & a 2nd from Sharon Holmstrom motion passed.

Treasurer's report: NCH's 2016 year-end numbers from Mardy Anderson: General Account: \$1,797.60 TTT Account: \$53,490.51 Motion to approve by Marc Horien & 2nd from Robbie Christianson, motion passed.

Old business:

NCH's Youth Sponsorship Program: 16 youth sponsorship grants awarded in 2016. Several of the girls that received grants, commented on their experiences when competing at the Minnesota State Horse Show. All were thankful to have received \$100 grants. Congratulations Brooke Finney, Brooke Lyberg, Caprice Christianson, Cassidy Stenvik, Colton Nyegaard, Dylan Nyegaard, Emily Schmiedeberg, Emma Rae Nelson, Hope Lyberg, Kayla Nelson, Lydia Nelson, Paige Lyberg, Rachel Schmiedeberg, Ruthie Finney, Teahna Anderson and Trisha Vagle.

Next were the Committee Reports:

Marketing Committee Report - Sue mentioned that a new Marketing Committee had been formed for the first time last year and she thanked the Marketing Chair Shirley Horien for the posters, flyers, pictures, newspaper articles, ads and the continued updates done to the NCH and TTT websites.

Trails To Treatments Committee Report - given by Co-Chairs Mardy Anderson and Stacy Bierman. TTT grants will remain at \$600 but will be reviewed again at the end of 2017. The move of TTT's Annual Cancer Benefit & Ride fundraiser to Middle River was a success. The 9th Annual NCH TTT Cancer Benefit & Ride fundraiser will be in Middle River on September 1st & 2nd. TTT's walleye supper fundraisers will be held on March 3rd and April 7th. 397 grants were given during Oct 5, 2011 through December 31, 2016 totaling \$180,100. 119 grants were given out in 2016 totaling \$71,400, so with only \$53,490.51 in the checkbook, it shows how important every donation is. Also teams have made a big impact on the TTT fundraising results.

Arena Committee Report - given by Co-Chair Mardy Anderson. There is need for a storage shed for the tractor, land leveler, mower and there has been some discussion of purchasing a shipping container.

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

Trail Ride Committee – given by Co-Chair Sharon Holmstrom. 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. 2016 Trotting the Trail awards were awarded based on hours ridden from March 1, 2016 to October 1, 2016.

- **Bronze Award Winners (75 to 110 hours):** Brooke Lyberg with 75 hours, Shirley Horien with 77 hours, Faith Lyberg with 79 hours, Hannah Bergsnev with 82 hours, Christine Foster with 83 hours, Tessany Blazek with 85 hours, Shannon Peterson with 86 hours, Kristi Westlund with 89 hours and Hope Lyberg with 102 hours.
- **Silver Award Winners (111 to 150 hours):** Kathy Johnson with 124 hours, Emma Rae Nelson with 125 hours, Madelyn Westlin with 128 hours and Honna Westlund with 150 hours.

- **Gold Award Winners (151 and above hours):** Kendra Westlund with 151 hours, Sue Helm with 157 hours and Lily Helm with 173 hours.

Show/Game Committee – Ashley McGregor thanked everyone for attending, competing and helping with the 2016 show events. She provided totals of show attendance for 2016. The Game Show on June 4th had 77 participants, 61 at the Pleasure Show on June 25th, 59 at the Game Show on June 26th and 109 at the Goose Fest Game Show in which thirty of these were Lead-Line kids. Ashley announced next year’s show dates of June 3rd, June 24th and October 1st, as game shows and June 25th as a pleasure show. Gaming Show’s Year-end awards were presented by Ashley McGregor, Amanda Tungseth and Tanya Peterson. Winners were:

- **Lead-line:** All participants that were members received a “My First Grooming Kit” and a leather feather with their name engraved on it to hang on their saddle.
- **Classic:** High Point - Ronnette Anderson on Pokey with 72 points; Reserve High Point - Christine Foster on Zip with 50 points.
- **Senior:** High Point - Amanda Tungseth on Sky with 60 points; Reserve High Point - Trisha Vagle on Reno with 43 points.
- **Junior:** High Point - Emily Novak on Ali with 49 points; Reserve High Point - Alexie Horner with 37 points.
- **Intermediate:** High Point - Kinzie Melvie on Salsa with 53 points; Reserve High Point - Lily Helm on Abby with 40 points.
- **Pee Wee:** High Point - Faith Lyberg on Trigger with 64 points. Reserve High Point - Chisum Schmiedeberg on Spice with 54 points.
- **Small Fry:** High Point - Savannah Anderson on Max with 78 points. Reserve High Point - Haley Espeseth on Cowboy with 35 points.
- **Buckle Award:** Amanda Tungseth on Sky with 13 points.
- **Dedication Award:** Sydni Schroeder on Buddy with 31 points.

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

New Business:

Sue Helm announced she and Ronnette Anderson would not be running for office this year. The Election of 2017 Officers was held.

- **President:** Kristi Westlund who had been previously nominated was elected President by unanimous ballot cast by Jack Beito.
- **Vice President:** Tanya Peterson who had been previously nominated was elected Vice President by unanimous ballot cast by Sharon Holmstrom.
- **Secretary:** Shirley Horien who had been previously nominated was elected Secretary by unanimous ballot cast by Ronnette Anderson.
- **Treasurer:** Mardy Anderson was reelected as Treasurer by unanimous ballot cast by Shirley Horien.

Mardy thanked both Ronnette Anderson for her eight years and Sue Helm for her twelve years of service.

After asking for any further new business, Sue Helm asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ashley Swenson made a motion to adjourn and that was seconded by Barb Swenson.

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