

CNER REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

February 10, 2007 Minutes of the Meeting

The CNER regional council meeting was held at the Gleason Library in Carlisle MA on Saturday February 10, 2007. The meeting began at 10:15 with the following members in attendance:

Audrey Zwicker, Wendy Johnson, Iris Realmuto, Louise Hara, Betsey Reeves, Chris Daly, Curtis Renner, Leonora Giguere, Karen Marcotte, Lara Hubner, Tracey Young, Helen Robinson, Kim Mello, Carol Seale, Debbie Power, Sara Macaulay, Rita-Marie McConnon, Janet Oliver, Nancy Fantom, Elena Wohl, Talia Martin, Deb Titus, Christina Keim and Penny Jaques.

Betsey opened the meeting with a welcome and introduction of new club representatives.

Betsey began the meeting by summarizing the highlights of the Annual Meeting in Portland OR. CNE was well represented. At least four of the presenters were from Central New England. Out of the 43 regions, eleven "Best Practices" were identified and two of those were from the Central New England Region, our focus groups and the D3/C1 Program. The Organization Committee comprised of Karen, Lelo and Wendy, spent a good deal of time behind the scenes, trying to learn as much about running the Annual Meeting as possible. After the Portland meeting ended, they meet with the organizers and the National office to "debrief" from the Portland meeting and officially start organization for Boston. The Committee is very grateful for the financial assistance offered by the Region.

On Saturday night during the Annual Banquet, CNE performed a skit to encourage visitors to next year's meeting. The five girls attending the meeting were dressed in "colonial" garb with tri-cornered patriot hats. They cantered through the crowd carrying lanterns and flags. Then Betsey read a poem written by Catherine Short, which was followed by a brief slide show of Boston and photos of CNE activities provided by various clubs. The "whip" was officially passed the Central New England and now our fun will begin.

One of the members attending the meeting was Sarah Titus (C3 Rockingham). She presented a project in the Research project competition. Sarah had written the region to request financial assistance for her trip to Portland. **A motion was made by Chris Daly to match the Jr. Board contribution for Sarah for this year only with the topic to be revisited for next year. The motion passed unanimously.**

Next Karen Marcotte brought the group up to date on the 2008 Annual Meeting status. We are looking for people to coordinate and chair various committees. Anyone interested should contact Karen. Each committee will then hold meetings where anyone is welcome to attend and volunteer.

- Carol Seale volunteered to coordinate the Anatomy Room. Nancy Fantom has connections she will share with Carol.
- Belinda and Lara Hubner will coordinate the trade show. Anyone who knows of potential exhibitors in this area, is urged to contact Belinda or Lara.
- Iris will be putting the website together to start promoting the meeting and will be linking it to local area of interest. Any ideas should be sent to Iris.
- Chris Daly will start looking into potential AV equipment providers so we can get some competitive bids for equipment. We also need any leads for donations such as copiers, paper and supplies.
- Pony Paddock will be organized by Nancy and Betty. They will have a meeting to put together suggestions and volunteers.

- Louise will coordinate workshops. Any suggestions can be sent to her regarding special programming.
- Sharon Judd from Rockingham has volunteered to do name tags and bags.
- Lelo is the Coordinator for all the hotel details and will have lots to discuss as we move along.
- Karen will be sending out an email to request suggestions for a key note speaker.
- Jordan Stables will send along suggestions regarding downtown Boston tours and activities.
- Lisa Brem and Wendy will organize the Silent Auction. Any suggestions can be emailed to Lisa.

Deb Titus spoke next regarding Championships. This year Championships and Festival are being held in Lexington Kentucky, with a move in date of July 24th. (Keep checking the USPC website for the "Gold Book" which gives all the specific details. She is working on the final details to firm up a block of rooms for CNER. After each rally, Deb would like a parent to be responsible for handing out Championship paperwork. Elena will handle the Quiz Rally, Wendy will do Eventing qualifier, Chris will do Show Jumping, Betty will hopefully do the Games Rally and Deb and Wendy will do Dressage Rally. Betsey confirmed that our policy states that if you do not commit to the discipline when you qualify, you will be considered an alternate. Deb is still looking for someone to step up as assistant Championship Coordinator. Please contact her directly as soon as possible. There was a discussion regarding funding of Championship participants. Curtis said the Regional account could fund the entry fees again this year if necessary. An option to increase rally fees by \$5 to fund Champ qualifiers was ruled out as being unfair to all those who don't qualify subsidizing those who go. **Nancy Fantom moved that the Region pay the entry fee for Championship qualifiers again for 207. The motion passed unanimously.**

Next on the agenda was the Regional calendar. Chris mentioned that Mt Holyoke is raising their prices substantially. Betsey pointed out that this is one of the reasons the UL camp will be held at New Gait this year. Iris asked whether the Memorial Day Camps were the mandatory camp or did members have a choice as in the past. Betsey said that even though Catherine's email said it was mandatory (as did last year's email), either camp was fine. Louise Hara will be trying to set up some enrichment clinics with USEF clinicians that reduce rates for pony club clinics. She will also try to schedule a Daniel Stewart Clinic for the Region. **She made a motion for any extra expenses incurred for this clinic be funded by the Katherine Long Fund proceeds. The motion passed unanimously.**

There were a few additions to the calendar. A Standards Clinic will be held on March 3 and 4 with the Ds on one day and the Cs on the next day.

The next Regional Council Meeting will be held on Saturday April 7th which is the day before Easter.

The Region has two tickets to the Rolex 3 Day Competition in Lexington KY. Member from both Swift River and Groton Pony Clubs expressed interest in the tickets. Betsey will see if she can get more tickets. In either case, one ticket can go to each club.

Betsey mentioned that there is a possibility to participate in a British Pony Club Exchange but she will need to get more details. Questions came up about regional responsibility and liability etc.

Lara Hubner reminded DCs to download the new Horse Management Rulebook and note the new items needed under required equipment. Most of the rules remain unchanged. She is working on a Horse Management Clinic. One change that was mentioned is that written tests are no longer required at rallies. The region can chose to require their own written test during a rally. A motion was made to strike the written test indefinitely from the CNE rallies where not required. There were 10 votes in favor and 3 opposed so the motion passed.

After the lunch break a copy of the revised regional policies was passed out to DCs. The policy changes to the policies are underlined. The two items in brackets are just questions to the regional council for consideration. DCs are asked to review the changes, email any comments to the policy committee and be prepared to discuss and vote on the changes at the next meeting.

After some discussion, **a motion was made to reimburse clinicians for mileage based on the IRS standard reimbursement rate declared each calendar year. There were 12 in favor, 1 opposed and the motion passed.**

Next, each club indicated the number of members expected to rate at each level this year. There appear to be a large number of traditional C3 candidates and some HB candidates as well. White Mountain Region is hosting a B rating at UNH on August 18-19 and would consider hosting an HB with CNE if we helped. Wentworth PC agreed to help Chris Keim host the HB. It was also suggested that an HB prep be offered at the C3 prep camp at Apple Knoll on Memorial Day weekend. The Memorial Day prep is the mandatory prep, however Betsey reminded DCs that candidates need to communicate with her if there is a conflict so they can work out other alternatives for preps.

Betsey asked DCs to check with their UL members to see if anyone has any idea where her Glass Horse limbs DVD is. Someone borrowed it and she really needs to get it back. Any help is greatly appreciated.

Wendy advised that she has been selling CNE logo items at the D3/C1 clinics and to date has sold \$571 worth of shirts, saddle pads, pins, patches and hats.

Finally Jordan Stables has sent out entry forms for Quiz Rally. They still need help with the Stations portion of the rally. Leonora and Louise volunteered to help.

Curtis handed out the balance sheet as of 12/31/06 and a list of all the checks written in 2006

With no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Johnson