

BIG BEND HORSEMAN'S ASSOCIATION

April 13, 2009

The April 13, 2009, meeting of the Big Bend Horseman's Association was called to order at 7 p.m. by President Wade Smith.

Vice President Guenter Maresch showed us items that we would hold a drawing for later in the meeting.

Board Member Sherri Dean, who also keeps our web site, said she had received two or three calls telling her that those people would not be attending due to the severe inclement weather.

Wade told us that Board Member Tim Barfield would not be attending because he was in Pensacola attending to his sick mother, Junus Barfield. He said Mrs. Barfield had been admitted to a hospice this afternoon.

Peggy Pope, the Committee Head for Education, introduced Sue Noyes, President of the Southern Trail Riders. Mrs. Noyes then gave an interesting presentation, telling us about her organizations development and protection of public trails. She took several questions from members after her talk. Wade then asked Sherri to put information on our web site about the Southern Trail Riders.

The Chairwoman of the Awards Committee, Cindy Hughes, brought several sample items that she can get us for future awards needs. She said she would need two to six weeks to get an order ready. She suggested that if we have ribbons or awards engraved, or ribbons written on, if we keep the wording simple there would be less chance of mistakes. Other suggestions were ribbons, cash awards or gifts in kind (services).

No one from the show committee was present, therefore no report from them.

Board Member and Fund Raising Chairwoman, Leonia Maresch, passed a sheet around for members to sign up for her committee. She told us BBHA would have an information table at the upcoming Southern Music Rising Festival. She and her husband, Guenter, will "man the table" from 9 a.m. until noon, then asked if someone could take their place after that.

Leonia also spoke on the sponsorship packets she has made up. We can give them to people who want to donate money for our club. It was clarified that we are a NOT FOR PROFIT club and donations would be tax deductible. The packets are very attractive and professional.

Wade said he had talked to the county administrator today. He was told that the arena area probably will not be ready for our use until mid-summer. Also, the arena fence is up. The speakers stand is built and completed. The holding pond was in, but probably not in good shape now, since the recent rains. The sail had been seeded, but it had probably washed away, with the rain. Everyone agreed that the county road department has done a good job on the arena and surrounding grounds.

Trail riding was discussed. Vickie Johnson told us there are trails in Fanlew that are set up - at Natural Bridge Trails.

Wade ask if there are places in the area where we might hold an event. Board Member Doyle Conner said he, Charlie Driver and Sherri Dean all have arenas. Wade said we have trail obstacles. Sherri Dean said we could use her poles and drums.

Peggy Pope said she had invited the Mustang horse group and the Florida Whips to speak sometime.

The Watermelon Festival was discussed, whether some of our members wanted to ride in the parade on their horses, or whether we should have a float. We will discuss it at the next meeting.

Wade explained that we have a club event planned for May 30, 2009. It will be a BBQ and "Cowboy Trade Day." We had planned to hold it at the arena grounds, but were told it would not be ready for us to use it at that time. There will be an auction at the end of the day, with those proceeds going to the club. The club will provide the BBQ and sodas for the event. Everyone attending is to bring a covered dish, etc., and lawn chairs. No alcoholic beverages allowed, "per law". Wade announced the BBQ will be for members, family members, and invited guests of the club. Those attending need to get free tickets for the event, so we will know how many people will be attending and we can prepare for them. People can bring their trade goods and set up a table, in the back of a truck, on a blanket or wherever for the Cowboy Trade Day. Sherri Dean offered her farm for the event, to be held from 11 a.m until ? It was agreed that we will hold it at Sherri and Gordon's farm.

Winners in the drawing were: Doyle Conner won three computer mouse pads, along with Jane Essig and Sherri Dean. Doyle won the beautiful throw-blanket with the club's logo on it, created by J.C. Smith and generously given to the club for the fundraiser by her. We made \$35.00 from the drawings.

Meeting adjourned around 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Shepard.