

Meeting called to order at 12:30 p.m. by Mary de Greef, Treasurer
Meeting held at the Grand Oaks Resort in Weirsdale, FL

Treasurer's report: Mary de Greef

- General Fund - \$9453.63
- Northern - \$3608.16
- Panhandle - \$150.77
- Southeast - \$6458.81
- Southwest - \$3473.38

Membership Report: Kathie Beeson

- 228 members total
 - 117 Northern region
 - 8 Panhandle region
 - 58 Southeast region
 - 36 Southwest region
 - 9 out-of-state members

Advertising Chair: Harriet Jones (absent, no report)

Newsletter editor: Sioux Winters

- Needs content!!! Editor relies on people to send pictures, articles, etc. Please write activities up, send the article in using Microsoft Word, send pictures
- She will not send printed newsletters if less than 8 pages, or no paid advertisements

Regional Reports

Southeast Region: Eloise Nelson

- Regional Planning Meeting on June 13 At Eloise's house in Vero Beach 11 a.m.
- In June 2014, we had a carriage maintenance clinic at the Schneiders' farm. Bill laneiro discussed the maintenance on carriages.
- We had a series of 3 beginners clinics:
 - A long lining clinic at Wickham Park, Melbourne in July. We had 39 participants attend.
 - A clinic in Wellington in August
 - A clinic in Palm City in November
 - The clinics were funded by an ADS grant and funds from our club, so we could leave the cost low for participants.
- We also had a poker run and our 2nd annual scurry at Wickham Park, Melbourne in August and February.
- Our 2nd annual Midway Show was in November at St. Lucie Fairgrounds. It was a 2 day show this year. It included pleasure classes and an ADT format.

- Our Christmas Drive was in Wellington. It included a Christmas parade of carriages down South Shore, one of main streets in Wellington. We hope to expand on the parade this year and include riders too and get Wellington involved.
- Our Jupiter Fun Show was in January at Jupiter Horse Park. We only had 12 drivers, but we had several beginner drivers and I was able to compete with a pony for the first time.
- The 2nd annual Safari Drive was at Calusa Park, Palm Beach Gardens in March.
- We hope to continue the momentum of the past two years into the next one!

Northern Region: Linda Evans

- Regional Planning Meeting on Sunday June 28 noon and Linda Evans' house
- A regional report was summarized with "everything is already in the past." Instead, discussion turned to the cancellation of Camp Black Prong due to a date conflict and the rumor that Black Prong may have been sold. Because Camp Black Prong is not a Whips event or part of the Northern Region report, discussion was tabled until the New Business section of the meeting.

Southwest region: Linda Bennett

- Regional Planning Meeting Saturday June 7 at 3:00 at Cypress Keep
- Had a very successful camping trip arranged by Beverly Eckhardt.
- Our two competition events were cancelled because of flooding at Cypress Keep, and we will try to renew them the next year
- We plan on doing more drives in the parks and learning clinics, and another camping trip

Panhandle Region: Lauchlin Waldoch

- Regional Planning meeting and clinic on June 13th
- Will try for insurance, found trainer in our area, working with members - Mr. Rivers. We plan a ground driving clinic. She would like to continue as regional director. They plan to focus on their members for the newsletter, one each month, if there aren't other reports. Then they will try to do something once a quarter.

Old Business

- Facebook page – should we have a members only Facebook? Jan Petri started the Facebook page, and there are a few administrators. The Administrators need to set it up so that only members can post, or all posts have to be approved by the Admin (who would need to look at every post). And some people are NOT on Facebook, so we cannot rely on FB as the only source of information.
- How do we improve communication with the club? Using an email service? Such as Constant Contact? Email lists through Yahoo! Groups? Webpage needs to have Facebook link. The VP can coordinate with the webmaster. But better calendaring communications needs to take place, though both a membership-wide email system and the calendar option on FB.
- Need faces on the webpage! Also addresses for events, so anyone can figure out exactly where the location is. More consistency is needed with communications of events and communications about the newsletter being available - Email needs to be sent out when the newsletter is online.

Elections

Two officer board positions are up for filling; treasurer and secretary. One candidate for each position were volunteers/nominees; no other nominations came forward. By unanimous vote, the two officers are:

- Treasurer: Mary de Greef
- Secretary: Erika Matulich

New Business

- Erika Matulich explained the difficulties in calendaring for events because of two different levels of scheduling, first is the FEI-USEF-ADS setting of dates, which then allows for open dates for club-level (Whips) events. At the same time, there is a venue hierarchy, where places like the Florida Horse Park and Grand Oaks need to prioritize large and profitable shows with reserved dates.
- Tom Warriner emphasized that dates are golden, but there are dates available, and those dates are great uses for Whips events that encourage new drivers and help grow the sport. He also discussed that our new coordinator at USEF is interested in how to develop driving from the bottom rather than the top, which further supports Whips events that are fun, learning, or somehow develop drivers and start new drivers.
- Discussion took place about the conflict with Camp at Grand Oaks and the ADS Fall Fling HDT at the Florida Horse Park at the end of October. The Whips membership appeared to agree that we should try and have Camp Black Prong this fall anyway, it should be a Whips event, but would need to find new clinicians and possibly a new date. The issue will be brought up at the regional meetings to see how the regions can support Camp Black Prong.
- Agenda for August – Board meeting and open Whips weekend is set for August 15th, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

Submitted by Erika Matulich, Secretary