

**MINNESOTA DISTANCE RIDING ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES, FEBRUARY 9,2008  
BLUE HERON SUPPER CLUB, COLD SPRING, MN**

President Darlene Molitor called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. Other officer's present was as follows, Vice President, Dale Lunde, Treasurer, Sandy Noonan, Secretary, Holly Egerer.

*Secretary's Minutes*, from the last meeting were available both in the newsletter and copies were passed out to review; a motion was made by Bob Egerer to approve the minutes and was seconded by Dale Lunde, approved.

*Treasurer's Report*, Sandy Noonan reported that MnDRA had a successful year in 2007. The profits from the five MnDRA sponsored rides was \$4,577.97, membership was up in 2007 to 84 members from 70 members in 2006. The trail fund portion of our dues was \$136.00; Country Supply donated \$234.96 for a total trail fund of \$375.56. The Checking account balance as of 12/31/2007 was \$8,678.91. We have one outstanding check for \$200.00. Our net profit for the year was \$1,279.48.

**Committee Reports,**

*Newsletter*, Ken Meyer continues to do a great job of getting an entertaining and informative newsletter out on a regular basis. He has agreed to continue to do so for 2008. He has requested that people try to get him things to put in the newsletter such as milestones, fun stories, ect. Ken will continue to do the member profiles but he would also love to do some horse profiles.

*MnDRA web site*, Darlene extended a thank you to Dianne Mertz for all her hard work in getting the web site up and running as well as keeping it maintained.

*Awards*, Joan Thiel, Lynn Richert, and Dianne Schmidt did a great job with the awards for this past year. They would like some ideas from the members on good items to have for 2008. Holly Egerer suggested a new type of stethoscope that has an acrylic head that is hand painted with horse themes.

*Novice Rides and Clinics*, Lisa Simpson did an overview of the clinic held this fall in South Dakota. Most of the Minnesota rides now have a novice ride available and UMECRA will continue to have the Novice ride division for year-end awards.

*Horse Expo*, Chip Jack would like to try to get a larger and more visible banner for the booth this year. A motion was made by Ken Meyer to allow the board to decide on the costs and supplies needed for the expo, seconded and approved.

*Annual Banquet*, Joan Theil and Lynn Reichert organized the banquet for this year. Suzy Warren volunteered to organize the banquet for 2009.

*Advertising and Promotions*, Paula Goligowski said that there was really no activity with this done in the past year. It was suggested that most members have observed the best advertising has been the award jackets that are worn in public. It seems to get a lot of people to ask questions about the club and what we are about.

## **Unfinished Business**

Board meeting review, there are no big issues going on at this time that needed to be discussed. We did not receive any requests for the trail fund at this time. It was decided that requests could be sent to Darlene or any of the other board members and then sometime in April the board would determine which park to award the money for this year. If only one request is received then it would be awarded to that park.

Henry Gruber, owner of Hank's Hauser Spas in St. Cloud has offered to award his \$250.00 referral fee to be donated to MnDRA if a person is referred through MnDRA and purchases a hot tub or sauna package at his store. For every 12 referral sales an additional \$500.00 would be donated to MnDRA. At this time the money would just go into MnDRA's general fund. If we are financially sound it would be great to target some of that money into our trail fund to increase that as well.

The AERC convention will be on February 20 & 21 of 2009 in Louisville, Kentucky. Dates to keep in mind since it will much closer to home than usual.

Make sure that MnDRA ride managers get their ride points in to Dale Lunde promptly. You can just send him a copy of the UMECRA ones by E-mail or regular mail. He prefers E-mail if possible.

## **New Business**

Darlene went over the 2008 Minnesota ride schedule; Frostbite ride has been cancelled for this year. Point Chaser will be a week later than usual due to the Championship ride being held in Indiana on the usual weekend for Point Chaser.

Lynn Reichert wanted to mention that it would be helpful for people to get year end award ideas to her early so that they can plan them at the start of ride season and then people would know what they are working towards for year end awards. Lynn, Joan Thiel and Dianne Schmidt will continue to do the awards for 2008.

Theresa Meyer did an overview of the UMECRA general meeting. Dianne was re-elected to Regional Director. Sharon Hahn was elected to Rider Rep and she also will continue to do the UMECRA newsletter. The meeting in 2009 will be in the Wisconsin Dell's.

Barry Saylor explained his interest in starting a 100-mile event year-end award. He asked for help of any ideas for promoting 100 mile rides and increasing number of competitors.

Dianne has done a minor update/slight change to the MnDRA Logo and showed samples. Everyone agreed that the update was an improvement.

Election of Officers for 2008, there were two nominations for President, Darlene Molitor, the current officer and Cindy Lande. A paper vote was done and Darlene Molitor won by majority vote. There were no other nominations for the incumbent officer positions; therefore those will remain the same for 2008. Meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM

Respectfully submitted by Secretary, Holly Egerer  
Secretary for MnDRA