

## **ACPS Region IV Meeting – May 31, 2008 Pine Top Farm, Thomson, GA**

In Attendance at the cookout/meeting were the following members, friends and family: Kate Denton (SC), Carole Moss (TN), Vanessa Morgan (TN), Megan Harris (GA), Nancy and Randy Buchanan (GA), Cheryl Thorp (SC), Sally Eyles-Goldfarb, Nora, Maya, Margo & Michael Goldfarb (TN), Kim Lander and Martin (GA), Bud and Beanie Cowan (GA), Stephanie Fenton-Hickey (GA), The Rease Family Randy, Lisa, Hunter and Claire (AL), Susan McConnell (VA), Stephanie Keen and Jaime Gibson, Marynell Eyles (VA), Donna Duckworth (FL), Barbara (FL), Stephanie, Stephen and MacCallie Moore (TN), Jennifer, John, Nikki & Benjamin Scarpino (FL)

The meeting was called to order by the Regional Chair, Megan Harris.

### National and Regional Business:

Megan reported that the recent inspections in the region were very successful with 19 ponies presented, 17 of which were approved. MaryNell commented that the inspections were very well run with excellent organization and facilities.

Carole Moss agreed to manage the 2008 Regional Committee elections, with the final votes to be tabulated, and the Chairman in place by September 15, 2008.

Susan McConnell mentioned the current International classification system for registration of approved and unapproved Connemara ponies.

Henry O'Toole will be coming from Ireland to present an educational clinic at the ACPS Meeting in October. Details will be forthcoming from the ACPS with additional meeting information/announcements.

### Treasury

Stephanie Fenton-Hickey reported that the treasury began 2007 with a balance of \$10,662.27. Expenses for 2007 totaling \$4682.56, with income of \$3834, resulted in a balance of \$9,813.71 on December 31, 2007.

Discussion on the use of these funds included hosting an educational clinic for the Region. Megan informed members of a letter from Chris Knox, ACPS President, encouraging regions to hold combined regional clinics. Nancy Buchanon suggested placing ads in various publications to promote the breed.

Stephanie Fenton-Hickey motioned that a committee be formed to investigate the feasibility of having an Irish Judge for the next show and holding a ½ day clinic on Sunday after the show. The motion was seconded and approved by Vanessa Morgan. After discussion, the motion was revised and approved to forming a committee to investigate the feasibility of having a clinic with Jan Redman or Wendy Warner in conjunction with the next show. Donna Duckworth volunteered to lead that investigation.

Stephanie mentioned that the Region has not made a donation to the ACPS Scholarship fund for a couple years now.

### Promotional

The stallion DVD organized by Megan Harris on behalf of the region has sold very well. Several are still available for purchase. Megan suggested using some of the leftover footage for a general promotional DVD to use at trade fairs, etc. Members responded that this was a good idea.

The Promo box needs to be returned to a "keeper" Randy agreed to be that person because of his discounted Fed-X rates for shipping it back out. Sally will pass on the remaining ACPS promo brochures to Carole, with the note that the ACPS Secretary/Registrar address has changed on them.

Kate Denton is Chair of the new Hospitality committee-of-one to welcome new ACPS members in Region 4, and to inform them of activities and programs within the region and within the society..

### Annual Show

Everyone loved the 2008 show facilities and the members present voted to keep the same venue, date (the weekend after Memorial Day) and Show Secretary for next year. Megan was commended for her excellent job in pulling together the show this year without the help of a formal show committee and she expressed gratitude for all of the assistance she received from Stephanie. A show committee started to take place for 2009, to be lead by Megan and assisted by Kate Denton. Megan agreed to contact Pine Top to schedule again for next year. Donna Duckworth agreed to work on selecting judges for next year's show and Randy Rease was volunteered to assist with sponsorships. Cheryl Thorp suggested that local businesses should be contacted for sponsorships next year, as the sponsorship income for this year's show was down.

Show attendees were encouraged to write notes of appreciation to Glen at Pine Top and Ruth, the Show Secretary. Megan will send email contact information for such, to Jennifer Scarpino to distribute to the membership.

### Regional Store

Carole Moss reported on the activities of the Regional Store. A lot of items were sold at the recent Inspections, and Carole is open to suggestions and requests for additional items to carry. The current inventory includes mainly shirts, hats and cups. Carole suggested getting away from stocking shirts, due to the difficulty in having and appropriate variety of sizes available for sale. Suggestions were made to get stickers, magnets, saddle pads and more license plates made with the Region 4 Logo. Sally Goldfarb suggested and will look into Celtic Browbands. Megan will investigate Region 4 truck/trailer magnets. Carole will proceed with purchasing more license plates and will look into the cost and quality of white square all-purpose saddle pads embroidered with our logo.

Respectfully submitted,

Vanessa Morgan