New Mexico Dressage Association General Membership Meeting Mar. 8, 2014

Board Members Present: Cindy Kavan-Winfield, Cathy Soller, Rena Haynes, Barbara Burkhardt, Charlene Strickland, Virginia Gredell. Mary Jastrzemski, Marybeth Perez Soto, Anne Sparks, John Collins

Board Members Absent: Cynthia Ramsey, Donald Simpson

Members Present: Danny Sal Da Na, Maribeth Reising, Lily Luman, Susan Reed, Karen Page, Duane Hilborn, Cynthia Begay, Laurel Peters, Karen Nord, DJ Collins

Introductions: All attending introduced themselves.

Officers' and Committee Reports

Overview of the Year: Cindy summarized the banquet, the member survey with 40 responses, the cancelled March show, and the clinics planned for 2014.

Treasurer: Rena updated status of three funds: General; scholarship, now education; and the L Program.

L Program: Marybeth reported that Part II participants will be at the May, July, and October recognized shows, with scribes needed for all three sessions. Ideally each participant will have the same scribe at each session. Prize money for riders will be split across the three shows to three champions, who must ride two tests 3 at the show. L judge candidates can only judge the highest test at a level; prize money encourages entries. Each candidate needs to judge at least seven rides per level each day.

Schooling Shows: Mary discussed the Los Alamos show, and that we still need some volunteers from Santa Fe.

Membership: Virginia reported 126 members, good numbers for this time of year.

Junior and Young Riders: No report.

Publicity: John says he is posting calendars and on FB. Suggestions: (1) Ask Harold Baskin to add other events to our calendar; (2) Recruit young members to do Facebook and Twitter postings; (2). Present demos at breed shows at lunchtime and talk to interested people.

Education: Anne discussed education ideas like saddle design, a spa day horse fair with different experts, bitting, braiding, wrapping, what to do till the vet arrives, and a farrier demonstrating how to pull off a shoe. These could be with evening potlucks in summer, either Wednesdays or Fridays at Horses Unlimited. The photo workshop is listed on the Web site; a committee will plan the followup photo contest.

Year-End Awards: Barbara reported that volunteers at schooling shows receive educational vouchers they can apply to clinics and raffle tickets at the banquet. Award categories changed slightly to (1) schooling show scores (best three from three different shows, one from test 3) or (2) recognized show scores (three best from three different judges, one from test 3). A rider may qualify for both, with a division declared: open, adult amateur or junior. Question about why no awards for Western Dressage: Until enough competitors show, NMDA does not offer year end awards at this time. We use USEF rules for schooling shows now, and WDAA is a USEF affiliate. Barbara will list show standings once a month, with all members listed who get a score in any show.

Cathy said the 2015 banquet will be at Tanoan again. Awards for champions will be scrim sheets.

Round Table Discussion

The survey was four categories. Ride-reride will be included in the September clinic. The mentorship program was Danny's idea.

Mary commented about a survey request to have more events in North Valley; it could be run at Magic Acres to see how a ride-reride clinic would work, with one rider at a time who then departs to make parking more available.