

The General Membership State Meeting of the Ohio Horseman's Council was held on November 10, 2018 at the Eagles Club, 127 E William St, Delaware OH 43015. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by the President, Arden Sims. Secretary, Catherine Estill, was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Arden thanked the OHC Youth Program for hosting. The Northwest Region will host next meeting, on March 9, 2019.

Secretary Catherine Estill

- Roll call: 38 of 65 chapters were represented, check list on file.
- Attendance total was 175+ (per circulated attendance sheets and meals purchased)
- Minutes of the March general membership meeting had been posted online and were approved as written.

Guest Speaker, Tom Arbour, ODNR Trail Coordinator. Trail plan for state of Ohio.

- Trail history: Indian trails. Canals.
- OTP (Ohio Trails Partnership) & State Senators Sean O'Brien and Steve Wilson established the Ohio Legislative Trails Caucus, first of its kind in the country.
- General Assembly (Senate & House) resolution designated 2018 as "Ohio's Year of the Trails": Promotes trails. Recognizes volunteers.
- Webpage: trails.ohiodnr.gov. Trail maps and calendar of events.
- Trails survey results (over 7,000 responses). Improved amenities (eg, campgrounds) a priority. Increasing use of trails statewide. Work together to build and maintain trails.

Discussion followed: List of caucus members requested for individual chapters to contact. Better signage. Safety issue of non-horse families camping in horse areas.

Treasurer Jo Ellen Reikowski presented the 2018 YTD & 2019 budget, report on file. Motion to approve, Paul Ayres, seconded by Chuck Latham, approved.

- 2018 Expenses as of 10/31/18 were \$73,315.34. Under the budgeted \$85,440.00. 2019 budget: \$93,975.00.
- Provided handouts of *OHC Payment Guidelines* and *Instructions for County Treasurers*, handouts on file. (Both documents available on www.ohconline.com, under menu tab Filing Cabinet/Information.)

Committee Reports:

Bylaws, Eric Estill

Presented two proposed OHC Bylaw amendment changes. See attached Resolutions for complete wording.

1. Lifetime Membership Amendment Resolution

- Clarifies who is eligible to receive the Lifetime Membership Award
- Makes Regional Representatives eligible to receive the Lifetime Membership Award
- Grants Lifetime Membership Award approval authority to the Executive Cabinet

Motion by Eric Estill, seconded by Cindy Barnett. Motion approved.

Merit Award Committee is reviewing eligibility guidelines.

2. State Treasurer Term Limit Elimination Resolution

- Removes the term limit restriction from the office of OHC State Treasurer

Motion by Eric Estill, seconded by Penny Passalacqua. Motion approved with 2 opposed (Bill Craft, Craig Santee).

Merit Awards, Rick Patterson. Lifetime membership eligibility considerations: define “good standing”?

- Merit Award: Ann Fredericks, Hamilton County chapter President
- Lifetime Membership Award: Jo Ellen Reikowski, State Treasurer
- Lifetime Membership Award: Rick Patterson (past President)

Nominating, Bill Craft. Election of State Officers.

President: Eric Estill, VP: Jim Wallace, Treasurer, Jo Ellen Reikowski. Unanimously approved.

Lunch – Grace, Mike Gerard

In memoriam: Jim Cooper’s wife passed away, sympathy card to sign. Jeff Schmitt (wife Laura) passed away.

Trail Mileage Awards, Ann Lindimore.

Lois Wallace, Washington County chapter, earned \$25,000 miles buckle and plaque

HitAir safety vest, Kimberly Farley

Mary Alice Kuhn and Jim Wallace demonstrated the inflation of a HitAir safety vest.

OTP, AHC, Legislative Trail Caucus, Tom Green & Eric Estill

Ohio Trails Partnership (OTP) meeting every other month, discussing policy issues.

Concern expressed by members regarding compatibility issues of non-horse folks’ camp and trail use with horses.

Promotions, Mary Alice Kuhn

- Postcard mailed to all members, promoting online membership registration.
- “Caretakers of the great outdoors” trail riding and trail maintenance.
- New OHC decals available @ \$1.50.

Historian, Laura Wallace

Send in chapter information to be archived.

Membership, Catherine Estill

2018: 2,365 memberships; 3,801 members

Youth Scholarship Program, Jackie Romaker

Essay winners:

- Senior Division, Hope Fetherolf, Madison County chapter, \$500
- Junior Division, Preston Freeman, Clark County chapter, \$200
- Buckaroo, Lanie Freeman, Clark County chapter, \$50
- Best Essay, Jo (Kingsley?), Meigs County chapter, \$25
- Best Poster, Katrina Strayton, Union County chapter, \$25

Directors, Mary Alice, Larry Mathews & Mike Gerard

- 2019 State Meeting Schedule: Saturday, March 9 (NW Region) and Sunday, Nov 10 (SW Region)
- Larry Mathews acknowledged Arden Sims, outgoing State President, for his accomplishments

Online Registration Overview, Eric Estill

Presentation of online membership renewal.

Online Registration Breakout Session for Chapter Treasurers and Membership Chairs, Eric Estill

Audio-visual instructional presentation in downstairs room for chapter treasurers and membership chairs, concurrent with remainder of meeting upstairs.

Trails, Don Wagner

- New email address to turn in trail work hours to Vicki Wagner: ohcworkhours@yahoo.com
- Improvements made at Hocking
- Work to be done at Great Seal on switchback trail on Sugarloaf Mtn
- Grant recipients need to send in receipts and photos of project completion
- 2019 grant applications s must be postmarked by January 12, 2019

Question from Miami County chapter, flora298@gmail.com, about what signage, if any, is there for horse trails that cross state highways.

Regional Representatives

- SE - Don Wagner, 2 area meetings per year. Next March 15
- NE - Jim Wallace, meeting Jan 26. His term is expiring, new representative needed.
- SW - Cindy Barnett, new trails at Caesar Ford Reserve in Greene County. Trails for ATV use being provided at Shawnee in exchange for additional horse trails. Cindy's term is expiring, Kris Green nominated as new representative.
- NW - Al Sidell, successful state ride at Van Buren State Park in September.
- Central - Ann Beathard, term s expiring, needs new rep. Theresa Burke and Becky Porter nominated. Ann expressed gratitude for experience; getting out of horses now to spend more time with extended family.

State Rides 2019, Jack Weese

Information from chapters due now to Jack.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.

Catherine Estill,
State OHC Secretary

50/50 Raffle: Paul McDaniels, Meigs County chapter, won \$200

Framed artwork Raffle: Claudia Sims, Washington County chapter

Proposed Bylaws changes:

1. Lifetime Membership Amendment Resolution

Whereas the OHC Executive Cabinet would like to streamline the Lifetime membership award by allowing the Executive Cabinet to vote to approve Lifetime membership awards recommended by the Merit Awards Committee, and

Whereas the OHC Executive Cabinet would also allow Regional Mentors to be eligible to receive the Lifetime Membership Award, and

Whereas it may not be clear what is intended in the current Bylaws by the words "State officer", and

Whereas it is the current practice that Lifetime members must pay additional chapter assessments and this is not clearly stated in the Bylaws, then,

Resolve to amend paragraph 4.9.1 of the OHC Bylaws

From:

4.9.1 Any person over the age of eighteen (18) who has rendered important service toward meeting the goals of OHC, has been a member in good standing for a minimum of five (5) years and has held the position of state officer, committee chairperson or committee member for at least two (2) years, may be awarded a Lifetime Membership on the recommendation of the Merit Awards Committee, if approved by a majority of those members voting at a General Membership meeting. Lifetime Members are exempt from paying dues and shall be entitled to one (1) vote and may hold office if eligible under Article V. A lifetime member is exempt from paying dues to the state or to his or her primary county chapter.

To:

4.9.1 Any person over the age of eighteen (18) who has rendered important service toward meeting the goals of OHC, has been a member in good standing for a minimum of five (5) years and has held the position of state officer or **state director, as listed in Article V; regional mentor; state committee chairperson or state committee member** for at least two (2) years, may be awarded a Lifetime Membership on the recommendation of the Merit Awards Committee, if approved **by a majority vote of Executive Cabinet**. Lifetime Members are exempt from paying dues and shall be entitled to one (1) vote and may hold office if eligible under Article V. A lifetime member is exempt from paying dues to the state or to his or her primary county chapter. **Lifetime members must pay any additional chapter assessment.**

2. State Treasurer Term Limit Elimination Resolution

Whereas the office of the State Treasurer requires special skills and experience to properly execute the duties of the office, and

Whereas it is often difficult to find a member with these special skills and experience to accept the office of State Treasurer, then

Resolve to amend the OHC Bylaws to eliminate the term limits of the office of State Treasurer by amending paragraph 4.9.1 of the OHC Bylaws

From:

5.1.7 No member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive elected terms in the same state office.

To:

5.1.7 No member shall serve **as President, Vice President, Secretary, or Regional Representative** for more than two (2) consecutive elected terms in the same state office. **A member may serve as treasurer for multiple terms without limit.**