

The General Membership State Meeting of the Ohio Horseman’s Council was held on March 9, 2019 at the Eagles Lodge, 127 E William St, Delaware, OH 43015. The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM by the President, Eric Estill. Secretary, Catherine Estill, was present. The Pledge of Allegiance was said. Eric announced the changes in 2019 State Officers and Committee Chairs.

Secretary, Catherine Estill, read the roll call. 35 of 63 chapters were represented, report on file.

Attendance was approximately 120 (105 lunches served, plus attendees not purchasing lunch).

Minutes of previous meeting had been posted online. Motion for approval as written made by Penny Passalacqua, seconded by Cindy Barnett, and approved.

Membership, Catherine Estill. Per online records for 2019 as of 3/3/19, there are 2,037 memberships (Individual, Family, Youth and Associate) and 3,108 members. Total for 2018 was 3,546.

Treasurer, JoEllen Reikowski. Reviewed 2018 income and expenses and 2019 to date. Report on file. OHC logo registration renewed for another 5 years with Ohio Secretary of State.

Bylaws, Jim Wallace. Presented a motion to amend the Standing Rules, as recommended by the Bylaws Committee, to reduce the Youth membership dues from \$20 to \$10 for the 2020 membership year. Seconded by Penny Passalacqua, the motion carried.

Section 2.0 Membership Dues: Amend Paragraph 2.1 as Follows:

Change From:

2.1 Annual dues are:	Individual	\$20.00
	Family	\$30.00
	Youth	\$20.00
	Associate	\$35.00

To:

2.1 Annual dues are:	Individual	\$20.00
	Family	\$30.00
	Youth	\$10.00
	Associate	\$35.00

Section 2.0 Membership Dues: Add the following:

2.2 The annual dues payment shall be split as follows:

Membership Type	Dues Amount	State Portion	Chapter Portion
Individual	\$20.00	\$17.00	\$3.00
Family	\$30.00	\$25.00	\$5.00
Youth	\$10.00	\$7.00	\$3.00
Associate	\$35.00	\$29.00	\$6.00

Merit Awards, Vicki Wagner, on behalf of Committee Chair Rick Patterson. A Lifetime Membership award was presented to Penny Passalacqua, Northeast Regional Mentor, an OHC member since 1991, member of the Cuyahoga County chapter.

Trail Mileage & Saddle Hours, Anne Lindimore. Report on file.

Eric Estill announced he will get an estimate for a new app to report miles and hours (including work hours) on a smartphone or tablet, linked directly to the OHC database in the website.

Anne Lindimore announced the Youth top 10 will receive \$10 and a pendant “I’d rather be riding”. Adults receive patches. Recognition will be posted on website.

- 26.8% of members reported.
- 46 chapters reported
- 951 members reported
- Number of saddle hours reported were up 20%

Legal Affairs, Tom Green.

- Ohio Trails Partnership (OTP): 6 advocate groups of non-motorized trail users, meet every other month in Columbus. Tom and Eric attend. OTP is now incorporated as a non-profit organization.
- Trails Advisory Committee. Tom Arbour, Chair, drafted an Ohio Trails Vision document, which has been reviewed by the committee and comments submitted. Revised document to be presented to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) leadership for review.
- Ohio Legislative Trails Caucus for funding recreational trails, 45 legislators on board. March 20th event at the state capital.
- New ODNR Director, Mary Mertz. Proposed increase in ODNR 2020 budget for state park operations. OHC can provide information for new enhanced trails website. trails.ohio.org
- Larry Mathews suggested estimating a \$value of our volunteer hours to present to the state.

Grant Program, Don Wagner. New method of evaluating and awarding grants: Send new form for grant request first to Regional Representative. Deadline for 2020 grants is October 31, 2019. The 2019 winners are posted on website.

JoEllen Reikowski announced a \$10,000 donation to OHC from member Bob Eckstein (Stark County chapter) for campsite and trails at Tappan Lake.

Work Hours, Vicki Wagner. Work hours reported are down. 8,996.5 for 2018, 23 chapters reported.* (*Vicki submitted revised report on 3/19/19, with 10,305.25 work hours and 2,777.5 equipment hours, 26 chapters reporting). May report hours working, traveling, preparation. Include equipment used and how many hours equipment operated. Submit to Vicki at ohcworkhours@yahoo.com

- Top 4: Delaware, 1739 hours; Warren 1,181; Wood 917; Summit 832
- Top parks: Alum Creek, Van Buren, Caesar Creek
- Discussion: Are individual park managers informed of volunteer hours? How to get more of the work hours reported by chapters? Eric will provide information on the website of what can be reported.

Guests. Eric Estill acknowledged representatives present for HitAir vests and LegUp Saddle Pad.

Al Sidell, Northwest Regional Representative and meeting host, awarded Logan County \$40 for having the most attendees at today's meeting.

LUNCH. Comments from LegUp Saddle Pad presenter, Jim Williams.

Communications, Mary Alice Kuhn, on behalf of Committee Chair Theresa Burke. Report on file.

Thanks to Janet Fox for accepting Corral Liaison position. Encouraged chapters to post event flyers on OHC's Facebook page. Horse Power newsletter will be in April's Horsemen's Corral.

Equine Affaire, Mary Alice Kuhn (JoEllen Reikowski, Theresa Burke).

Slide show presentation of the new look for the OHC booth: seating area, wall-size Ohio map with trail locations. Volunteer sign-up on the OHC website.

Website, Mary Alice Kuhn. Slide show presentation of the new OHC website design. Implement and testing phase next. Summertime launch. Public information section and Members only section.

Catherine Estill reminded chapters that, in addition to the documents available on the OHC website, printed membership documents are available from her on request.

Regional Representatives

- Nancy Strayer, NE Reg Rep. January regional meeting. Schedule another mtg: August. Cookie promotion. Grant programs: Geauga, Richfield Heritage Reserve parking area and Jefferson Lake trails. 2 state rides, Cuyahoga Valley, Aug 16-18 and Mohican, Sept 13-15, plus regional rides. Holmes County Fairgrounds: Horsemen's Mission Nov 14-16
- Al Sidell, NW Reg Rep. Welcomed new officers in Allen County, thanked Bakers' for past service. Johnny Appleseed Park improvements, Ohio-to-Erie trail. Reg mtg at Findlay College, student ranch show, March 23. Wood County grant, trail work. Hosting State Ride, Van Buren State Park, Sept 27-29. Erie County grant, Edison Woods trail, campground and parking improvements. Fulton County, Oak Openings. 4-H and driving activities, Sandusky, adding trail miles. Auglaize County interested in re-starting chapter.
- Becky Porter, Central Reg Rep. Trail work at Hocking Hills, Kaiser Lake. Deer Creek, new trails, Rocky Fork MetroPark, increased trails to 12 miles. State Ride, Scioto Trails, Aug 30-Sept 2. Gibby Ride, Barkcamp State Park, August 2-4.
- Kris Green, SW Reg Rep. Thanked Cindy Barnett for her many years' service as reg rep. New trails in Greene County at Caesar's Ford. Grants to Butler County, Siebold Park and Montgomery County, Sycamore State Park, for trail re-routing. Miami County grant, Honey Creek Preserve. Warren County's Over-the-Hill Gang, trail work at Caesar Creek State Park. State Rides, Greene County, Caesar Creek, June 7-9, and Preble County, Hueston Woods, Oct 4-6.
- Don Wagner, SE Reg Rep. Facebook: SoutheastRegionOHC. Perry County grant, Burr Oak culverts. Stone Church, Dillon clean-ups.
- Eric thanked current Executive Cabinet of officers, Directors and Regional Representatives.

History, Laura Wallace. Drawing for Equine Affaire tickets, for chapters who submitted information to the archives, awarded to Portage County and Summit County. Submissions to historicalohc@ohconline.com

Announcements

Eric Estill asked for photos of trail work to include in presentation to ODNR.

Nancy Strayer, on behalf of Janet Fox, asked that chapters send their *County Lines* Corral articles to Janet as early as possible to give her time to review: janet.ohc.corral.editor@gmail.com

Penny Passalacqua announced another Cleveland MetroParks Rangers Beach Ride, Lake Erie, Sept 15. Waiting list.

Jim Wallace, horse campground reservations, plan ahead at popular locations. Sign in at campgrounds so parks have documented use.

Next meeting, Sunday, November 10, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:14 PM.

Catherine Estill,
OHC Secretary

Note: Reports on file are available upon request.