

The fall **State Ohio Horseman's Council (OHC) General Membership Meeting** was held on November 9, 2024, at the Eagles Club #376, 127 E William Street, Delaware, Ohio. The meeting, hosted by the Northwest Region, was called to order at 10:32 am by the President, Mary Alice Kuhn. She welcomed new members to the meeting and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Secretary & Membership Chair, Catherine Estill

- Read the chapter roll call. 45 of 62 chapters and At Large were represented. Attendance totaled 169 members (sign-in taken at the door by hosting Northwest Region) plus 5 guests.
- Membership numbers presented. As of 9/26/2024, 2,297 memberships (3,492 members) for 2024. This is a 7% increase over 2023. Membership report on file. 634 memberships for 2025 to date.
- Reviewed Chapter Reminders of report deadlines. Document posted on the OHC website.
- A motion was made by Brent DeWees to accept the minutes of the previous meeting (March 9, 2024) as written (and posted on the OHC website). Seconded by Cindy Barnett. Motion approved.

President, Mary Alice Kuhn. Meeting handout on file.

- Announced that the silent auction and NW baked goods auction will be held at the end of the meeting.
- Asked that members' comments and suggestions be submitted on colored note paper provided.
- "Membership, Partnership, Communication, Quick Hits" (4 areas of focus for 2024)
 - Thanked chapters for their efforts in increased 2024 memberships, especially with Associate Groups.
 - Acknowledged chapter partnerships for shared events.
 - Encouraged communications between chapters, regions and state OHC
 - New BillPay program for the state OHC treasurer reimbursing chapters.
 - New promotional slogan: "Making Ohio Better Four Hooves at a Time!"
- Reported on October 8th meeting of Ohio State Parks personnel with OHC President Mary Alice Kuhn and VP Nancy Strayer. Discussed trails shared by horses and bikes/e-bikes and non-horsemen campers in horse campgrounds, and how to adapt both horse and human behaviors.

Guest speakers: Chief Glenn Cobb, Assistant Chief Jon Dobney, Natural Resources Administrator Jayne Maxwell and Program Administrator Judi Goss.

- Chief Glenn Cobs - Reported on Ohio State Parks. Increased usage since Covid, and increased demand for campground amenities. Funding from the state budget, watercraft registrations and camping fees.
- Jon Dobney - Acknowledged Greene County OHC chapter's work creating Caesar's Ford Park near Xenia. 2024 is ODNR/Ohio State Park's 75th anniversary. \$10,000 grant to parks on for OHC projects, uses to be determined. #ODNR connects to the Columbus dispatch center. (App "What3Words" used by first responders for locating callers) Q&A's. Asked for feedback on issues in campgrounds and trails.

LUNCH. Blessing by Brent DeWees.

Vice President, Nancy Strayer.

- Send her changes to Ohio Park trail maps
- Reviewed work and meetings by OHC officers and Ohio Trails Partnership (OTP)
- OuterSpacial app for state park trails shows your location
- \$10,000 grant from ODNR – to be spent by 6/1/2025 (ODNR fiscal year). Talk with your Ohio State Park manager. Apply as for OHC grant (application from Bobbi Arters or online) by 12/15/2024.

Treasurer, Margaret Hite and **Finance Chair**, Arden Sims.

- Reviewed the 2025 budget. Arden made a motion to accept the budget. Brent DeWees seconded. Motion approved. Financial report on file.
- Thanks to Margaret Hite and JoEllen Reikowski for tax preparation, saving OHC the expense of hiring a CPA.

OHC Foundation, Arden Sims and Foundation treasurer Bobbi Arters.

Arden Sims presented a financial report. Bobbi Arters asked chapters to suggest how to spend undesignated OHC Foundation donations.

Bylaws, Jim Wallace. OHC Standing Rules amendment

Proposal to revise the Associate Group membership dues split as follows:

Under Article 2.0: MEMBERSHIP DUES, change 2.2

From:

2.2 The annual dues payment shall be split as follows:

Membership Type	Dues Amount	State Portion	Chapter Portion
Individual	\$25.00	\$22.00	\$3.00
Family	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$5.00
Youth	\$10.00	\$7.00	\$3.00
Associate Group	\$40.00	\$34.00	\$6.00

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Jim Wallace moved to change the Associate Group dues state/chapter portion split to \$20/\$20. Seconded by Jamie Osborne. Catherine Estill moved to amend the motion to make the change retroactive to 10/1/2024 for 2025 memberships. Al Sidell seconded. Motion as amended approved.

Nominations Committee Chair, Arden Sims - Regional Representatives elections. Nominees:

- **SW-** Cindy Barnett (incumbent)
- **NE-** Penny Passalacqua
- **Central-** Craig Santee (incumbent)
- **NW-** Al Sidell (incumbent) - Northwest Region has elected Al Sidell.
- **SE-** Mark Westlake (incumbent), Eddie Wolfe, Neal Dicken

New Business:

- Midwinter meeting, January 11, 2025, Doubletree Hotel, Newark OH
- Spring State OHC general membership meeting, March 8, 2025, Elks Club, Newark OH, hosted by the Southeast Region.
- Equine Affaire, April 10-13, 2025
- New: Junior Ambassador Club. Jeannie Nichols (Greene County OHC) introduced 2 new club members in attendance. Becca Setzer spoke about her daughters' ambassador activities. Info sheet on file.

Merit Awards, Rick Patterson

- Regional Merit Awards
 - NW – John Meyers, Woods County OHC
 - NE – Rosemary Young, Medina County
 - SE – Brent DeWees, Washington County OHC
 - SW – Tim Shephard, Clermont County OHC
 - Central – Linda Imke, Champaign County OHC
- Chris Streitenberger, Fairfield County OHC
- Daryl McKay, Washington County OHC
- Nancy Strayer, Wayne County OHC
- Regional Representative awards presented by Mary Alice Kuhn
 - Caps to each Regional Representative
 - Gifts to Cindy Barnett (Southwest Region) and Mark Westlake (Southeast Region) for the 2024 Membership Drive
- Non-member award to Ryan Shalashnow, South Chagrin Reservation Manager, Cleveland MetroParks

Raffle winners

- 50/50 Raffle: \$305 to Peggy Costic, Ashland County OHC (donated \$205 to OHC Foundation)
- Small quilt: Becky Porter, Logan County OHC

Baked Goods Live Auction. Joe Coalter, Auctioneer.

- For item that brings the most money: 25% to Chapter, 25% to State Grants, 50% to Buyer; \$500 bid for apple pie with ice cream and coffee, Jack Collins donated his 50% to State Grants
- Other items: 100% to State Grants

A motion was made by Cindy Barnett to adjourn at 3:17 PM and seconded by Charlene Santee. Motion approved.

Submitted by
Catherine Estill
OHC Secretary