

*Minutes of the
North Central Morgan Association Board Meeting
April 11, 2006*

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Terry Sanborn at 7:10 PM. Board members present were Terry Sanborn, Robin Becklin, Michele Damrow, Marcy Eickholt, and VeeAnn Wood. Directors present were Steve Bobzin and Arlene Berzins. Committee Chairs present were Janise Sanborn and Dave Eide. General member present was Jackie DelFavero.

Review of Minutes from Last Meeting

On a motion by Marcy Eickholt and a second from VeeAnn Wood, the minutes of the March 14, 2006, Board meeting were approved with no revision.

Reports of Executive Officers

President – Terry Sanborn reported that he has had on-going conversations with AMHA and that everything within the club is running smoothly.

Vice President - Robin Becklin reported that Breeder's and Futurity Forum held at the Clinic on April 1, 2006, at Champps in Maplewood was a success and that a follow-up meeting will be held in conjunction with the activities of the Horse Expo on Saturday evening, April 29, 2006, the location of which is yet to be determined. She also stated that there are preliminary plans to develop a website, with the assistance of Roger White and Mark Whitzany of Mirabella Farm, that could possibly link with the AMHA and NCMA websites, the cost of which will be charged to the featured farms/breeders.

Treasurer - Marcy Eickholt presented the April 11, 2006, financial report with YTD income of \$25,464 and YTD expenses of \$10,374. The checking account balance as of April 11, 2006, was \$9,428, and savings balances in High Point, NCMA Promotional, 7 month CD, and 6 month CD, were \$1,768, \$4,133, \$2,032, and \$5,000, respectively.

Marcy Eickholt inquired what should be done with the 7 month CD which was coming due. After discussing several scenarios, Dave Eide made a motion to close the 7 month CD account when it comes due and transfer the funds into the Promotional account and later evaluate the best use of the funds after the North Star Show. The motion was seconded by Michele Damrow and the motion passed.

Marcy Eickholt also introduced general member Jackie DelFavero from Hardwood Creek, who helped behind the scenes at the January 2006 Banquet, and who would like to become more involved in NCMA.

Marcy Eickholt reported that she opened a Fall Kandi Klassic Show checking account with the \$600 award check for the AMHA Club of the Year and that she will consult with Mona Bonham to clarify any questions or procedures regarding bill payment for the show.

The motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Carl Hartell, was seconded by Arlene Berzins, and was passed.

Secretary - Michele Damrow reported that she had a request from a member to have the minutes of the board meetings available for dissemination to the membership. After much discussion, it was decided that the most expedient and cost effective method was to post the approved board minutes on the NCMA website, commencing with the approved minutes of March 14, 2006.

President Emeritus - VeeAnn Wood reported that she gave the eulogy at Linda MacAloon's funeral service and noted that several past and present NCMA members attended, including Sarah Moses, Jo Miller, Kathy Ericson, Barb Kelly, and Caroline Winslow. NCMA sent a hydrangea plant to the funeral.

VeeAnn Wood also presented the Board with pictures of Basswood's Valiant Boy ("Brian"), a Morgan We Can Ride therapy horse that she nominated and which won Therapy Horse of the Year in 2006.

Reports of Directors

District 6 - Carl Hartell reported that he participated in the NCMA Clinic and that there was nothing new to report due to a slow spring.

District 3 - Steve Bobzin reported having attended the clinic.

District 5 – Jackie Sweeney, via e-mail, reported that Linda MacAloon passed away.

Director at Large – Arlene Berzins reported that she attended Jay-Lo and that there was good representation by Morgan owners, with approximately 20 Morgans at the show with as many as three to seven Morgans per class.

Reports of Committee Chairs

Newsletter – Terry Sanborn reported that the newsletter will be advertising a "Classified" section with reduced costs of 40 cents per word for one month, or 30 cents per word for two consecutive months. These reduced rates are for a two-month trial basis.

Terry Sanborn reported that the Barn Profiles will no longer be contained within the youth section of the newsletter, and Angela Porter has volunteered to assume responsibility for writing the Barn Profile article.

Michele Damrow will be writing a "Getting to Know You" section in the newsletter which will be a one or two paragraph article and corresponding photograph featuring NCMA members.

Terry Sanborn reported that there is approximately \$4,000 in advertising revenue so far this year and that the covers for 2007 are available except for December.

Website – Terry Sanborn reported that the NCMA website would be interested in working with the Breeder's group for a "horses for sale" link but there would be limitations because of space allocations. Terry further stated that ground rules would need to be established as to who would qualify as a "barn" for those interested in having their barn featured on the site. Steve Bobzin noted that if a links page is created a barn could not be listed unless there is a link to an available website for that specific barn. Robin Becklin stated that the smaller breeders would be covered under the Breeder's group.

Show Committees

Trail Horse Clinic at Midwest Morgan Classic – Terry Sanborn reported that the Midwest Morgan Classic will be hosting a Trail Clinic at the cost of \$30 on Friday evening, May 5, 2006, the proceeds of which will directly benefit NCMA. Lauren Damrow, Michele Damrow, and Steve Bobzin will assist as needed during this fundraiser.

Kandi Klassic Spring – Terry Sanborn reported that volunteers are needed for the spring show.

North Star Show Committee – Terry Sanborn inquired about possible alternatives to fund the cost of morning donuts and center ring refreshments, the cost of which is approximately \$250 to \$400. After much discussion, it was decided to take this back to the North Star show committee.

Terry Sanborn reported that a 50th anniversary press release was sent out to AMHA, Saddle Horse Report, Morgan Connection, Horsecworld, and the Morgan Horse, among others. The AMHA will be posting the information on its website. Terry Sanborn also shared promotional ideas with a representative of the Mid A Show, which is also hosting its 50th anniversary show.

Terry Sanborn reported that he is working on the past champion list and will put the listing out on e-mail and/or the website, and that there is a retirement ceremony for Tug Hill Alibi and a \$2,000 yearling class at this year's show. Robin Becklin also reported that there will be a dunk tank.

Terry Sanborn reported that Sarah Moses requested volunteers for the show, asked that the placard orders be to Mary Todd as soon as possible, and that sponsorships calls needed to be done by the following week. Terry Sanborn also stated that the Huffords and Lowry Stables are planning to attend the show.

Michele Damrow reported that there is concern by several people that the band will be set up in the main aisle of the barn. The concern is that the commotion will be upsetting to the horses and allow them little sleep. Robin Becklin stated that there is a possibility of having it in another location, however attendance would not be as great because it would be difficult to draw the people back out of the barn. Dave Eide suggested using a donated tent outside with free advertising to the donor.

VeeAnn Wood mentioned that she would like a press release for the Children's Hospital Benefit event.

Terry Sanborn reminded everyone of the North Star show committee meeting on Tuesday, April 18, 2006, at 7:00 PM at the Olive Garden on 394.

Futurity – Robin Becklin clarified that the classes that were split between North Star (performance) and the All Morgan (halter) are on a trial basis for this year only. Terry Sanborn noted that we need to keep track of the income this change is costing North Star. Robin Becklin noted that the program needs to be held at a later date in order to keep it going. VeeAnn Wood stated that if the program is moved to a later date it needs to be in a nicer facility than Sauke Centre and it cannot be held too close in time to Nationals or Jubilee.

High Point – Janise Sanborn reported incoming High Point results in the Dressage division.

April 1 Trainers' Clinic – Michele Damrow reported that there was an overwhelming positive response to the clinic, from both attendees and trainers, and the only negative comment she heard was regarding the mud in the parking lot. Michele Damrow mentioned that she knew of three trainers who picked up new clients at the show and presented Janise Sanborn with many thank you's and congratulatory notes for the NCMA scrapbook from satisfied attendees and trainers. Michele Damrow also noted that the Clinic

brought in many new faces and she credited and thanked everyone who contributed to the clinic's success. Steve Bobzin stated that the panel discussions were a bit disappointing, but overall a success.

Marcy Eickholt enthusiastically reported that income as of April 11, 2006, from the clinic was approximately \$6,107 (of which \$1,000 was collectively fronted by NCMA and North Star) and that expenses were approximately \$1,904, leaving a profit of approximately \$4,193. Marcy Eickholt also qualified that these dollar amounts depend on two outstanding bills and an audit fee which are yet to be received, therefore, the final clinic financial results are not finalized. Marcy Eickholt further stated that the proceeds from the clinic will be split between NCMA and North Star and that thank you cards were mailed on April 5, 2006, to those individuals who either donated equipment or their time.

VeeAnn Wood expressed her concern about volunteers having to pay. Michele Damrow stated that the clinic was a fundraiser and that there is no fair way to determine who should pay and who should not because some people put in countless hours of time whereas others just a few minutes, yet both could theoretically expect to get in for free.

Membership – Marcy Eickholt reported that, thanks to Steve Bobzin's idea of sending out reminder letters, membership is at 147, and High Point is at 101. Marcy Eickholt further stated that only 56 memberships have not renewed from 2005 and that she took copies of the newsletter with membership applications to Jay-Lo in an effort to increase these numbers. Steve Bobzin suggested publishing a list and printing membership forms to have on hand at Expo so as to solicit those individuals who have not renewed. Terry Sanborn mentioned printing the membership forms in a different color to measure the success of this endeavor. Steve Bobzin agreed to bring several tables for use at Expo for this purpose.

Michele Damrow reported having received mailing labels from the AMHA of individuals in Minnesota that own Morgans but are not NCMA members, and, with the help of Marcy Eickholt, will mail NCMA information to these prospective new members.

Youth – Michele Damrow asked that people support the MRTTE Schooling Show by either showing, volunteering, or paying for sponsorships at the show. Michele Damrow also asked if anyone had an idea of possible youth leaders for next year and suggested the idea of splitting the youth group into a junior and senior division due to the vast age range and number in the current group.

Publicity – Dave Eide reported that one-third of the time slots have been committed for Expo and should be completed by the end of the week. Dave Eide noted that the absence of curtains was the largest issue.

Sunshine – VeeAnn Wood stated that the Executive Board voted to send a flower arrangement to Linda MacAloon's funeral and Michele Damrow gave Marcy Eickholt the donations received for Linda MacAloon at the NCMA Clinic.

Marcy Eickholt presented the board with a proposal on how Sunshine funds could be allocated in the event of various circumstances to avoid exceeding budget and to establish a uniform policy. After much discussion, Steve Bobzin proposed sending a memorial in the amount of \$30 in the event of a death and a greeting card in all other circumstances, limited to only those individuals who are current members, officers, directors, or committee heads, unless a special vote is taken by the Executive Board in extenuating circumstances. The motion was seconded by VeeAnn Wood and the motion was passed.

By Laws – Marcy Eickholt phoned the Secretary of State and reported that NCMA can obtain a copy of the paperwork currently on file with that office for a cost of \$6. Michele Damrow motioned to spend \$6 to obtain what is currently on file with the Secretary of State office, the motion was seconded by Dave Eide, and the motion passed.

Parades – Robin Becklin reported that she will have forms for the next meeting. Marcy Eickholt asked for a list of parades requiring NCMA insurance coverage, which costs approximately \$75 per parade.

Banquet – Robin Becklin will check with Dawn Moore regarding possible date conflicts for the 2007 banquet, which is typically held on the third Saturday of January, or, January 20, 2007.

Trail Ride – Foxcrest Stables, a North Dakota Morgan group, is hosting a trail ride at the end of the month in Maplewood Park

Other Events – None were reported.

Old Business

Curtains – Marcy Eickholt reported that she has not heard back from Cyndee Wadsworth regarding her stall curtains and suggested that NCMA pursue purchasing curtains from Schneiders. After deliberating on colors, sizes, and options, Dave Eide motioned to spend up to \$500 on stall curtains for NCMA. VeeAnn Wood seconded the motion and the motion passed.

Letterhead – Terry Sanborn handed out the newly printed letterhead.

State Fair Bricks – Marcy Eickholt presented the art work for the State Fair Bricks. The 8” x 8” brick will cost NCMA \$250 inclusive of logo.

PA System – Marcy Eickholt reported that the requisite paperwork for the Minnesota Horse Council grant for a new PA system is not feasible for NCMA.

WSCA Advertising – Marcy Eickholt reported that ½ page of advertising will cost \$49 per issue and ¼ page of advertising will cost \$15 per issue. Steve Bobzin inquired about the practicality of a ¼ page ad. Steve Bobzin motioned that NCMA take out a ¼ page ad and assess its results. Robin Becklin seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

New Business

New Judging Arena – Marcy Eickholt reported that the Minnesota Horse Council Newsletter mentioned that the judging arena at the State Fair Grounds is slated to be rebuilt in 2008 and that a new horse stall facility will be erected directly north of the judging arena where camper spots are currently available.

Open Discussion

There was no open discussion.

Adjourn Meeting

Michele Damrow moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 PM. Dave Eide seconded the motion. The motion passed.