



2015 WPCSA Convention and Annual General Meeting



**February 26 - March 1, 2015
Embassy Suites, Orlando Airport**



**The Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.
and The Welsh Pony & Cob Foundation**

720 Green Street, Stephens City, VA 22655

Phone: 540-868-PONY, website: www.welshpony.org



Welcome To The Welsh Pony And Cob Society Of America's 2015 Annual General Meeting!

We are happy to have you join us and welcome you to beautiful Orlando, Florida!

Orlando's "WOW" factor for private events is second to none, with some of the world's best-loved theme parks, natural wonders, and many outdoor spaces to enjoy the comfortable year-round weather.

From theme parks to up-close experiences at the Kennedy Space Center.

These are one-of-a-kind outings and events no other destination can replicate.

Again, welcome to the 2015 AGM and enjoy your time in Florida!



Many Thanks To All Who Helped Put This Meeting Together!

Marsha Himler & Martha Stover - AGM Coordinators
 Brenda Heberling - Long Distance Liaison
 Jim and Lois Ferson - Hospitality
 Megan Burtness - Awards Banquet Photo Presentation
 Roger & Sally Ross Davis - Youth Program Coordinator
 Arthur Thomson - Awards Banquet Emcee
 Turner Davis & Brianna Conian - Youth Awards Banquet Emcees
 Martha Stover - Auction Coordinator

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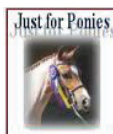


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HAY CHIX

WPCSA Annual Convention - Orlando, FL

Embassy Suites, Orlando, Airport

February 26 - March 1, 2015

Adult Schedule

Thursday, February 26

10:30 am Committee Meetings
12:00 pm Hospitality Suite Opens
1:00 pm Board of Directors meeting

Friday, February 27

9:00-12:00 pm Show Rules, Licensed Officials
and Regional Reps meeting
1:30-3:00 pm Open Forum
6:00-10:00 pm Reception
Life Time Awards
Silent and Live Auction

Saturday, February 28

9:00-11:00 am Annual General Meeting
12:00-2:00 pm Spotlight Awards Luncheon
Leadline, Walk Trot and
Open Awards
3:00-5:00 pm Free Time
6:00-10:00 pm Year End Awards Banquet

Sunday, March 1

9:00-12:00 pm Judge's Clinic, "Hunter
Discussion Panel"

Junior Schedule

Thursday, February 26

No Junior Activities Today

Friday, February 27

8:00-12:30 pm Free time
10:00-2:00 pm Junior Meet and Greet
6:00-9:30 pm Pizza and Swim

Saturday, February 28

9:00-11:00 am Junior Activity: Movie
12:00-2:00 pm Spotlight Awards Luncheon
Leadline, Walk Trot and
Open Awards
3:30-4:30 pm Just for Juniors Clinic,
"Preparing for a Show"
6:00-10:00 pm Year End Awards Banquet

Presidents Message - AGM 2015

Welcome to Orlando, Florida for the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America. After last year's chilly weather for the AGM in Minneapolis I know everyone is happy to be in a much warmer climate! We have left several blocks of free time for you to enjoy the warm weather.

We begin Thursday with some of the Committee meetings and the Board of Directors meeting and we encourage you to come see your Society at work. Other committee meetings like the show rules, licensed officials, and Regional reps will meet on Friday morning. The popular Open Forum follows lunch on Friday afternoon. While many of us communicate regularly on the internet, there is nothing like getting together in a group to discuss problems and brainstorm to create new ideas and programs.

Friday evening we have again combined our Welcome Reception and auction (both live and silent) with the awarding of the lifetime awards. You don't want to miss seeing our favorite auctioneer Martha Stover in action. This year the auction proceeds will go towards upgrading our web site- something that is way past due!

Following the AGM meeting on Saturday morning we will host the Spotlight Luncheon where we will award the Leadline, Walk Trot awards as well as the Open awards. That evening we will be presenting the Year End Awards. Congratulations to all of our 2014 award winners whose hard work and dedication have paid off. We wish you the best of luck for 2015!

The Juniors have their own schedule which promises to be fun and educational. Hosted by Sally Ross and Roger Davis, there are plans for a Meet and Greet, a Swim and Pizza party, a movie, as well as a Just for Juniors Seminar on "Preparing for a Show" given by Louise Gill. I've also heard that Patricia Cochran has some wonderful crafts planned for the group.

Sunday we are very fortunate to have Mr. Gary Duffy for our judge's clinic on hunters. He has a USEF 'R' in Hunter, Hunter Breeding, and Hunter Equitation. His clients/ponies have competed and won at Pony Finals in the past. He knows Welsh ponies, having started out many years ago working for Molly Butler at Glan-Nant and training her ponies. He operated his own training barn in Ithaca, NY for many years before moving to Florida.

I want to thank all of our members who have volunteered their time, talent, and money over this past year to the Society. Thanks also to our Board of Directors and our office staff especially Lisa Landis, our Executive Secretary for all of their hard work. We could not do all that we do without you. Thank you many times over!

I have been attending meetings with other breed organizations in the last several months and they are having the same issues that the WPCSA has. The economy has affected them all- decreasing membership, registrations, transfers causing a decrease in revenue. All of these breed organizations are looking for ways to operate more efficiently and encourage membership. So the WPCSA is not alone in this respect. We have a tremendous pool of talent in our organization and we need to take advantage of it. The AGM is the perfect time for you to visit with your fellow pony/cob lovers and get inspired about ways you can help the Society. To paraphrase a famous quote "Ask not what your Society can do for you but what you can do for the Society" Also remember to keep a few things in mind- be respectful of other people's opinions, keep our goal of preserving and protecting our Welsh ponies and cobs, and last but not least "This is supposed to be fun!"

Dr. Ruth

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.
Annual General Meeting

Saturday, February 28, 2015

Call to Order

- I. President's Report
 - II. Reading of the Minutes
 - III. Secretary's Report
 - IV. Treasurer's Report
 - V. Unfinished Business
 - VI. New Business
 - VII. Committee Reports
 - A. Financial - *Jackie Verkuyl & Gail Thomson*
 - B. American National - *Jackie Verkuyl & Martha Stover*
 - C. Marketing/Outside Adverting/Press Releases & PR - *Martha Stover & Pat Cochran*
 - D. Stud Book - *Hetty Abeles & Tiz Benedict*
 - E. Journal - *Gretchen Aitken*
 - F. Review - *Margaret Almond*
 - G. Website - *Gretchen Aitken & Sally Steinmetz*
 - H. Youth - *Patricia Cochran*
 - I. By-Laws - *Marsha Himler & Tiz Benedict*
 - J. Nominations - *Margaret Almond*
 - K. Conventions & Annual Meeting - *Martha Stover & Marsha Himler*
 - L. International Ambassador - *Gail Thomson*
 - M. ADS Liaison - *Marsha Himler*
 - N. USEF Liasion - *Sally Steinmetz*
 - O. USDF Liasion - *Kellie Hunter*
 - P. Pony Club Liasion - *Louise Gill*
 - Q. Licensed Officials Committee - *Tiz Benedict & Marsha Himler*
 - R. Show Compliance - *Sabra Schiller*
 - S. Show Rules - *Sally Steinmetz & Jackie Verkuyl*
 - T. Scholarship - *Sabra Schiller*
 - U. Welsh of the Year and Hall of Fame - *Jackie Verkuyl & Gail Thomson*
 - V. Regional Representative Liasion - *Margaret Almond*
 - V. Inspectors' Committee / CPA Report
 - VIII. Next Annual Meeting
- Adjourn

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Annual General Meeting

Secretary's Report

Transfers of Ownership									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Purebred	1136	1202	988	824	879	869	787	777	673
Half-Welsh	249	265	261	175	165	198	175	206	185
Part-Bred							4	2	5

Stud Book Entries									
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Sec A	330	289	264	250	163	165	157	114	107
Sec B	363	370	347	374	276	256	220	170	169
Sec C	40	40	25	37	33	28	18	21	19
Sec D	64	86	68	68	36	57	35	24	19
Total	797	785	704	729	508	506	430	329	314

DNA Typings Due to White Markings									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	
Owners	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	0	
Ponies	7	1	2	1	2	5	1	0	

Half-Welsh/Part Bred Registrations									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Half-Welsh	342	422	333	281	227	268	156	145	180
Part Bred							12	6	14

Artificial Insemination Permits		
	Permits Issued	Foals registered
Section A	145	48
Section B	227	206
Section C	17	32
Section D	87	103
Half-Welsh	1	582
Total	477	*971

*42 registered during 2013, 23 Half-Welsh

Embryo Transfer		
	Permits Issued	Foals registered
Section A	6	
Section B	6	7
Section D	3	
Total	15	7

Membership Totals									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Life	530	527	518	499	502	487	485	473	470
Family/Firm	415	398	371	316	266	255	248	217	208
Annual	933	814	883	799	747	675	711	660	662
Annual Associate	76	53	69	63	37	38	47	42	36
Junior	159	131	134	111	89	95	123	126	127
Total	2113	1923	1975	1788	1641	1550	1614	1518	1503

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Income/Expense Statement - Budget

	2015 Budget	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual
REGISTRATIONS				
Registrations	21,000	20,430	19,170	23,095
Half-Welsh Registration	15,000	15,090	14,595	13,925
Partbred Registration	1,000	430	4,010	1,500
Transfers of Ownership	21,000	21,405	22,645	23,285
Half-Welsh Transfer	6,500	6,595	6,625	6,270
Partbred Transfer	100	25	160	50
SS Reports	10,000	10,295	9,290	10,295
DNA Typing	4,200	4,294	4,641	4,269
Prefix Registration	1,200	1,275	2,400	1,125
A.I./Frozen/ET Permits Income	1,500	1,895	1,645	1,355
Duplicate Certificates	2,400	2,460	2,670	2,460
Name Change	500	1,000	800	600
Lease Agreements	500	300	590	595
Extended Pedigrees	-	-	-	(18)
Stud Book Sales	50	81	35	663
Stud Book Photo Income	200	675	-	-
Unprocessed paperwork	50	55	207	485
			-	
			-	
Registration Income	85,200	86,305	89,484	89,954
DNA Typing	2,700	2,322	2,970	2,985
Stud Book	-	-	-	54
Registration Expense	2,700	2,322	2,970	3,039
Net Registration Contribution	82,500	83,983	86,514	86,916
MEMBERSHIP				
Memberships	50,000	46,015	52,915	50,735
			-	
Membership Income	50,000	46,015	52,915	50,735
Membership/Education Expense	-	-	-	-
Net Membership Contribution	50,000	46,015	52,915	50,735
PUBLICATIONS				
Newsletter Advertising & 1st Class Postage	16,000	16,265	11,850	25,619
Journal Advertising	2,000	810	2,300	275
Journal Sales		132	20	170
Publication Income	18,000	17,207	14,170	26,064
Newsletter	14,000	12,458	13,926	15,378
Journal	8,000	-	11,212	-
Publication Expense	22,000	12,458	25,138	15,378
Net Publication Contribution	(4,000)	4,749	(10,968)	10,686

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Income/Expense Statement - Budget

	2015 Budget	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual
SHOWS				
High Score/Show Sanctioning Income	25,000	27,430	29,735	25,658
High Score Award Sales	6,000	6,185	7,972	5,560
Judges Licensing/Renewal Fee	1,750	2,095	1,895	1,575
Show Income	32,750	35,710	39,602	32,793
Show Sanctioning/High Score Expense (Awards)	7,000	6,743	6,641	7,166
High Score Award Sales expense	4,000	9,307	-	2,757
Show Expense	11,000	16,050	6,641	9,923
Net Show Contribution	21,750	19,660	32,961	22,870
PROMOTION				
Website Income	7,000	6,370	5,685	8,665
Co-Op Advertising Income	-	50	-	-
Promotional Items/Books	200	199	386	1,554
Literature	50	69	109	355
Open Show Program	1,500	1,940	510	670
Promotion Income	8,750	8,628	6,690	11,244
Co-Op/Advertising Expense			229	163
Promotional Items			-	471
Promotion Expense	-	-	229	634
Net Promotion Contribution	8,750	8,628	6,460	10,610
PROGRAMS/AGM				
AGM Registrations Income	12,000	12,380	14,420	17,930
Program Income	12,000	12,380	14,420	17,930
AGM Expense	12,000	14,781	13,845	15,823
Program Expense	12,000	14,781	13,845	15,823
Net Program Contribution	-	(2,401)	575	2,107
FUNDRAISING				
Stallion Service Auction	-	-	(275)	11,350
Raffle/Auction	-	-	3,242	2,055
Fundraising/Donations /Sponsorships	10,000	11,686	10,152	11,453
Fundraising Income	10,000	11,686	13,119	24,858
OTHER				
Rush	1,000	1,020	1,190	1,175
Interest Income	500	437	495	1,580
Forms	10	22	34	51
Transfer lists	300	280	280	280
Information/Reports	50	40	50	50
Postage/Shipping	200	213	367	578
Miscellaneous Income	200	699	195	319

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Income/Expense Statement - Budget

	<u>2015 Budget</u>	<u>2014 Actual</u>	<u>2013 Actual</u>	<u>2012 Actual</u>
Other Income	2,260	2,710	2,610	4,032
Transfer to Foundation	2,500	2,503	3,242	2,055
Miscellaneous Expense	1,500	1,749	2,200	560
Other Expense	4,000	4,252	5,442	2,615
Net Other Contribution	(1,740)	(1,542)	(2,833)	1,418
Total Income	218,960	220,641	233,008	257,610
Total Net Contributions	167,260	170,778	178,742	210,199
Operating Expenses				
Building Maintenance & Upgrades	500	492	670	451
Equipment & Furniture	2,000	1,798	300	-
Rent/Mortgage	28,800	15,307	14,910	25,741
Repairs & Maint. - Equipment	500	251	434	150
Utilities	2,500	2,212	2,438	2,498
Building & Equipment	34,300	20,060	18,753	28,839
Computer Programming	500	-	-	-
Dues & Subscriptions	400	400	350	350
Insurance	3,200	3,207	2,688	2,821
Legal & Accounting	1,400	1,235	735	1,023
Bank Charges	5,000	5,131	5,377	5,217
Licenses & Taxes	800	765	966	884
Professional Fees	11,300	10,738	10,116	10,294
Office Supplies	2,500	2,328	2,705	1,999
Postage	4,800	4,746	4,295	5,188
Printing	1,000	1,295	777	506
Telephone	2,200	2,277	2,151	1,770
Internet	2,200	2,199	2,042	2,701
Office Supplies/Communication	12,700	12,844	11,970	12,163
Salaries	115,000	111,155	105,220	112,184
Taxes - Payroll	11,000	10,834	9,867	10,111
Employee Benefits	-	-	1,048	6,853
Travel	2,000	1,681	1,224	1,407
Salaries & Benefits	128,000	123,669	117,360	130,554
Total Operating Expenses	186,300	167,312	158,199	181,851
Net Income (Loss)	(19,040)	3,466	20,543	28,348

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Committee Reports

Licensed Officials Working Group

*Submitted by Tiz Benedict & Marsha Himler
Chairs, Licensed Officials Working Group*

The major purpose of this working group is to develop guidelines and maintain programs for the development, training, and monitoring of WPCSA judges and technical delegates. Tasks include interviewing judge applicants, facilitating learner judging experiences and clinics and monitoring judge/TD performance.

This past year, we have added judges to our provisional and/or approved rosters. Judge applicants were interviewed at the 2014 AGM in Minnesota. The process for becoming a Welsh judge is multi-faceted and mentoring ideas for new applicants are needed.

In our monitoring role, we encourage all exhibitors, trainers, owners to send in the judge and show evaluation forms that are available at the shows or can be accessed and filled out online. This year on the basis on feedback from those forms, we have had conversations with various judges related to their perceived performance. At the end each year, a letter is sent out to all judges with a list of perceived issues that arose during the show year and suggestions or guidelines about how to resolve judging issues.

We are in the process of establishing a library of educational materials. For example, through Lisa's hard work the WPCSA is now able to upload long videos to You Tube. This will allow us to develop a video library that can be accessed by our judges, exhibitors, etc. The Ridden Cob Video is the first to be uploaded. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=io8OpNFIIvM&feature=plcp>

We are looking for other videos that would provide training opportunities for our judges and exhibitors and would appreciate hearing about any suggestions or videos that you (the membership) might have or know about.

On the WPCSA web site, there are two good articles related to judges. One provides suggestions about what should be in contracts between judges and shows; and the second is an article about how to put on a judges clinic. Both are accessed on the web site by clicking first on show info and then show forms. For a paper copy of either of these articles or a list of good books about judging (in construction) contact Tiz by phone 410-518-9928 or email: mbenedic65@aol.com

By-Laws

*Submitted by Marsha Himler & Tiz Benedict
Co-Chairs, By-Law Committee.*

The Bylaw committee's initial report was presented at an earlier BOD meeting. Pursuant to that meeting and with attention paid to the input from the committee, the BOD approved the amendment that appeared on your ballot. Many thanks to the members of that committee for their input and efforts.

Show Rules

Submitted by Sally Steinmetz

Chair, Show Rules Working Group

Summary of New Rules for the 2015 Show Year:

The latest Show Rules (effective December 1, 2014) are on the web site with the changes for the 2015 show year in red. The current Class Specifications are also on the web site and are presented in two versions – one with changes in red to see the changes and a black and white version to copy to the Prize List and Judge's Cards.

A hard copy of the Show Rules is available for purchase on line from Lulu. Judges will receive a complimentary copy.

One rule change to note is the change in requirements for Gold and Silver Standard shows. Please be aware that **this rule is in effect for 2015 for a trial period of two years.** We would appreciate getting feedback on this new rule. The rule change is shown below:

Article 120 FEES

GOLD SANCTIONING (PER JUDGE)	\$55.00 \$100
SILVER SANCTIONING (PER JUDGE)	\$45.00
BRONZE SANCTIONING	\$35.00
PER ANIMAL, PER JUDGE, RECORDING FEE	\$5.00
PROTEST FEE	\$50.00
NON-MEMBER MEASUREMENT FEE	\$5.00

**Show sanctioning fees are not refundable*

Article 121.1 Gold Standard Show

- ~~1. A minimum of 75 purebred Welsh and/or Half-Welsh/Part-Bred in classes specifically limited to them.~~
1. \$100 ~~\$55~~ fee for Provisional Gold sanctioning (~~\$200~~ ~~\$110~~ for double-judged gold rating).
2. Minimum of ~~\$600~~ **\$400** prize money offered **uniformly** across at least ~~ten~~ **three** divisions.
3. Minimum of a two-day show **with safe, adequate, on-site stabling available for all exhibitors.**
4. **Minimum of 10 WPCSA** ~~Six~~ Welsh performance divisions. ~~12.2. & Under, Over 12.2 but not to exceed 14.2, C & D or Half-Welsh/Part-Bred.~~ Each **A WPCSA** division must contain the three point classes as described in the specifications section of this book and a Championship based on points. Additional **pointed and/or** non-pointed classes may be added at the discretion of show management.
5. Minimum of ~~12~~ **10** breeding classes must be offered. All four sections and Half-Welsh/Part Bred must be included.
6. Minimum of WPCSA Approved judge.
7. All shows are required to have an appropriately attired ringmaster or ring steward to assist the judge. This person **must** ~~should~~ be capable of rendering assistance.

Article 121.2 Silver Standard Show

- ~~1. Minimum of 40 Purebred Welsh and/or Half-Welsh/Part-Bred shown in classes specifically limited to them.~~
1. \$45 fee for Provisional Silver Sanctioning (\$90 for double-judged silver rating).
2. Minimum of \$200 prize money offered across at least two divisions.
3. **Minimum of three** Welsh performance divisions. ~~12.2 & Under, Over 12.2 but not to exceed 14.2, C & D or Half-Welsh/Part-Bred.~~ Each **A WPCSA** division must contain the three point classes as described in the specifications section of this book and a championship based on points. Additional **pointed and/or** non-pointed classes may be added at the discretion of show management.
4. Minimum of 6 breeding classes must be offered.
5. Minimum of WPCSA Approved **or Provisional** Judge.
6. All shows are required to have an appropriately attired ringmaster or ring steward to assist the judge. This person **must** ~~should~~ be capable of rendering assistance.

Show Rules, cont'd

Below is a summary of all of the rule changes for the 2015 show year. Please read the new rule book to see these changes in their entirety:

- 111.2 Performance Championships clarification:
- 115.6 Jr Welsh Handler, no stallions will be allowed in this class
- 115.72 Ridden Welsh Ring Procedure, don't specify entry gait
- 115.7.5 Ridden Welsh Championship, don't specify entry gait, clarify championship points
- 120 Fees for Gold shows
- 121.1 Gold Standard show, change in requirements
- 121.2 Silver Standard show, change in requirements
- 124 Guest judges may only judge Bronze rated shows
- 127 Provisional judges may only judge Silver or Bronze rated shows
- 130.12 Judges and cell phones
- 130.13 Judges conduct

Show Rules - Topics for Discussion:

Possible Rule Changes that are in various stages of discussion are listed below. Please remember that it usually takes some period of time to get rules changed. On the first page of the Rule Book, it states the minimum time frame for the process:

All suggested rule changes must be submitted to the Show Rules Chairman by October 1 for consideration by the Board at the next Board of Directors meeting. All approved changes will go into effect December 1 of the following calendar year.

1) Points/Shows

Changing the requirements for the Gold and Silver Shows is a very big change and we'll be carefully reviewing feedback of this rule change during its trial over the next two years. Other rule changes that we can continue to discuss involving points and shows are as follows. Some of these topics will also be discussed at the AGM's Open Forum.

a) More points for National and Regional Shows

This topic has been discussed for many years. One idea is for national and regional shows to receive quadruple points. Some feel we should have a minimum number of ponies, (such as 100) at the show to receive the extra points. It's also proposed that the region that holds the American National does not offer a Regional show that year.

b) American and Regional winner's recognition *equally* under both breed judges. (i.e. two American National Champions, Grand Champions, Supremes, etc.) Article 117.2

c) Points based on number of ponies beaten

The idea behind this is to give ponies that win in large classes more points. Our computer program could be modified to track this for a nominal fee. There is a lot of discussion over how many points would be given for how many ponies beaten. Also being considered is how to make this equitable (especially for lifetime points) when some classes never have many entries.

d) Should the American National rotate between zones or stay in one central location?

Our current rule indicates that 2015 is the last year of the probationary period of holding the American National in conjunction with the Tulsa State Fair. Feedback is needed to know what to do for the 2016 show year and beyond. The current rule is listed below:

Article 117.2 National and Regional Titles

The WPCSA offers the following show titles: Eastern Regional, Central Regional, Western Regional and American National. For awarding these titles, the country is divided into three zones: Eastern, Central and Western (see map inside back cover). The American National Title is awarded on a rotating basis in the following order: Eastern zone, Central zone, and Western zone. The American National will be held in conjunction with the Tulsa State Fair for a probationary period of four years (2012 – 2015). No other sanctioned shows may be held during the American National dates.

Show Rules, cont'd

2) WPCSA Classes

a) Two Class Divisions for All Pleasure Divisions and Draft Driving

Discussion: This is a member-submitted idea that has gotten mixed reactions. Some think it's a great idea and some are opposed to it. There has been a lot of both positive and negative feedback, so the discussion continues.

- Divisions affected: English Pleasure and Western Pleasure (Junior and Adult, all sections and Half Welsh/Part Breds), Pleasure Driving (all sections and Half Welsh/Part Breds) & Draft Driving.
- Proposal and Reason for Rule Change:
 - It's proposed to have one Working class and one Conformation/Stake class in each pleasure division. With double points in the Conformation/Stake class (and conceivably double the entry fees) there will be no impact on points and entry fees. Championships will still be based on points but ties will be broken by who received the most points in the Conformation/Stake class.
 - Most times a pleasure division has all three classes in a row due to time constraints and avoiding tack changes. This is boring for the riders/drivers, the animals and the judges. Also, many have said it's not good for training young, green animals. Many of our animals show in multiple divisions and with three classes in a pleasure division, an animal might be doing 12 or more flat classes in one day. Reducing each pleasure division to two classes will be less of a hardship on the animals, better for a show's time schedule and less boring to all involved.
 - An alternative to three almost-identical classes in a row has been discussed many times previously but ideas put forward never have fit into our crowded show days. (i.e. Space classes in a division out, Perform individual tests, etc.)

b) New Classes

Discussion: If Two-Class Pleasure divisions are implemented, it will give shows time to offer a new lineup of pointed classes. If any organization fails to introduce new avenues and ways of showing exhibitors will go outside that world to find what they are looking for. Many of the large breeds have taken steps to diversify their class list in an effort to keep the exhibitors at their shows and not other venues.

By providing other classes and options to exhibitors the WPCSA will be making an effort to invite those that have left to come back and by broadening the exhibitor pool it will in turn broaden the buyer market, the attendees at the AGMs and so on.

These are intended to be a single class per show and a single national award. It would be ideal for them to be broken out into adult and junior and then by section as they become more popular.

- **WPCSA Show Hack - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**
This class would fall under the English Pleasure section and that general spec would apply. To be shown at the normal, collected and extended Walk, Trot and Canter and to Hand Gallop
- **WPCSA Hunter Hack - A/B/C/D/H/P (18 Inch) Open**
This class would fall under the Hunter section and that general spec would apply. To Walk, Trot and Canter both ways and Hand Gallop in one direction. To individually jump two 18" fences 60' apart and optionally after jumping to hand gallop, halt and stand quietly.
- **WPCSA Western Horsemanship - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**
This class would fall under the Western section and that general spec would apply. Evaluates the rider's ability to execute, in concert with their animal, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position.

Show Rules, cont'd

To work a pattern posted at least an hour before the class with any of the following maneuvers: walk, jog, trot, extended trot, lope or extended lope in a straight line, curved line, serpentine, circle or figure 8, or combination of these gaits and maneuvers; stop; back in a straight or curved line; turn or pivot, including spins and rollbacks on the haunches and/or on the forehand; sidepass, two-track or leg-yield; flying or simple change of lead; counter-canter; or any other maneuver; or ride without stirrups.

The whole class must work at all three gaits at least one direction of the arena. A back should be asked for at some time during the class.

3) Divide Performance Classes by Section rather than height

Discussion: It has been proposed that we change our A/B performance divisions to be divided by Section rather than height. Currently classes may be divided by height (Small, 12.2 & under and Medium/Large, over 12.2 and not exceeding 14.2). The proposal would allow classes to be divided by Section (Section A and Section B). The Section A division would all be 12.2 and under while the Section B Division could be any size up to 14.2.

4) Change the Half-Welsh/Part Bred Lifetime Awards

Discussion: Currently Half-Welsh and Part Bred sires and dams are not eligible for the AOH, AOD or OC awards – only purebred sires and dams are now eligible for these awards. It has been proposed that we allow both Half-Welsh and Part Bred Sires and Dams to be included in these awards. (Articles 136.9, 136.10 and 136.11). If passed, the date from which points will accrue must be determined. It may not be feasible to include retroactive points. The new awards would be as follows:

- Purebred/~~Half-Welsh/Part Bred~~ Welsh Sire Award of Honour
- Purebred/~~Half-Welsh/Part Bred~~ Welsh Dam Award of Honour
- Purebred/~~Half-Welsh/Part Bred~~ Welsh Sire Award of Distinction
- Purebred/~~Half-Welsh/Part Bred~~ Welsh Dam Award of Distinction
- Purebred/~~Half-Welsh/Part Bred~~ Welsh Sire Order of the Centaur
- Purebred/~~Half-Welsh/Part Bred~~ Welsh Dam Order of the Centaur

5) Carriage Driving – Changing vehicles and Clarification

Discussion: It has been proposed that our rules follow ADS rules concerning the definition of an entry. The following would be added to Article 113.2. Also, we no longer have Carriage Driving Freestyle Reinsmanship in our rule book, so the reference to it should be deleted.

Article 113.2 *WPCSA CARRIAGE DRIVING*

Classes are open to all ponies/cobs/Half-Welsh/Part Bred. A Welsh Carriage Driving division will consist of three classes, one turnout, one working and one obstacle, **or any combination thereof** but at least one class must be on the rail. Also see Article 116.7 Reinsmanship and ~~Article 116.8 Carriage Driving Freestyle Reinsmanship~~ which ~~are~~ **is** not pointed for WPCSA purposes. ~~but are being considered as USEF new rule changes.~~

In this division an entry is defined as a combination of animal(s), vehicle and driver and must be assigned a specific entry number. A change of any part of the combination constitutes a different entry and must be assigned a separate number. In the event that a vehicle is disabled or judged unsafe to start or continue, management may authorize substitution of another vehicle without issuing a new number.

6) Measuring Half-Welsh/Part Breds

Discussion: It has been suggested that we don't need to measure Half-Welsh/Part Breds because none of their classes are divided by height. *For the Hunter Division they would need to be measured to determine what height fences they would jump.*

Show Compliance

*Submitted by Sabra Schiller
Chair, Show Compliance*

This year we had 59 shows applying for sanctioning. I worked with and approved all 58 prize list, one show canceled before their prize list was sent in. Some were very easy taking a day to return, but others were very time consuming taking weeks with lots of emails and phone calls. We had 3 show cancel and one show refused to send in their results.

Of the 55 shows only 43 made the sanction they applied for. With the new rules we and they won't have that problem this year. Many show were fined for the following reasons; posting prize list before approval, tardiness in getting in their prize list, applying for their show after the 60 day rule, not completing their final results on time and having to redo their entries placing so many times.

Once a prize list is approved we have no authority over it, unless something is brought to our attention. One show never used the approved one, only used the one they sent in to start with. That was after at least 40 hour of my time trying to make sure they followed our rules. Another show made up classes that we do not even have.

So many of the Show Secretaries do not follow the rules and do not turn in the correct forms to the office. Many get very upset when ask to redo the forms in the proper way. It would be nice if we could give a class on what a Show Secretary duties are.

Here are the states that held our shows: MD 8, CA 6, TX 6, NC 6, OK 4, NY 4, MN 3, OR 3, VA 3, WI 3, NJ 2, OH 2, ID 2, IN 1, KY 1, IL1.

Molly Butler/J.D. Orear Scholarship

*Submitted by Sabra Schiller
Chairman*

The first thing on our agenda was to go over the applications that we received. It was very disappointing as they all were very mediocre and one even spelled Welsh—Welch. Therefore we did not award a scholarship for this year.

We all worked together to design a new application, with much input from all we finished it in about two weeks. Carolyn Corson put it together and we hope the people applying for the scholarship from now on will do a better job. We also plan on putting ads in the Welsh Review, so that we may get more applications from our Welsh World people.

The due date for the applications will stay at July 1st. We plan on awarding it by August 15, so they have it at the start of the school year. We will wait to announce it to all at the AGM.

Nominations

Submitted by Margaret Almond

The Nominating Committee for 2014, composed of Margaret Almond, Chairman, Christi Ahrndt, Martha Stover, Pat Kultgen and Heather Gaffer reported the following slate: Megan Burtness, Patricia Cochran, Gail Thomson and Dr. Ruth Wilburn. Also on the ballot will be Gretchen Aitken.

Marketing/Outside Advertising/Press Releases & Public Relations

Submitted by Martha Stover

Social media remains the most effective means of marketing and communicating with the membership and 2014 saw a significant improvement in the Society's effective use of Facebook and mass email. The Winter Holiday Photo event on Facebook, co-ordinated by Pat Cochran during the month of December, brought in over 300 new page Likes pushing the total from 2567 to 2875 in just 9 days! Several photos garnered over 5,000 views, with daily view totals averaging around 2000. New viewers have continued to visit our page bringing our total Likes to 3082 as we go to press. Our icontact mass email program has allowed the office to keep membership updated in a very timely manner.

The temporary new Members Only website has brought the addition of an online Members Directory which has been sorely missed during the budget crunch. The sad status of our "official" website greatly inhibits our ability to attract advertisers and sponsors. We recently approved a program to dramatically reduce our banner ads to \$30 and \$75 (formerly \$200 and \$400!) to amp up the site traffic only to find that the website has maxed out its capabilities. It is my hope that the money earned at this year's auction will be earmarked for a complete website overhaul!

Advertising in equine publications was difficult this year primarily because it is labor intense. Frankly, the current environment of discontent amongst some of the membership has taken its toll on some of the "give" left in my piece of this completely volunteer organization. It would be my dream that someday we have an employee whose job responsibilities included marketing. Either way, our membership seems more likely to want to use their own methods and most often they are electronic.

Corporate Sponsors were courted this year and while the effort did not reap financial gain, it does account for many of the nice items at our fund raising auction. As I became more involved in contacting potential sponsors, I realized that we need more ways to thank them that benefits their business. With the website option unavailable till an upgrade is made, an idea to add business links and banners to our email updates is in the works! This is a roundabout way of sharing our membership while retaining control and confidentiality and offering some web traffic to our sponsor's sites. All they really want is to get a little return on their investment!

The 2014 AGM generated a number of press releases and so will 2015! I hope you enjoy celebrating this year's Welsh of the Year Award, scholarship recipients, election and auction results and of course our year end award winners.

Regional Representatives

Submitted by Margaret Almond

All reports submitted by the regional representatives have been published in the Review. None of the regional representatives have brought any problems to my attention. The membership needs to use the system and contact the representatives with their problems.

Welsh Review

Submitted by Margaret Almond

Volume one 2015 is almost ready to be published. The deadline for Volume 2 is March 6th, 2015. Please submit photos for possible use on the cover. Member articles are also requested. The emphasis for volume 2 is the Section D Cob. Member advertisements support the Review, consider submitting an add.

Youth

Submitted by Patricia Cochran

WPCSA Junior Merit Program was a bit stagnant this year. Over the past four years, 52 juniors have registered to participate in this on-going program. In 2014, only seven were active, with three receiving awards. Indeed, only 13 awards have been given in the past three years. The Junior Merit Program comes from an enormous effort over the years to create an educationally sound, and entertaining series of activities that promotes breed knowledge, good citizenship, and basic equine skills. However, for a variety of reasons, it has not captured the enthusiasm or imaginations of our youth and needs to be revisited. Promotion of the Youth Program and making the Youth Page on the WPCSA website more "kid-friendly" is a place to start.

The past year saw 163 Juniors exhibitors participating in WPCSA rated shows. There has long been a wide-spread lament that more "fun classes" are not offered for kids at the shows, with the general consensus being the shows didn't have enough free time built into them to offer such classes. A proposal is being put forth, to the Show Committee, and for discussion at the Open Forum, that a new division be offered at WPCSA rated shows called "Fun Classes"! These classes, such as Ride-A-Buck, Egg & Spoon, Adult Leadline (kid leads adult), Catalog Relay, etc., would be non-pointed and have no year-end awards, but the division would qualify as meeting one of the divisional requirements for a rated show. It would be at the discretion of show management what any three classes to offer. The Fun Class Division would undoubtedly create an entertaining, playful arena (pun!) specifically for our youth. If approved, we could see it begin in 2016.

Web Site

Submitted by Gretchen Aitken

We are pleased to roll out a new members only site at <http://www.wpcsamembers.com>, which has information and features not found on our regular public site. This site is accessed via username and password and has already streamlined the submission of photos for the AGM award banquet slide shows. We will soon be offering banner advertising on this site, and due to its configuration, this should be a much simpler process than the current public site.

We plan to overhaul the public site and transition into a Word Press site, for ease of maintenance. I have located someone that should be able to help us integrate the database portion of our public site into the new format, which will make maintaining the site much easier, as well as improving the look, feel and ease of use of the site. This is the top project for the web site committee in 2015.

Stud Books

Submitted by Hetty Abeles

Great News! The 1997-1999 Stud Books is now available for sale at www.lulu.com. David Mauer is currently formatting the next edition which is Volume 2000-2002. The office has compiled all of the entries for the following volume which will span 2003-2005 and it will be sent to David shortly.

