



2016 WPCSA Convention and Annual General Meeting



February 25 - 28, 2016
Embassy Suites San Antonio Northwest



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 2016 Annual General Meeting!

San Antonio (Spanish for "Saint Anthony"), officially the City of San Antonio, is the seventh most populated city in the United States of America and the second most populated city in the state of Texas. It was the fastest growing of the top 10 largest cities in the United States from 2000 to 2010, and the second from 1990 to 2000. The city is located in the American Southwest, the south-central part of Texas, and the southwestern corner of an urban region known as the Texas Triangle. A city with thousands of events each year, San Antonio makes it hard to decide where to find your next batch of fun. Enjoy the San Antonio River Walk, visit the San Antonio Missions, explore Cowboy Culture and enjoy the museums and galleries dedicated to alive with culture and history.

Again, welcome to the 2016 AGM and enjoy your time in Texas!



San Antonio River Walk

The San Antonio River Walk is a verdant oasis of cypress-lined paved paths, arched stone bridges and lush landscapes. It gently winds through the city center, providing millions of visitors each year with easy access to the city's cultural hot spots, historic sites and other attractions.

Cowboy Culture

The American cowboy, that iconic image of the rugged rancher resonates the world over, but you don't have to go far to make your cowboy fantasy a reality. This vital culture still thrives throughout the dude ranches and old-time dance halls that dot the Texas Hill Country, providing plenty of opportunities for visitors to immerse themselves in a truly authentic Western experience. The fact that San Antonio's history is deeply rooted in the Old West means you don't just feel like a cowboy when you're here—you can also meet or be one.



The San Antonio Missions - UNESCO World Heritage Site



In the 18th century, Spanish priests established five Catholic missions along the San Antonio River. The systems instituted by the friars led to an ethnically diverse society that continues to influence our city. Today, the five missions (Mission San Antonio de Valero, Mission San José, Mission Concepción, Mission San Juan and Mission Espada) represent the largest concentration of Spanish colonial missions in North America and have been named a World Heritage Site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

UNESCO encourages the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and national heritage around the world. To be chosen as a World Heritage Site, the missions had to meet demanding selection criteria that verified their historic importance. This rare honor has been bestowed upon only 23 sites in the United States.

Texas-sized Thrills - SeaWorld® San Antonio

Dive into the exhilaration of the sea in the incredible Shamu® show, One Ocean, a multi-sensory celebration of underwater life, as entertaining as it is educational. New in 2015 is Pacific Point Preserve featuring a transformed coastal-themed sea lion habitat, new show and new restaurant. Discover the charm of this Pacific Coast town that lets you make powerful connections and get closer than ever to sea lions and other wildlife.

The youngest members of your family will enjoy Sesame Street Bay of Play, an attraction featuring Elmo, Big Bird and all their friends. The older and braver members in your group will eagerly line up for the pulse-pounding Great White, the electrifying Steel Eel or the 10-story plunge on Journey to Atlantis.



2016 San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo Thursday, Feb 11, 2016 - Sunday, Feb 28, 2016



The San Antonio Stock Show & Rodeo (winner of it's 11th consecutive award as the PRCA Large Indoor Rodeo of the Year) celebrates its 67th year. With six PRCA events, and one WPRA event, rodeo fans are sure to see the best-of-the-best in the industry. Intertwined in the competition are our classic Grand Entry, Mutton Bustin and Calf Scramble.

Local Art Scene

San Antonio has captivated people from cultures around the world since the city was first established in the early 1700s. Mexican, European, Asian, African and Western traditions all blend together into a personality that's uniquely San Antonio. You'll find outdoor sculptures and artwork, art galleries, more than 25 museums, over 40 performing arts stages and many cultural arts festivals. Together, these artistic attractions make San Antonio one of the top 25 cities for art in the United States.



Many Thanks To All Who Helped Put This Meeting Together!

Marsha Himler & Martha Stover - AGM Coordinators
 Pat Kultgen & Faye Cole-Tanner- Long Distance Liaisons
 Jim and Lois Ferson - Hospitality
 Robin Nowak - Table Decorations
 Ann Marie Snyder - Lanyards
 Faye Cole-Tanner, Robin Nowak, Peggy Ross, Susan Crozier, Belinda Meyers - Gift Bags Sponsors
 Megan Burtneß & Kristy Wilkinson- Awards Banquet Photo Presentation
 Roger & Sally Ross Davis and Pat Cochran- Youth Program Coordinators
 Arthur Thomson - Awards Banquet Emcee
 Marissa Gomez and Alexandra Johnson- Youth Awards Banquet Emcees
 Martha Stover - Auction Coordinator
 Cherry Wilson - Judge's Clinic
 Sally Ross Davis & Robin Nowak - Junior's Clinic

AGM Sponsors

Platinum

USEF
 Martha & David Stover,
 Here Be Dragons Farm

Gold

Lois & Jim Ferson, Hounds Run Farm
 Just for Ponies
 Ann Marie Snyder & Audrey Schulze



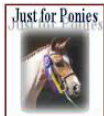
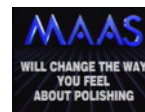
Silver

John & Margaret Almond, Loafers Lodge
 Tiz Benedict, Severn Oaks Farm
 Louise, Emily & Margaret Gill,
 Loafers Lodge
 Jay & Judy Hubert,
 Coffing Oaks Welsh Ponies
 Winona Meyers, Imprint Farm
 Carol & Kristy Wilkinson
 Mary Alice Williams & Miriam Gerdes,
 Madoc Welsh

Bronze

Tammy Burgin, Farmore Farms
 Pam & Steve Christensen,
 Trillium Creek Stable
 Tina Nowell, Rock Island Welsh
 The Picton Family,
 Smoke Tree Welsh

Auction & Gift Bag Donors (at press time)



www.justforponies.com



Linda Lucas, Coopermill Harness
 Paisley Pony Magazine
 Martha Stover, Here-Be Dragons Farm
 Dede Bushneck
 Jamie & Ozzie Picton,
 Smoke Tree Welsh
 Charlotte Upchurch
 Jaci Baxter, Willow Hill Ranch
 Robin Nowak, No Walk Farm
 Janice Early, Lazy J Welsh Pony Ranch
 Helen Hogan
 Skidmore's Fine Beeswax Products
 Mary Chisholm, Alliance Farm
 Fay Cole-Tanner, Caddo Welsh Ponies
 Annie Hernandez, Northwinds Ranch

Brazos Valley Equipment
 Janis Shaneburger, Ledinjadon
 Barbara Lender, B's Welsh Ponies
 Norman & Beverly Kalinski,
 Crestwynd Welsh
 Ann Marie Snyder
 Hill Country Bed & Breakfast
 Brenda Heberling, B's Welsh Ponies
 Wendy & Ashley Peterson, Cameo Farm
 Schneiders
 Justin Boot Company
 Hay-Rite
 Johnson & Johnson
 Maas Metal Polish
 Sally Steinmetz, Rosehaven Welsh

Just for Ponies
 Sabra Schiller, Dragoncroft Farm
 Tiz Benedict, Severn Oaks Farm
 Sleek EZ
 Driving Digest
 USEF
 Belinda Schryver Meyers & Michele
 Schryver, Dragonwyck Welsh Ponies
 Marsha Himler, Stonecroft Farm
 Pat Kultgen - Windstar Farm
 Suzanne Moody, Glenhaven Welsh
 Rollingwoods Farm
 Pat Cochran, Lochinvar Welsh Ponies
 Hay Where's That Blue Stuff
 Patty Eastman, Heaven's Gate Farm

WPCSA Annual Convention - San Antonio, TX

Embassy Suites, San Antonio, Northwest

February 25 - February 28, 2016

Adult Schedule

Thursday, February 25

- 10:30 am Youth, Review/Journal,
Marketing Committee
Meetings
- 12:00 pm Hospitality Suite Opens
- 1:00 pm Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, February 26

- 9:00 am Show Rules, Licensed Officials,
Regional Reps and American Nat'l
Show Committee Meetings
- 1:30 pm Open Forum
- 3:00 pm "The Grand Dames of Welsh"
Breeders Panel Q & A
- 6:00 pm Welcome Reception
OK-KS American Nat'l Presentation
Life Time Awards
Silent and Live Auction

Saturday, February 27

- 9:00 am Annual General Meeting
- 12:00 pm Spotlight Awards Luncheon
(LeadLine, Walk Trot and
Open Awards)
- 6:00 pm Year End Awards Banquet

Sunday, February 28

- 9:00 pm Judge's Clinic, "Conformation",
Clinician - Cherry Wilson

Junior Schedule

Thursday, February 25

No Junior Activities Today

Friday, February 26

- 10:00 am Junior Meet and Greet with
Roger & Sally Ross Davis
- 11:00 am Roving Reporter/photographer
Tips & Tricks with Pat Cochran
- 6:00 pm Pizza and Swim

Saturday, February 27

- 9:00 am Junior Activity: Movie
- 12:00 pm Spotlight Awards Luncheon
(Leadline, Walk Trot and
Open Awards)
- 3:30 pm Juniors Clinic - Horse Showing -
Cost vs Benefit, Clinicians - Sally
Ross Davis & Robin Nowak
- 6:00 pm Year End Awards Banquet

Presidents Message - AGM 2016

Welcome to San Antonio Texas and the 2016 Annual General Meeting of the Welsh Pony and Cob Society of America. Thanks to the very active and enthusiastic Red River Welsh Pony Association for the invitation. They have arranged an educational and fun-filled weekend but have left several blocks of free time so that you can enjoy San Antonio.

New this year is an exciting panel discussion- "The Grand Dames of Welsh Breeders" that you surely don't want to miss. Top breeders from all of the sections will be imparting their wisdom and advice on such topics as bloodlines, breeding choices, improvements that could be made, trends they like or do not like, etc. Hopefully there will be time for a question and answer session. For the serious breeder whether you be old or new, there is a wealth of knowledge to be gained.

The judge's clinic on Sunday is also something you don't want to pass up. The clinician will be Cherry Wilson, long time Welsh breeder (Bristol prefix) and judge. The topic is Welsh conformation and breed type. Several of you may have been fortunate to see her give this clinic many years ago and I can tell you it is probably one of the best clinics I have ever attended over many years. Cherry has worked long and hard to put much of this clinic on a DVD which I urge you to purchase. There will be discussions to expand what is on the DVD. From a judge or aspiring judge to the competitor or breeder, this clinic has much to offer.

Friday night we will have our auction and Welcome reception honoring our Lifetime Award winners. Our own lively and entertaining auctioneer Martha Stover will work her magic to raise money for our website. The Red River group has been working hard to come up with some great auction items so be prepared to get your checkbook out! The Spotlight Luncheon on Saturday will celebrate our youngest riders as well as the Year End High Score winners in the Open Divisions. Saturday night will see the High Score Year End winners receive their awards. Congratulations to all of our award winners whose hard work and dedication have paid off. You are the ones who showcase our breed to the world! Good luck for the 2016 show year.

Not to be forgotten, Sally Ross and Roger Davis along with Pat Cochran have planned an interesting weekend for the Juniors. They always seem to come up with activities that encourage the kids to interact and make learning fun.

We welcome you to attend the committee meetings and the open forum as well as the Board meetings. Watch how your Society is run and then offer your input which is so important to us. Even with social media, face to face interaction is still the best way to foster the active exchange of ideas.

And last but not least many thanks to all of our dedicated volunteers and staff (especially Lisa Landis, our Executive Secretary) who have worked so hard to put on this AGM and to keep this Society running. The WPCSA could not survive without you- your time, talents, and money are much appreciated. Our volunteers ARE the WPCSA. Remember this when someone suggests the Society should take on a certain project. The Society doesn't have the resources to accomplish most projects. It takes a motivated person or group of people to get an idea off the ground and carry it through. There are so many more things we could accomplish if we had more active volunteers. Keep this in mind while your Board strives to stay true to our mission statement of preserving and promoting our beloved Welsh ponies and cobs.

Dr. Ruth



WANTED: AGM Roving Reporters!

We need photos of Awards and Activities
Maybe even a few photo bombs!

★★ Prizes for photos that we can post to
FaceBook during the AGM★★

Charge up your phones and help us
Document our Annual Celebration!



RULES:

Photos must be sent to
one of the Officials listed below



You must include:
Name of the photographer
Name of people in photo (*first names only*)
Description of activity (*for example: Meet and Greet*)

Officials:

Lisa Landis - secretary@welshpony.org

Martha Stover - stoverpaw2@aol.com

Pat Cochran - locinvarwelsh@msn.com

Everyone is welcome to submit photos
(Prizes will only be awarded to those 18 yrs old and under)

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

Saturday, February 27, 2016

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 Advertising/Press Releases & PR - *Martha Stover & Pat Cochran*
 - D. Stud Book - *Hetty Abeles & Tiz Benedict*
 - E. Journal - *Megan Burtness*
 - F. Review - *Margaret Almond*
 - G. Website - *Megan Burtness & Sally Steinmetz*
 - H. Youth - *Patricia Cochran*
 - I. By-Laws - *Marsha Himler & Tiz Benedict*
 - J. Nominations - *Jackie Verkuyl*
 - K. Conventions & Annual Meeting - *Martha Stover & Marsha Himler*
 - L. International Ambassador - *Gail Thomson*
 - M. ADS Liaison - *Jay Hubert*
 - N. USEF Liaison - *Sally Steinmetz*
 - O. USDF Liaison - *Joann Williams*
 - P. Pony Club Liaison - *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 & Tiz Benedict*
 - U. Welsh of the Year and Hall of Fame - *Jackie Verkuyl & Gail Thomson*
 - V. Regional Representative Liaison - *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	2015
Purebred	1136	1202	988	824	879	869	787	777	673	672
Half-Welsh	249	265	261	175	165	198	175	206	185	178
Part-Bred							4	2	5	12

Stud Book Entries										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sec A	330	289	264	250	163	165	157	114	107	116
Sec B	363	370	347	374	276	256	220	170	169	208
Sec C	40	40	25	37	33	28	18	21	19	19
Sec D	64	86	68	68	36	57	35	24	19	32
Total	797	785	704	729	508	506	430	329	314	375

DNA Typings Due to White Markings									
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Owners	2	1	1	1	2	3	1	0	1
Ponies	7	1	2	1	2	5	1	0	2

Half-Welsh/Part Bred Registrations										
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Half-Welsh	342	422	333	281	227	268	156	145	180	157
Part Bred							12	6	14	21

Artificial Insemination Permits		
	Permits Issued	Foals registered
Section A	148	50
Section B	232	221
Section C	18	32
Section D	89	111
Half-Welsh	3	629
PartBred		7
Total	490	*1050

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

*79 registered during 2015, 54 Half-Welsh/PartBred

Membership Totals										
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Life	530	527	518	499	502	487	485	473	470	457
Family/Firm	415	398	371	316	266	255	248	217	208	187
Annual	933	814	883	799	747	675	711	660	662	610
Annual Associate	76	53	69	63	37	38	47	42	36	32
Junior	159	131	134	111	89	95	123	126	127	132
Total	2113	1923	1975	1788	1641	1550	1614	1518	1503	1418

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Income/Expense Statement - Budget

	2016 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual
REGISTRATIONS						
Registrations	23,000	23,200	21,000	20,430	19,170	23,095
Half-Welsh Registration	14,000	13,695	15,000	15,090	14,595	13,925
Partbred Registration	1,200	1,350	1,000	430	4,010	1,500
Transfers of Ownership	21,000	20,480	21,000	21,405	22,645	23,285
Half-Welsh Transfer	5,500	5,400	6,500	6,595	6,625	6,270
Partbred Transfer	100	170	100	25	160	50
SS Reports	10,000	10,105	10,000	10,295	9,290	10,295
DNA Typing	5,500	5,834	4,200	4,294	4,641	4,269
Prefix Registration	1,500	1,500	1,200	1,275	2,400	1,125
A.I./Frozen/ET Permits Income	1,200	1,300	1,500	1,895	1,645	1,355
Duplicate Certificates	1,800	1,800	2,400	2,460	2,670	2,460
Name Change	800	850	500	1,000	800	600
Lease Agreements	500	750	500	300	590	595
Extended Pedigrees	-	-	-	-	-	(18)
Stud Book Sales	-	35	50	81	35	663
Stud Book Photo Income	-	-	200	675	-	-
Unprocessed paperwork	-	-	50	55	207	485
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Registration Income	86,100	86,469	85,200	86,305	89,484	89,954
DNA Typing	3,500	3,830	2,700	2,322	2,970	2,985
Stud Book	-	-	-	-	-	54
Registration Expense	3,500	3,830	2,700	2,322	2,970	3,039
Net Registration Contribution	82,600	82,639	82,500	83,983	86,514	86,916
MEMBERSHIP						
Memberships	45,000	43,720	50,000	46,015	52,915	50,735
	-	-	-	-	-	-
Membership Income	45,000	43,720	50,000	46,015	52,915	50,735
Membership/Education Expense	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Membership Contribution	45,000	43,720	50,000	46,015	52,915	50,735
PUBLICATIONS						
Newsletter Advertising & 1st Class Postage	12,500	12,445	16,000	16,265	11,850	25,619
Journal Advertising	-	6,220	2,000	810	2,300	275
Journal Sales	-	20	-	132	20	170
Publication Income	12,500	18,685	18,000	17,207	14,170	26,064
Newsletter	12,000	12,054	14,000	12,458	13,926	15,378
Journal	-	9,419	8,000	-	11,212	-
Publication Expense	12,000	21,472	22,000	12,458	25,138	15,378
Net Publication Contribution	500	(2,787)	(4,000)	4,749	(10,968)	10,686
SHOWS						
High Score/Show Sanctioning Income	28,000	28,864	25,000	27,430	29,735	25,658
High Score Award Sales	6,000	6,135	6,000	6,185	7,972	5,560
Judges Licensing/Renewal Fee	2,000	2,515	1,750	2,095	1,895	1,575
Show Income	36,000	37,514	32,750	35,710	39,602	32,793
Show Sanctioning/High Score Expense (Awards)	6,000	5,931	7,000	6,743	6,641	7,166
High Score Award Sales expense	4,000	3,953	4,000	9,307	-	2,757
Show Expense	10,000	9,884	11,000	16,050	6,641	9,923
Net Show Contribution	26,000	27,630	21,750	19,660	32,961	22,870
PROMOTION						
Website Income	5,000	4,780	7,000	6,370	5,685	8,665
Co-Op Advertising Income	-	-	-	50	-	-
Promotional Items/Books	100	198	200	199	386	1,554
Literature	100	145	50	69	109	355
Open Show Program	1,500	1,440	1,500	1,940	510	670
Promotion Income	6,700	6,563	8,750	8,628	6,690	11,244
Co-Op/Advertising Expense	-	-	-	-	229	163
Promotional Items	-	-	-	-	-	471
Promotion Expense	-	-	-	-	229	634
Net Promotion Contribution	6,700	6,563	8,750	8,628	6,460	10,610

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Income/Expense Statement - Budget

	2016 Budget	2015 Actual	2015 Budget	2014 Actual	2013 Actual	2012 Actual
PROGRAMS/AGM						
AGM Registrations Income	15,000	18,350	12,000	12,380	14,420	17,930
Program Income	15,000	18,350	12,000	12,380	14,420	17,930
AGM Expense	15,000	19,427	12,000	14,781	13,845	15,823
Program Expense	15,000	19,427	12,000	14,781	13,845	15,823
Net Program Contribution	-	(1,077)	-	(2,401)	575	2,107
FUNDRAISING						
Stallion Service Auction		-	-	-	(275)	11,350
Raffle/Auction		-	-	-	3,242	2,055
Fundraising/Donations /Sponsorships	15,000	16,579	10,000	11,686	10,152	11,453
Fundraising Income	15,000	16,579	10,000	11,686	13,119	24,858
OTHER						
Rush	1,000	895	1,000	1,020	1,190	1,175
Interest Income	200	158	500	437	495	1,580
Forms	25	25	10	22	34	51
Transfer lists		320	300	280	280	280
Information/Reports		-	50	40	50	50
Postage/Shipping	200	153	200	213	367	578
Miscellaneous Income	200	517	200	699	195	319
Other Income	1,625	2,068	2,260	2,710	2,610	4,032
Transfer to Foundation	2,000	650	2,500	2,503	3,242	2,055
Miscellaneous Expense	1,000	879	1,500	1,749	2,200	560
Other Expense	3,000	1,529	4,000	4,252	5,442	2,615
Net Other Contribution	(1,375)	539	(1,740)	(1,542)	(2,833)	1,418
Total Income	217,925	229,948	218,960	220,641	233,008	257,610
Total Net Contributions	174,425	173,805	167,260	170,778	178,742	210,199
Operating Expenses						
Building Maintenance & Upgrades	500	595	500	492	670	451
Equipment & Furniture	500	1,892	2,000	1,798	300	-
Rent/Mortgage	22,320	22,630	28,800	15,307	14,910	25,741
Repairs & Maint. - Equipment	500	1,296	500	251	434	150
Utilities	2,500	2,425	2,500	2,212	2,438	2,498
Building & Equipment	26,320	28,838	34,300	20,060	18,753	28,839
Computer Programming	5,000	-	500	-	-	-
Dues & Subscriptions	400	400	400	400	350	350
Insurance	2,800	2,672	3,200	3,207	2,688	2,821
Legal & Accounting	1,500	2,368	1,400	1,235	735	1,023
Bank Charges	3,800	3,725	5,000	5,131	5,377	5,217
Licenses & Taxes	800	537	800	765	966	884
Professional Fees	14,300	9,702	11,300	10,738	10,116	10,294
Office Supplies	2,800	2,806	2,500	2,328	2,705	1,999
Postage	4,500	4,503	4,800	4,746	4,295	5,188
Printing	1,000	1,233	1,000	1,295	777	506
Telephone	2,450	2,441	2,200	2,277	2,151	1,770
Internet	3,100	2,128	2,200	2,199	2,042	2,701
Office Supplies/Communication	13,850	13,111	12,700	12,844	11,970	12,163
Salaries	115,000	113,394	115,000	111,155	105,220	112,184
Taxes - Payroll	11,000	10,981	11,000	10,834	9,867	10,111
Employee Benefits		-		-	1,048	6,853
Travel	2,000	1,897	2,000	1,681	1,224	1,407
Salaries & Benefits	128,000	126,273	128,000	123,669	117,360	130,554
Total Operating Expenses	182,470	177,924	186,300	167,312	158,199	181,851
Net Income (Loss)	(8,045)	(4,118)	(19,040)	3,466	20,543	28,348

Welsh Pony & Cob Society of America, Inc.

Committee Reports

Financial Report

Submitted by Jackie Verkuyl

As always, the Board places a great deal of importance on the WPCSA remaining fiscally sound, and has seen positive results in this effort. In 2015, we had a number of expenses that were not offset by corresponding income and as a result, budgeted for a loss of about \$19,000. With a diligence to saving costs as much as possible and an expansion of fundraising and the show program, we were able to reduce that loss to \$4,000. 2016 presents us with another situation where we anticipate expenses associated with upgrading the website. These costs should be recovered, but will not be recovered in 2016, which puts us in the position of budgeting for a loss in 2016. In each of the 3 prior fiscal years (2012-2014) income exceeded expenses, strengthening the WPCSA's financial position. Our cash position remains strong. The changes to the equine industry in general resulting from the new economic landscape present a challenge, but it is a challenge the WPCSA is prepared for and adapting to. Ongoing rumors that the WPCSA is on a downward financial spiral towards bankruptcy are exaggerated, unsubstantiated and simply untrue.

There are 7 functional areas where WPCSA generates income; registrations, membership, publications, shows, promotion, programs/AGM, and fundraising. Each of these areas represents an opportunity to generate funds to run the WPCSA. Our goal is to make sure that each of these areas do just that. Although this presents unique challenges in each area, we are prepared to meet these challenges.

Registrations

The number of members breeding ponies and number of foals being born and registered has declined significantly from the peak. As a result, the related registration income has declined. WPCSA has offered amnesty programs and is currently offering a part-bred amnesty period with reduced registration fees. The benefit of these programs is two-fold, in that animals that might not have been registered and therefore lost to the breed are now included in our registry and the WPCSA receives income that it would have otherwise missed. This also helps the owners of these animals as they receive the reduced rate. WPCSA has not increased registration fees in years and in general our fees are low compared to many other Breed organizations.

Membership

Membership has stabilized and we no longer see large declines in membership from year to year. Membership is a challenge throughout the equine industry, not just for the WPCSA. It is also very difficult to track, as everyone has their own reasons for being a member – some join when in the years they register a foal, others join when they show, and others like the fellowship. Each of these reasons is transient and as a result members come and go. We would like to encourage current members to join our Finance/Membership working group to help with membership drives and encourage participation. This is also an area where Regional Representatives have the opportunity to be very helpful. When non-member Welsh owners see negativity and dissent within our membership, they often decline to be involved. If members can do a better job keeping criticism constructive, rather than hurtful, this barrier to membership will be removed.

Publications

Publications have presented a great challenge in generating advertising dollars as well as ensuring publishing is timely. Every time a publication is held up for a late advertiser or a late article, it makes it that much more difficult to generate future income. We have worked with a variety of printers to reduce costs as much as possible while retaining quality in publications. We are somewhat unique in that our publication is a hard copy and is not exclusively online and the Board believes this is valuable. Now our greatest challenge seems to be getting information submitted on a timely basis so publications can be produced on a timely basis. In 2015 the Journal covering the years 2012, 2013 and 2014 was published, catching this publication up. The Journal has been re-formatted and going forward will be published as/with an issue of the Welsh Review, which should help both with timeliness and reducing the number of advertising requests made to our limited pool of advertisers.

Financial Report, cont'd

Shows

The WPCSA show sanctioning and high score programs have been hugely successful since inception, bringing standardization to shows across the country, increasing participation and giving our breed more places to show. This has also generated many new members and some of those members have evolved into breeders. WPCSA shows are known for being friendly and family oriented. The shows also make a significant financial contribution to the WPCSA. The current show software, changes to the show fee structure and a significant improvement in data quality ensure that the show program is not a financial drain on the WPCSA. The majority of the office time spent on shows is covered by one part time employee. As the economy improves and the show program expands this will continue to be a money maker for WPCSA, with a significant upside potential.

Promotion

Promotion includes the WPCSA website, Co-Op advertising and the Open Show recognition program. There are numerous opportunities for a mostly untapped opportunity for growth and profitability. The Board has recognized the need and plans are underway to upgrade the website. Once completed, both the main webpage and the members only page will be integrated. Our goal continues to be to make the WPCSA website the go-to place for everything Welsh related – information, rules, buyers and sellers. Promotion also includes the Open Show program and the Co-Op Advertising program. The Open Show program has been successful in recognizing ponies and cobs in open competition and with more publicity should continue to grow. The Co-Op Advertising program is available when people are interested in advertising, so contact Martha Stover if you have a publication you would like to see a Co-Op ad included in.

Programs

Programs currently consist of our AGM – this is a great opportunity for networking and interacting with other Welsh breeders and enthusiasts. The Board works hard to make these meetings interesting and achieve our goal of covering our costs.

Fundraising

Fundraising activities currently focus on donations and sponsorships. We were very successful in fundraising in 2015 and this continues to be an area we can take a greater advantage of.

All of our functional areas are supported by our overall Operating Expenses – we are running very lean with 2 full time employees and 2 part time employees. This is down from 7 full time employees about 10 years ago.

I would like to ask for volunteers to join two new working groups – our Membership working group and Fundraising working group. These are areas we have the ability to make a huge difference in for the benefit of the WPCSA.

Youth

Submitted by Patricia Cochran

Our educational program is gaining momentum! It has been an unknown jewel. With the help of Winona Meyer, local 4-H groups are beginning to use our Youth Program as part of their horse projects. The WPCSA has waived the fee for 4-H club members. Grass root support by individuals and local Welsh groups will be key to continued growth.

Molly Butler/J.D. Orear Scholarship

Submitted by Sabra Schiller

We had 7 applications this year. The following were our choices:

Nathan Turrel of North Norwich, NY who plans on becoming a large animal veterinary with a minor in equine science.

Kristy Wilkinson of Albany, NY who is a senior in college and plans on becoming a Doctor.

Both applicants were approved by the WPCSA Board of Directors and they were presented with checks in September 2015.

Licensed Officials

Submitted by Tiz Benedict

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.

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 and 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 sent two personal letters to judges related to their perceived performance, otherwise most judges have received positive reviews. At the end of 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. That letter also includes any rule changes or other information as needed.

We are still in the process of establishing a library of educational materials. We have received this year a conformation/type DVD developed by Cherry Wilson which is a great addition for the library. That DVD is also available for purchase from Cherry.

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 and shows. 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

Show Compliance

Submitted by Sabra Schiller

All the 2015 shows have submitted necessary paper work and fees. As of February 4th, 2016 we have received 14 applications for shows.

2015	51 Shows applied for	4 were canceled Total 47 shows held
2014	59 Shows applied for	3 were canceled Total 56 shows held

The reasons the 2015 shows were canceled:

6/20	Brown County II	Heat
7/10-12	OWPS Annual Show	Horse Flu
9/12	Sussex County I	same weekend as VWPCA
10/13	Sussex County II	Gold Show must be 2 days

This year we collected \$1,555.00 in fines. These were resulting from turning in results late, late show application, prize list on line before approval and prize list sent in late.

Those of you that write the prize list, please make sure your classes are listed as found in the rule book. Example: WPCSA Western Pleasure Working not WPCSA Western Working Pleasure.

Stud Books

Submitted by Hetty Abeles

The Society is pleased to announce that free access to the "Pony Search" Database, otherwise known as the electronic WPCSA Studbook, is available to all 2016 members in good standing. Please contact the National Office to setup your personal Username and Password.

Show Rules

Submitted by Sally Steinmetz & Jackie Verkuyl

Summary of New Rules for the 2016 Show Year:

The latest Show Rules (effective December 1, 2015) are on the web site with the changes for the 2016 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.com. Judges will receive a complimentary copy.

Below is a summary of all of the rule changes for the 2016 show year. Please read the new rule book to see these changes in their entirety:

- 105.3 Incorrect or missing back number may be penalized at the discretion of the judge
- 110.11 Additional classes/divisions for Half-Welsh/Part Bred breeding section. New chart for classes
- 111 Performance classes may be combined if three or fewer entries
- 112.4.x Minor wording changes and clarification to the Western Pleasure rules
- 112.8 Clarification to Low Hunter rules as to who is eligible
- 113.2 In Carriage Driving the definition of an entry is specified
- 113.3.6 In Draft Driving, classes must specify if for Singles, Multiples or Both
- 115.3 In Trail, rule about juniors not side passing or loping/cantering over rails taken out
- 136.9 Half-Welsh added to existing Sire and Dam lifetime awards for Half-Welsh/Part Breds
- 115.6 Junior Handler can be further split by age; can be split randomly if more than 10 in class
- 115.8 Adult Walk-Trot Equitation is a new pointed class
- 117.2 National and Regional titles – one Titled show per zone (Eastern, Central & Western)
- 117.2 Quadruple points for Titled shows with 100 or more animals; Triple points otherwise
- 117.2 Titled Show's winners in the breeding divisions will be recognized equally under both judges

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) Feedback on current rules

The rule change in requirements for Gold and Silver Standard shows has been in effect for one year of its two year trial. This change dropped the 'number of ponies' requirement for Gold and Silver ratings and increased some of the requirements for the Gold rating. Nothing else was changed for the Silver show requirements. We have received feedback on this new rule and ask everyone to continue to study this rule and come up with possible solutions for 2017. There is a wide range of opinions on this rule - from going back to the old rule to keeping the existing rule. Some feel that a mixture of the two (for example setting a 'number of ponies' minimum for Gold shows) would be best. At the end of the 2016 show year we must decide what the requirements for Gold and Silver shows will be in the future.

Show Rules, cont'd

Below is a chart that shows all of the 2015 shows, what rating they applied for and received, # entries and the rating under the old rules:

2015 WPCSA Shows				
Date	Name	Rating	# Entries	Rating Under Old Rules
9/30/2015	American National at Tulsa	Gold	204	Gold
5/1/2015	WPCSA Central Regional Show/RRWPA	Gold	138	Gold
7/3/2015	NEWPA	Gold	98	Gold
6/11/2015	Bel Air Welsh Classic	Gold	90	Gold
6/13/2015	Penn-Marydel WPCS Show	Gold	90	Gold
5/23/2015	Tulsa Area Pony Show 1	Gold	89	Gold
5/25/2015	Tulsa Area Pony Show 2	Gold	88	Gold
6/20/2105	Pink Pistol Pony Show	Gold	88	Gold
7/11/2015	Maryland Pony Breeders	Gold	84	Gold
7/9/2015	MPB-Midsummer Madness Show	Gold	75	Gold
4/17/2015	WPCAC Spring Gold Show	Gold	73	Silver
8/29/2015	Texas Rose Breed Show	Gold	71	Silver
7/2/2015	Santa Barbara National	Gold	67	Silver
8/28/2015	Pacific Coast Classic	Gold	63	Silver
9/3/2015	MD State Fair	Gold	59	Silver
8/26/2015	Brookside Welsh Show	Gold	55	Silver
8/27/2015	NY State Fair	Gold	55	Silver
11/20/2015	Texas Rose Autumn Breed Show	Gold	55	Silver
5/16/2015	VA Welsh Spring Fling	Gold	54	Silver
9/12/2015	VWPCSA Mid-Atlantic	Gold	51	Silver
5/14/2015	NY State Horsebreeders	Gold	26	Bronze
8/3/2015	Sussex Co. Horse Show	Gold	22	Bronze
3/14/2015	RRWPA Spring Silver	Silver	64	Silver
4/18/2015	RRWPA at Highlander Ranch	Silver	49	Silver
9/20/2015	PC Silver Series #2	Silver	49	Silver
4/26/2015	PC Silver Series #1	Silver	47	Silver
10/11/2015	PC Silver Series #3	Silver	43	Silver
6/13/2015	Northwoods Welsh Show I	Silver	31	Bronze
6/14/2015	Northwoods Welsh Show II	Silver	30	Bronze
9/11/2015	Summer Silver Series #1	Silver	30	Bronze
7/11/2015	Heart of Minnesota Welsh Classic	Silver	29	Bronze
9/12/2015	Summer Silver Series #2	Silver	29	Bronze
8/8/2015	Heat of Summer	Silver	24	Bronze
6/19/2015	Far West Championship Show	Silver	21	Bronze
7/25/2015	Carolina Welsh Hot Summer Nights I	Silver	19	Bronze
7/25/2015	Carolina Welsh Hot Summer Nights II	Silver	18	Bronze
8/7/2015	AWE Summer Show I	Bronze	32	Bronze
8/8/2015	AWE Summer Show II	Bronze	25	Bronze
9/2/2015	AWE Walla Walla Fair & Frontier Days	Bronze	20	Bronze
11/7/2015	PonyPalooza & Fall Sporthorse	Bronze	15	Bronze
8/25/2015	AWE Western Idaho Fair Show	Bronze	12	Bronze
8/29/2105	Heartland Welsh/ISHA	Bronze	11	Bronze
5/16/2015	Heartland Welsh Club	Bronze	8	Bronze
9/26/2015	Carolina Carriage Club	Bronze	8	Bronze
5/17/2015	Carriage Classic In the Pines	Bronze	5	Bronze
5/9/2015	Brown County Horseman Show 1	Bronze	4	Bronze
8/8/2015	Brown Co. Horseman's Show III	Bronze	3	Bronze

Total 2015 Shows: 47 Shows did not make rating under old rule: 21 (45%)
 Gold & Silver 2015 Shows: 36 Shows did not make rating under old rule: 21 (58%)

Show Rules, cont'd

Listed below is a summary of the feedback we've received so far:

Positive Feedback	Negative Feedback
Rating is guaranteed for exhibitors - especially attractive to those that travel far distances and might not come if rating wasn't guaranteed.	Not fair to have gold or silver rating with low # entries, especially Gold shows that would have received a Bronze rating under the old rule.
Exhibitors are happy to get full points even if there aren't enough ponies under the old rules. Classes still need to be filled so people work on that.	More than half (58%) of the Gold and Silver shows did not meet the old # of ponies requirement.
No last minute scramble to find ponies (Easier for both management and exhibitors)	No push to get more entries = loss of revenue for show and no 'let's work together to make the numbers' atmosphere
Shows such as state fairs or all breed shows (that have no worries about a Welsh division cost vs income) love the new rule.	Raising of Gold Sanctioning fees is prohibitive for smaller, club run gold shows. Puts them in a tough spot because they want to keep the Gold to attract exhibitors but can't afford it.

2) Other Rule Suggestions

a) Possible New Classes at WPCSA Shows

Discussion:

By providing other classes and options to exhibitors the WPCSA will be making an effort to increase the number of exhibitors attending our shows. 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 go to other venues. If Two-Class Pleasure divisions were implemented, it would give shows more time to offer new classes.

- **WPCSA Versatility Division - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

This division would have three classes at a show that show management would select from a list of possible classes: Cowboy Dressage, Dressage, Western Riding, Extreme Cowboy, Speed events (barrels, pole bending), matched pairs pleasure. Another idea is to not add more classes but give a 'versatility award' at each show to the pony with the most points in all divisions. This would not be pointed and would be tabulated by the show.

- **WPCSA Hunter Hack - A/B/C/D/H/P (18 Inch) Open**

This class would fall under the Hunter section and that general specification 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 specification 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.

- **Welsh Working Western Class - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

This class reflects the versatility, attitude and movement of a working pony. The pony's performance should simulate a pony riding outside the confines of an arena and that of a working ranch pony. Each pony will work individually, performing both required and optional maneuvers and scored on a basis of 0-100 with 70 being average. Required to walk, trot and lope in both directions and extended trot and extended lope in at least one direction as well as stops (not sliding) and back. Four obstacles to also be completed.

Show Rules, cont'd

- **English Equitation/Pleasure - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

To be judged 50% on equitation and 50% on the pleasure performance of the animal. To walk, trot and canter both ways plus perform tests as difficult as the entries warrant.

- **Fun Classes - A/B/C/D/H/P Open**

Non-pointed, no year end awards. Possibly offer a 'division' that would count towards the number of divisions required for a particular rating. Ride-A-Buck, Egg & Spoon, Adult Leadline (kid leads adult), Catalog Relay, etc.

b) Two Class Divisions for all Pleasure divisions and Draft Driving

Proposal and Reason for Rule Change:

It is 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.

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.

Most times a pleasure division has all three classes in a row due to time constraints and to avoid 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 hard ship on the animals, better for a show's time schedule and less boring to all involved.

Listed below is a summary of the feedback we've received so far:

Positive Feedback	Negative Feedback
Less hardship on animals and riders showing in many divisions especially in inclement weather	Not enough classes for an animal entered in only one or two performance divisions
More interesting to riders, animals, spectators and judges	More championship ties (ties will be broken by whoever receives the most points in the Conformation/Stake class)
Prevents shows from being exceedingly long – saves shows a lot of time	Whoever wins the Conformation/Stake will most likely be champion. (True. The only way someone else could be champion is if they won the first class and were second in the Conformation /Stake and the winner of the Conformation Stake didn't place in the first class)
Gives shows a possibility to offer other types of classes	Will negatively impact show's bottom line. (Same income if Conformation/Stake class has double entry fees)
No impact on points or revenue for shows	No one else is doing this
Less chance of animals learning and anticipating the same routine, often with bad habits	Would weaken our show structure
	Prefer 3 classes – more chances to do well, more time to figure the judge out, more classes to calm nerves (pony and/or rider) and more experience for green ponies

c) Points Based on Number of Ponies Beaten

The idea behind this is to give ponies that win in large classes more points. Many feel that this is a more fair way to distribute points. Our computer program could be modified to track this. Many of the other breeds do this including the Arabs and Quarter horses. There are many different examples of how it could be done. Also being considered is how to make this equitable (especially for lifetime points) when some classes never have many entries.

Marketing/Outside Advertising/Press Releases & Public Relations

Submitted by Martha Stover

Marketing the WPCSA breed has become more the task of the membership and the Society reaps the benefits. The Society's attempts at broadcasting Welsh victories are overshadowed by You the membership and Your savvy use of email and FaceBook and many of the other social media sites that many of us don't have a clue how to use! How wonderful to hear about our Welsh at USEF Pony Hunter Finals, USDF Finals, Walnut Hill Driving Show, Live Oaks Combined Driving, the Royal Winter Fair and even entry into the USEF Hall of Fame!

"Sharing" might be the best word to use as we move forward. We often "share" each others achievements on Face-Book. You will hear at this meeting that the Society will begin sharing access to our the Pony Search Database with the membership. Increasingly publications are more interested and willing to "share" or exchange pages of information or advertising. We are often asked to "share" the expense of Welsh awards at dressage, hunter, driving and other types of equine events. The Open competitions are hungry for Welsh to have a presence both in competition and as award donors. I expect our own Open Awards program will grow much larger if we share more. Last week, I received paperwork from USDF and included was a form to sign up for their All Breed Award Program. What a simple, old fashioned way to share information!

Sharing our Welsh may require you to share some of your time. In Dr. Ruth's letter to the membership above, she reminds us that, "it takes a motivated person or group of people to get an idea off the ground and carry it through. There are so many more things we could accomplish if we had more active volunteers." I plan on Sharing my Welsh as often as I can. I hope you will too.

Promotion

Submitted by Patricia Cochran

A top class promotional video for the Society is still our goal! Raw footage from various photographers have proven inconsistent. We need to investigate converting old footage, owned by the Society, that was made in the 1990's. This would have great historical value for the Society but because it is in Beta and Mini DVD formatting it will not hold up to the HD production values of today. Costs for conversion to HD from these earlier formats runs about \$1/min for Beta and \$2/min for Mini DVD. The Society has nearly 25 hours of tape. We have begun work with a small video production company exchanging YouTube videos of "the look" we hope to create. A preliminary budget of \$3000 has been proposed but fund raising ideas need to be pursued and discussed. A preview at the 2017 AGM is the hope!

Facebook continues to be a solid vehicle for the Society. Our FB page has grown by nearly 70% in the past year with over 3800 page likes. Our average post reaches over 900 people.

Website

Submitted by Megan Burtness

We are extremely excited to announce nearly every form can now be completed on the wpcsamembers.com site from the comfort of your own computer!! A number of members have taken advantage of many of these forms already and we have received wonderful reviews. We continue to move forward with the complete transition of the entire site over to our new site format.

We are in great need of Sec. B, C, D, Half-Welsh, and Part-Bred photos to complete these pages on the new site. We would like to invite members to contribute photos for these pages (Please title the photos with the Pony's registered name and e-mail them to the National Office).

We are also very excited to announce, that as of 2016, all current WPCSA members have free access to the Pony Search Database. Contact the National Office to setup your personal Username and Password.

Journal

Submitted by Megan Burtness

The Journal for 2012-2014 was completed and mailed out to the membership during the 2015 season. We are putting the finishing touches on the new version of the Journal in the form of a Review publication. We are very excited about the new format for the Journal and will be sending it off to print shortly. Thank you to everyone that has supported this Publication and for all the members that sent in their lovely ads and win photos.

Welsh Review

Submitted by Margaret Almond

Four volumes of the Review have been put together for this past year. Volumes 1-3 should have been received. Volume 4 is still in the works, and it looks great. Some changes are planned for the next year. There will be 3 volumes of the review in 2016. The deadlines are March 6, 2016 with emphasis on Section C's and D's, dressage and annual convention news. June 6th Section A, driving and Jr. Riders and Sept 6th Section B, as well as Hunters and Stallions. All ads will now be done in color – no more black & white. We have sourced a new printer and are looking into printing additional copies (above and beyond current membership) so we can have copies available to sell individually. We need all of our members help to make this work. As always the major problem in getting the review published in a timely manner is the people who have promised submissions, but are not meeting deadlines. We want the membership to submit articles and photos. We're always looking for cover photos. But we can't hold the presses forever. In order for the review to pay for itself we need ads. In order to make the printing of additional copies affordable we need to sell more ad pages. Our Section A marketing group has done a co op ad. Maybe others would be interested in doing so as well. We are trying to get together a package where committing to all 3 reviews will net some savings. If anyone buying 3 ads is late for the deadline we will run the previous ad.

I understand the concerns about how late the issues are but the two conditions, timely submission of materials, and participation by members are an integral part to our success.

2015 Open Awards Program

Submitted by Marsha Himler

This year the Open Awards program had 38 participants, the same number as in 2014, but with some new names and some new divisions being represented. This year we had 2 new entries in the Combined Driving Division – one in Prelim and one in Training Level (vs, 1 in 2014;) 2 entries in Eventing (none in 2014), and one entry in Prix St. George dressage (none in 2014). This year, however, there were no entries in Western Equitation or Western Pleasure.

There were 21 ponies overall competing in the open show division; the Dressage Division was the second most popular division with 18 ponies competing (vs 12 in 2014.) There were a few in the Dressage Division that did not submit enough scores to qualify for a placing.

In the Show Division there were 21 ponies competing in the six subdivisions: 7 ponies competed in the Open Pleasure Driving vs 4 in 2014; in English Equitation 6 ponies competed vs 8 in 2014; in English Pleasure 7 ponies competed vs 6 in 2014; in the General subdivision 5 ponies competed vs. 7 in 2014; in Hunter/Jumper 8 ponies competed vs. 10 in 2014; in Trail 7 ponies competed vs. 8 in 2014.

In the Carriage Pleasure Driving Division 9 ponies competed vs, 7 in 2014; in the Combined Driving Division 3 ponies competed vs. 1 in 2014; in the Working Western Division 1 pony competed vs. 4 in 2014; in the Junior Division, 8 Juniors competed vs 10 juniors who competed in 2014.

For the upcoming year (watch for the announcement) I will be adding 2 Versatility awards – one for Juniors and one for Adults. Details TBA. Working Ranch Horse (same point system as Working Western) will be included in Working Western. Western Dressage will be added as a separate division and will use the same scoring system currently in place for the Dressage Division.

2015 Open Awards Program, cont'd

Watch the website for further details. Currently I am thinking along the lines of requiring results from any 2 subsections from the Show Division PLUS results from at least one other Division (Carriage Driving, Eventing, Combined Driving, Working Western and the two Dressage Divisions. Obviously scores in the Dressage Divisions will have to be converted to a point system somehow.)

The Open Program is a great place to showcase our Welsh ponies & Cobs and half/part-breds. Results can be submitted for all shows starting December 1, 2015 through November 31, 2016.

Congratulations to all our 2015 winners and participants.

Regional Representatives

Submitted by Margaret Almond

The framework for the Regional Representatives is in place. Some regions have active blog entries on the members' only site www.wpcsamembers.com. I also have seen Facebook pages for some regions. The representatives are there for the membership but need the members to provide them with news so they can publish the regional happenings. The regional reps are going to have their columns published in the Review again this year. We'd like the membership to provide us with feedback through their representatives about some new promotional ideas. These include awarding a Best of Show title where the Supreme A/B/C or D would face off with the Supreme Gelding and Grand Champion Half Welsh (no points) and, secondly, the awarding of a Young Stock Champion for ponies 2 and under (no points). We are also looking for ideas about a regional gelding incentive. Members can contact their regional reps or your BOD directly when the Hot Topics button is used on the members' only site.

USDF Liaison

Submitted by Joann Williams

In 2015, I worked to encourage riders who were competing in Dressage with Welsh and Part Welsh to join WPCSA, and to help recognize the members who competed for USDF All Breed Awards. WPCSA was asked to offer 2 high score awards for Welsh at the USDF Nationals in Kentucky. Thanks to the generosity of our WPCSA members, I was able to give awards to the High Score competitors at US Nationals at 4th level and below, and FEI Levels. Alison Cyprus/Madoc Gareth received two embroidered saddle pads for her 4th level and her PSG ride.

For the USDF All-Breed, the highest score at each level received a saddle pad. Mary Alice Williams donated 3 lovely saddle pads with the Welsh Dragon embroidered on one side. I had additional embroidery done on the other. The other Champion and Reserve Champions got an embroidered tote bag.

The other saddle pads came from SmartPak. They were offering free embroidery for a short time, so I took advantage of that. The tote bags were on sale from Chicks saddlery. A local embroidery shop did the additional work at a very reasonable price. I vastly underestimated what it would cost to ship all the awards, so that amount became my donation to the program.

Total donations	\$395.00
Expenses:	
Saddle pads, SmartPak (4)	143.60
Tote bags, Chicks (18)	104.81
Embroidery (21 items)	119.81
Shipping	<u>180.91</u>
Total expenses	\$549.49

Next year, if asked to be the liaison again, I may have to do it a bit differently. Depending on the amount of donations, I may have to only Award the highest and second score at each level instead of Champion and Reserve in every Section. It was nice to give an award at USDF Nationals, but in 2014 and 2015, there was only one competitor eligible for the Welsh award. I wonder if that money is better spent in the All-Breed awards where there is tough competition. Thank you for allowing me to be the USDF-WPCSA liaison.

Pony Club Liasion

Submitted by Louise Gill

Just giving a little update on what is going on in pony club. Pony club now offers 14 different disciplines; Distance Riding, Dressage, Driving, Eventing, Fox Hunting, Games, Horse Management, Hunter Seat Equitation, Polo, PoloCrosse, Quiz, Show Jumping, Tetrathlon, Vaulting, and Western. Not only does it offer all these disciplines it also has a program for the more mature equestrians called Horsemasters. If you need more information you can go to the United States Pony Club web site at www.ponyclub.org or you can get a hold of me at louisenice@aol.com

USEF Liasion

Submitted by Sally Steinmetz

The WPCSA, as a Recognized National Affiliate of the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), plays a part in helping the Federation fulfill its mission to celebrate, protect and grow equestrian sport in the US. As an affiliate, we have received numerous grants over the years, have participated in their show and awards programs, have determined the USEF Welsh rules, have had a say in their general rules and have a number of our members serving on various committees.

This year we had a Welsh pony nominated for the prestigious USEF Horse of the Year award. Glynhafan Hermione, a Section B mare owned by Elizabeth and Kaitlin Hofer and bred by Glenda Armstrong, was honored at their gala Horse of the Year Awards dinner at the annual meeting in Lexington, KY in January.

Each August a group of members set up a Welsh tent at the USEF Pony Finals in Lexington, KY to promote the Welsh breed. Awards are given to WPCSA registered ponies and a program is given out that lists all the ponies, the sire, dam, breeder and if they're WPCSA registered. 2015 saw the largest number of registered Welsh competing to date. These awards continue to grow in popularity and do a wonderful job to promote and give recognition to our breed.

At the annual USEF meeting in January, one of the most notable developments was the passing of a new rule for microchipping hunters, jumpers and equitation horses starting in December 2017. Although this doesn't apply to Welsh shows at this time, it shows that the horse industry is heading towards a more reliable horse identification system. This has many advantages including allowing the breeder to track an animal's career more closely.

Congratulations to Glynhafan Hermione one of the 2015 USEF Horse of the Year Nominees!

Glynhafan Hermione (Glynhafan Red Hawk x Glynmagi Lorelei)

2003 Welsh Pony mare

Owned by Kaitlin and Elizabeth Hofer

Bred by Glenda Armstrong

