

VERSA Annual Meeting Notes, 2/23/21

Ginny Norton, Acting Secretary

- I. Annual Meeting – board members + open to all VERSA members
 - a. Susan Aschenbrenner called meeting to order, quorum established
- II. Hattie Francis, Treasurer, gave financial report
 - a. In the midst of membership renewal season
 - i. 42 members, \$695 in membership renewals in last 2.5 months
 - b. VERSA has received an anonymous donation in the amount of \$3,000, restricted use for promotions
 - c. Club has voted to fund the Saddlebred Sport Horse Challenge, organized by Laura Jumpp, in the amount of \$1,000.
 - d. Year-end balance = \$7,314
- III. Year in Review
 - a. Ranch Horse Division Update – Carol Jones
 - i. Currently working on final wording of rules with Sandra Currier (ASHA) and Terri Dolan (USEF)
 - ii. Ranch Horse Division rules will soon be official in USEF rulebook for all 4 classes: Ranch Riding, Ranch Rail Pleasure, Ranchmanship, and Ranch Trail
 - b. Promotions Committee – Carey Verschure & Melanie Sloyer
 - i. VERSA is providing funding in the amount of \$1,000 for the Saddlebred Sport Horse Challenge show
 - ii. VERSA provided funds for the debut of the Ranch Horse classes at the Unfair Horse Show in Iowa in 2020
 - iii. Continued importance for VERSA to reach all audiences, traditional breed shows and new sport horse areas, when promoting events related to ASB versatility.
 - c. AERC Distance Awards – VERSA supported w/ Lisa Siderman (member)
 - i. High-point endurance and limited distance awards for Saddlebreds and Half-Saddlebreds
 - ii. Embroidered coolers were given as high-point awards
 - iii. Open all distance clubs across the country
 - d. Western Dressage Association
 - i. Planning a virtual show May/June 2021
 - ii. In-person show Sept/Oct
 - e. Congratulations to VERSA member, Amy Auito who was awarded a Breed Ambassador award!
 - f. How to promote versatile horses on Facebook/web
 - i. Virginia LaRocque/Susan A presenting
 - ii. Need help creating a Sales Horse category on the website (potential website overhaul)
 - iii. Facebook – Horse of the Week Program – Ginny Beth Norton & Kris Wallace
 1. Celebrate versatile saddlebreds or half-saddlebreds – ask for submissions of a few photos and description of horses on Facebook

- iv. Carolyn Hardaway – List of events offering versatile classes, so that people know where to show in these new/versatile classes
 - 1. Ginny Beth Norton to add this list to our Facebook page
 - 2. Monarch National Championships has added Dressage & Dressage Suitability to their class list
 - 3. J.D. Massey & Little Gasparilla has added Dressage Suitability to class list
 - 4. Big D Charity has added Ranch Riding & Ranch Pleasure
- v. Laura Jumpp – Saddlebred Sport Horse Challenge
 - 1. Modeled after the Mustang Makeover
 - 2. ASB's compete against other ASB's showcase their versatility
 - 3. Encourages non-ASB trainers to look into ASB horses, and encourages ASB trainers/breeders/owners to try the versatile disciplines
- vi. There has been difficulty in getting non-traditional ASB's registered as ASB's or half- ASBs. Perhaps VERSA could partner with some of the rescue groups to help. Potential action item for 2021.
- vii. Carol Jones – New Hunter division proposal
 - 1. Interest in splitting Hunter into two categories:
 - a. Hunter Country Pleasure (show horses)
 - b. New “sport-horse type” hunter pleasure – to be determined/needs more discussion; but would give more horses a place to show, as the hunter country pleasure division has trended towards high-head sets and lots of animation/motion in front.