

Michigan State Rabbit Breeders Association
General Membership Meeting
09/26/2010
MSU Pavilion

Members Present: Donna Mallory, Gail Samson, Rob Usakowski, Kelly Hansen, George Carpenter, Anthony Parker, Ronda Hemenway, Chris Garrett, Janet Bowers, Carlene Bell, Barbara Irelan, Kathy Carpenter, Penny Jezuit, Margaret Potter, Karl Ehnis Jr., Larry Walthorn, Sherry Garrett, Jane Burt, Sandy Doyle.

Minutes & Communications:

Correction to the minutes by Sherry Garrett: Janet Bowers made the motion, second by Chris Garrett, to hold the Sunday MSRBA Fall Show C with the open showing in the a.m. and the youth showing in the afternoon. (This is to accommodate the fourth quarterly meetings by MSRBA and MSRBYA.) Motion carried.

Motion by Ronda Hemenway, second by Janet Bowers to accept the minutes as printed in the Michigan Rabbit News, with the above listed correction to the 06/06/2010 General Membership Meeting minutes. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Sandy Doyle As of 09/24/2010

Total Income:	\$5,557.26
Expenses:	\$7,033.67
CD April Rollover:	\$2,004.18
CD Dec. Rollover	\$1,002.58
Checking	\$ 441.18
Chase Checking:	\$ - 32.26 Account closed
Total Bank Accounts:	\$3,469.58 Overall Total

Committee Reports:

Membership: Sherry Garrett stated Individual and Affiliated Club new membership contests are still going on so members are encouraged to enlist new members for these contests. Funds are starting to come in again on memberships after a lean period over the summer with the lack of shows. Club affiliation forms are up on the website where clubs can easily access the renewal documents. Breeders listings are picking up: for \$10.00 you get your listing every other month in the MSRBA News and on the web site for one year.

Promotions: Larry Walthorn stated that all of the tee shirts are gone now. There are only sweatshirts, hoodies and a couple of hats. We may need to restock in the near future.

Show Circuit: Carlene Bell asked a question on moving a show sanction from this year into 2011. This had been voted on at a previous meeting, so the show sanction can be moved as long as it is done so by midnight of the cancelled day of show. Carlene will handle this with the club.

4-H Report: Ronda Hemenway & Jane Burt

- The State 4-H Show is to be held on January 31st, 2011.
- There will be the Show of Champions (formerly the Gold Showmanship from the State Fair) at the 2011 State 4-H Show.
- A question was posed from Midland County representatives on what happens if a youth cannot register in their county as a 4-H member. Can they still show as a 4-H'er? It is recommended to contact the State 4-H office with questions on this.
- New Showmanship Guide is being piloted in 6 counties and then a meeting will be held to finalize clarifications and changes.
- An interactive CD will be available in the future (Electronic Copy) for purchase. Professional photographs have been taken by the MSU photographer of every step of showmanship for the new guide.

Publication: Jane Burt said that several ads are coming due this fall. This issue was the smallest in a long time.

Equipment: Tony Parker stated that the metal show holes and bottoms are for sale. Price is \$50 per 8 foot show setup. They come in 2 – four foot segments.

- Discussion on the heights of the dividers of the current show boxes.
- Discussion on the trailer.

Special Committee's:

Long Range Planning Committee: Kelly Hansen stated she has been advertising the MSRBA Convention on Facebook with a good response.

Historical Committee: Barb Irelan stated that they have slides of the old rabbitries here in the state.

Unfinished Business:

2010 MSRBA Fall Shows:

- Fall Show set up will begin around 5:00 p.m. Friday – possibly a little earlier
- Awards for Saturday shows: Open Top 25 breeds, Youth Top 20 breeds. \$15 per set of Trophies (Set at the 09/26/2010 BOD meeting). Total cost should be \$1820.00 for the trophies and clocks. Bill will be doing the trophies form Al-Mars and Al & Barb Irelan will be doing the clocks for Best In Show. To be determined on the best 4 and 6 class awards.
- Awards for the Sunday show will be cash awards as listed in the BOD minutes.

Motion by Ronda Hemenway, second by Donna Mallory to approve the awards as discussed. Motion carried.

- Sanctions will be \$1392 for all three shows. A breeder paid sanction for the American Sable youth by Penny Jezuit.
- Ribbons/Rosettes: Rolls of Ribbons are going to be purchase with 600 ribbons per roll – 6 inch cut x 2 inches wide. Elaine Hansen will be cutting them. They will be given for open and youth on Saturday, with possibly youth only on Sunday.

Rob Usakowski made the motion, second by Margaret Potter for approval of the purchases of the ribbons and rosettes at the new places discussed. It was noted that this will be a significant savings to the club. Motion carried.

- Hotel Raffle for the 2011 MSRBA Convention at the Candlewood Suites for one night, and 2 MSRBA banquet tickets will be done at the fall show. Price per ticket is \$10.00. Tony has tickets left over from last year that will be utilized. It is the consensus of the membership to hold this raffle.
- Jane Burt announced that 2 regular rooms have been upgraded to the one bedroom suites.
- The Fall Show Flyer is up on the ARBA and MSRBA websites.

2011 MSRBA Convention:

- Travis Finkle has been hired as a dual Rabbit & Cavy judge.
- The MSRBA expanded Rabbit School and Judges Conference schedule has been developed. It is proposed to begin at 1:00 p.m. Breeds to be covered are Belgian Hares x Erik Bengtson, Britannia Petites x Travis Finkle, Checkered Giants to be announced, English Spots Scott Wiebensohn, Rhinelander x Dr. Jay Hreitz, Tan's x Scott Wiebensohn. Under Body Types/Posing and Handling are Holland Lops, Netherland Dwarfs, Himalayan's. Under Colors: Harlequin, Champagne, and American Sable.
- The P.M. Session of the expanded Rabbit School will contain: Health Issues x Dr. Jay Hreitz, the 2011 ARBA Standard of Perfection x Scott Wiebensohn, and another topic x Dr. Jay Hreitz.
- This is an exciting presentation and sponsors are being taken to assist with the costs.
- Rabbit auction: It was the consensus of the members present that we wish to continue this. Kelly Hansen will work on providing quality animals like last year. She noted that several of the donators did a full donation on their animals and are thanked greatly for their support of the MSRBA.
- The MSRBA Convention show flyer will be up on the ARBA and MSRBA websites very shortly along with a flyer on the expanded Rabbit School and Judges Conference.
- The Candlewood Suites is the official host hotel for the 2011 MSRBA Convention weekend. They have dropped the price by \$5.00 per room over our Fall Show rate due to the number of rooms in the room block for the MSRBA. Rooms are \$70 for a Studio Suite Queen and \$80 for a one bedroom Suite One Bedroom per night for Convention. Fall Show rates are \$75 and \$85 per night. This is significant savings as normal rates are \$99.00 and \$126.00 respectively. Be sure to state you are with the MSRBA or rabbit breeders when you make your reservation.

Any other Unfinished Business: None

New Business:

Discussion on check writing. Motion by Rob Usakowski, second by Margaret Potter that any checks in excess of \$1,000.00 require two signatures on them. Motion carried.

2010 Fall Show Weekend Friday night Workshop: 7:00 p.m.

Jane Burt will be going through the new 2011 showmanship guideline. Question and answer session to follow.

Sherry Garrett brought up the idea of possibly sharing a Quad show in June with the Great Lakes Rabbit & Cavy Shows. This would act as a summer fundraiser to assist MSRBA when coming into the summer and early fall season when our funding is usually lower. GLRCS has booked the Ionia show grounds facility for their normal weekend according to Janet Bowers. They will be holding a meeting the end of October and will discuss this possibility. This discussion was then tabled until the November MSRBA Quarterly meeting to allow for the outcome of the GLRCS meeting discussion on this topic.

Any other New Business: None

Motion to adjourn by Kelly Hansen, second by Chris Garrett. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sherry S. Garrett, secretary