

# Minutes of Wisconsin River Chapter – NAVHDA Annual Membership Meeting

January 16, 2010

The annual meeting of the Wisconsin River Chapter – NAVHDA was held on January 16, 2009 at Cedar Valley Preserves, Spring Green, WI. Sean Timmens, President, called the meeting to order at approximately 11:15 AM.

## Old Business:

**President's 2009 Year-End Report:** Sean shared chapter accomplishments he was proud of that occurred during his tenure as president: erecting the fence along Hwy Y, providing a summer NA test that has been well attended, chapter members training past NA, several chapter members qualifying their dogs for the Invitational and having a good working relationship with the DNR and Mazo Grounds Association.

**Secretary's 2009 Year-End Report:** A summary of the chapter's events for the past year was given. Minutes from last year's annual meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept secretary's report was made by Laurie Vierthaler, seconded by Paul Grover; motion carried.

**Treasurer's 2009 Year-End Report:** Report given. The chapter ended the year at a loss of \$600. There were no revenue generating events last year (no fund raisers or training clinics), the fall tests were cancelled and the price of birds were very costly. Fees were lost on lunches, with more money being paid out in reimbursements for a meal than contributions collected. The ending balance for the year is \$11,500.

**Directors' 2009 Year-End Reports:** Reports on the highlights of the past year were given by Sean Timmens for the Directors of Promotions, Training, Testing and Test Secretary. Sean pitched a reminder to the membership to forward stories to Laurie for the newsletter. He thanked the trainers who helped on training days and throughout the year. He explained that a poor economy and lack of participants contributed to the cancellation of the fall test. Connie Roewer introduced the new website. She thanked Doug Spencer for his donation of time and expertise to revamp the design. Connie described the content of the various pages and asked for membership input. Connie will continue to keep it current and is requesting members to send her pictures of themselves with their dogs for posting on the website.

Motion to accept the old business was made by Paul Juckem, seconded by Donna Cochenet; motion carried.

**Volunteer of the Year:** Sean Timmens presented the Volunteer of the Year award to Connie Roewer for her efforts in revitalizing the WRC website.

## **Introduction of 2010 Officers and Directors:**

President: Brian White (elected)	Vice President: Paul Juckem (appointed to remaining term)
Treasurer: Corey Lawson (elected)	Secretary: Donna Cochenet
Director of Promotions: Laurie Vierthaler	Director of Training: Paul Grover
Test Secretary: Karla Nephew	Director of Testing: Joe Stewart/Chuck Vierthaler

## New Business:

New president, Brian White, conducted the remainder of the annual meeting.

## **Membership Dues and Mazomanie Grounds Fee:**

It was proposed that membership dues should again include the Mazo grounds collar fees: \$30 individual + \$5 spouse or family member. Discussion ensued regarding the pros and cons of collecting collar fees on each training day vs. bundling the collar fee into the membership dues. It was decided that the Executive Council will continue to monitor attendance on training days and submit an appropriate dollar amount to MGA. The MGA collar fees have paid for grounds upkeep such as the installation of the fence, shelter, outhouse, water pump, etc. Motion to accept same fee structure was made by Paul Juckem, seconded by Chuck Vierthaler; motion carried.

### **2010 Calendar of Chapter Events:**

Brian White led a discussion of the planned chapter events for 2010. Training days will promote fun and camaraderie with an emphasis on finding who can help whom. In addition to the regular training days and test days, possible additions to the calendar include a Handlers Clinic and shooting clinic. Suggestions were also made to invite presenters to speak on various topics of interest during the lunch break on training days. Some of the suggestions included: Morrie Link – canine first aid & microchip clinic, Derek Jennings – photography, Becky Roth – DNR dog training permits. Brian will contact Morrie Link about possible dates for a microchip clinic/first aid presentation and a shooting clinic. Paul Grover will invite Becky Roth to the March training day. Derek agreed to do an in-service on photography at the April training day. All proposed dates have been confirmed by MGA & DNR and are now official. See attached training calendar for dates.

Lengthy discussions regarding the format for training day lunches were entertained. Discussions included: whether or not to reimburse the main meal, whether to charge a \$5 fee for lunch or ask for voluntary donations, ask everyone to contribute a side dish, beverage or dessert “pot-luck” style, should chapter provide soda & water. A motion was made that there will not be any reimbursement for lunches. All items for lunch will be voluntary contributions pot-luck style with a main lunch coordinator supplying the main dish and setting up. The motion was made by Brian White, seconded by Connie Roewer; motion passed by majority with 3 no votes cast. A second motion was made that the Treasurer will purchase soda & water to sell for \$1 at training day lunches. Motion made by Paul Juckem and seconded by Mike Teff; motion carried. A third motion was made to provide a collection container at the lunches with a sign “suggested donation”. The container will also have a sign to describe the use of the funds (training equipment, other Chapter expenses). Motion was made by Mike Teff, seconded by Joe Stewart; motion passed.

Since no winter obedience is being offered this year, Chuck Vierthaler has reserved the UW stock pavilion in his name for the winter months. Anyone interested in using the facilities for in-doors training may contact Chuck for rental fees and UW policy agreement. This is considered a non-sanctioned event.

A final motion to accept the calendar of dates with the possible addition of a Handler’s clinic as determined by a feasibility committee (Paul Grover, Donna Cochenet) was made by Paul Juckem, seconded by Corey Lawson; motion passed.

### **Training Grounds and Test Sites:**

Discussions pertaining to the upkeep and improvement to the Mazo grounds were entertained. Mazo Grounds Association’s projects for 2010 may include: repair Dunlop Creek bridge, move gate access to Hwy 78 water, create wetlands area, clean out stumps and debris, mow and apply herbicides. The question was asked whether the chapter wanted to make a monetary contribution to MGA for these projects. Disappointment was voiced over the \$500 donated last year for the gate project that never happened. A suggestion was made that the chapter should wait for MGA to approach the club for help. A motion was made to entertain bids from MGA towards projects needing funds. Motion was made by Jerry Schenck, seconded by Conrad Richer; motion passed.

Alternate locations for test sites were proposed to avoid the extensive milfoil invasion of Hwy 78 water. Chuck Vierthaler and Joe Stewart volunteered to research hunt clubs in the vicinity. A motion was made to pursue the use of a hunt club for at least one if not all of the test dates. Motion was made by Brian White, seconded by Corey Lawson; motion passed.

### **Birds and Equipment:**

Members will again reserve birds ahead for training days, with extras available for newcomers. An e-mail reminder to order birds will be sent out in advance of the training day. Paul Grover will handle the orders for ducks and Chuck Vierthaler will take the chukar/quail orders. A discussion was held regarding the scarcity of training pigeons. Chuck proposed the idea of the chapter raising homing pigeons. Chuck Vierthaler and Jerry Schenck volunteered to investigate the possibilities. A motion to research and bring a proposal to the EC

regarding the feasibility of raising homers was made by Donna Cochenet, seconded by Laurie Vierthaler; motion passed.

Equipment needs for the chapter include: bird launchers, transmitters, crates, radios, bird bags and blinds. Equipment in need of repair include: shotguns and the trailer. Paul Grover volunteered to get the trailer repaired and pursue options to remodel or purchase new trailer. A committee of Brian White, Paul Grover and Corey Lawson will take inventory of the trailer. A motion to repair/remodel/replace the trailer and purchase equipment as determined by the inventory assessment was made by Conrad Richer, seconded by Paul Grover; motion passed.

**Fund Raisers and Promotions:**

Previous raffles did not produce an income instead they barely broke even. The chapter lost money on the last gun raffle. Since guns do not appeal to everyone, a suggestion was made to offer cash prizes. Paul Juckem and Corey Lawson volunteered to pursue raffle ideas and feasibility. A motion to pursue a raffle with cash prizes was made by Conrad Richer, seconded by Paul Grover; motion passed.

**2010 International Annual Meeting – Bloomington MN – January 22-24, 2010**

The EC nominated Laurie Vierthaler to attend the International Annual Meeting as WRC's delegate. The chapter will cover the costs for lodging and travel. Laurie will investigate the International EC's decision to change the Invitational test without chapter input.

A motion to adjourn was made by Paul Juckem, seconded by Linda Woldt; motion carried.  
Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:30 PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Donna Cochenet

## 2010 WRC Calendar

<b><i>FIELD TRAINING SCHEDULE</i></b> <b><i>MAZO GROUNDS</i></b> <b><i>8:00 A.M.</i></b>		
<b>DATE</b>	<b>*TOPIC / PRESENTER</b>	<b>LUNCH COORDINATOR</b>
Saturday, March 27	Dog training permits / Becky Roth (DNR)	Laurie Vierthaler
Sunday, April 18	Photography / Derek Jennings	Gary & Jodi Jensen
Saturday, May 8		Connie Roewer
Saturday, June 19		Joe & Tara Stewart
Sunday, July 18	Microchip / Morrie Link	Paul Grover
Saturday, August 14		Brian White

\*Tentative - Topics may change

<b><i>WRC TESTING SCHEDULE</i></b> <b><i>7:00 A.M.</i></b>	
<b>DATE</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
May 15, 16	TBA
June 26 (NA-only)	TBA
August 21, 22	TBA