



Minutes: Annual ARBA Meeting
Clark County Fairgrounds, Ridgefield, WA
August 7, 2015

The annual meeting of the American Romney Breeders Association was called to order at 7:25 p.m. on the grounds of the Clark County Fair by Ron Andress, president. Board members attending included Charlene Carlisle, vice president; Margaret VanCamp, Scott Culver and Anne McIntyre-Lahner, Directors at Large; and District Directors Hilary Chapin, Chris Posbergh, Karen Nichols, Al Schwider and Betsy McPherson. Not in attendance, John Shelton, district director and Christiane Payton, treasurer.

The meeting opened with the recognition of Lynn Barnes, the oldest Romney breeder in the world. Lynn was celebrating his 97th birthday at the fair and will continue by attending the National Romney Show tomorrow. Lynn announced he has sheep for sale and would be happy to discuss opportunities with buyers. Lynn and family members joined us for dinner and throughout the weekend.

Ron provided the treasurer's report and gave a brief report regarding budget considerations for the year. The Ramblings transition to email distribution was discussed, the membership of 300 was a positive report, as was the number of animal transfers in 2014 and 2015. Registrations are down a bit, but are improving.

Ron provided an overview of his ten years on the ARBA board, the last four as president. He indicated the board has moved toward a kinder and gentler group, fun to be around, and willing to work for the association. Ron thanked the show and sale committee members, especially the work of Tracy Haslem and Al Schwider. Their efforts allowed us to have the junior show, open show, national sale, annual meeting and dinner all provided on the grounds. Tracy also secured trailer space for sale sheep to head east in early September. Other committee members included Karen Nichols, Anne McIntyre-Lahner, Scott Culver, Ron Andress, JoAnn Mast and Christiane Payton. Their efforts included the sale promotion and coordination, awards for junior and open shows, judging the junior show, announcing the shows and coordinating the paperwork for the junior show and national sale. In order to promote the sale, sheep in the sale that are heading east will be provided space and delivery to the trailer by JoAnn Mast.

Ron reported the National Junior Show was a great show with high quality sheep entered by our junior ARBA members. The open shows, white and natural colored, will begin at 10 a.m. tomorrow. Entries for the sale are still open, and the sale is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday, following the natural colored open show.

JoAnn Mast, secretary, thanked Ron for his service and presented a plaque and gift certificate provided by board members, both current and new. Ron has been a visible president of ARBA, attending events, exhibiting sheep, taking part in sales, judging shows and continuing to support youth programs in his part of the state and nationally by promoting fund raising to finance junior shows and events.

Chris Posbergh reported on his work with the ARBA registration papers. He is continuing to update records and have them moved to secure storage in Beltsville, MD. The total number of registrations is nearly 45,000, of which over half have been updated and prepped for storage. This project started when Chris made a trip to Oregon to secure the boxes of records.

Ron introduced Chris Posbergh as the newly elected president of ARBA. Chris announced the other newly elected officers, including vice president, Randy Thompson; district directors Katherine Moore and Carolynn Harwell and JoAnn Mast who will be the association secretary and treasurer for the upcoming year. Also announced was district director Don Burgess who was unable to attend.

Our meeting included four past presidents of ARBA, Lynn Barnes, Sue Kalina, Cindy Cieciva and Ron Andress. Chris acknowledged these past presidents and the service they provided.

The meeting and dinner also provided the opportunity to fund raise for the junior programs. A silent auction was set up and drew quite a bit of action. Donations ranged from note cards to grass seed and the support by donors and buyers was appreciated. Table decorations were also donated and sold as a source of support, thanks to Amy Wolf.

The meeting ended with a reminder to attend the National Show and Sale on Saturday.

Respectfully submitted,

JoAnn Mast, ARBA secretary