



ARBA Annual Meeting 2016

The annual membership meeting of the American Romney Breeders Association was called to order by Chris Posbergh, president, at 8:10 p.m. EST, November 12, 2016. The meeting was held in conjunction with dinner at the Bristol Bar and Grill in the Sheraton Louisville hotel in Jeffersonville, Indiana. Board members attending included Posbergh, Randy Thompson, Charlene Carlisle, Anne McIntyre Lahner, Allison Seyfert, Katherine Moore, Don Burgess, Betsy McPherson and ARBA secretary/treasurer JoAnn Mast.

All in attendance took part in introductions, sharing a bit about their sheep and involvement in ARBA. The treasurer's report was provided, with the following account balances listed:

General Checking: \$8,491.02

Junior Checking: \$1,923.93

Certificate of Deposit: \$15,722.40

The report was accepted following a motion by Frank Roberts and second by Kenny Carlisle. Membership, use of the website, and sharing of information were the main topics of the secretary's report provided by JoAnn. The report was accepted following a motion from Don Burgess and second by Frank Roberts.

Chris provided a president's report, focusing on the following:

Amnesty Project – successful in adding sheep to the registry and adding active members. The program was available from January through June 2016. It provided an opportunity to register sheep without the late fees normally attached, reducing the fee by half.

Breed Standard – work of the Education Committee. The recommendations of the committee were presented to the board, posted on the website for member input, edited and presented for additional comment by the board. Work will continue and be posted. The edits include the use of a single standard for all Romney sheep, and details for natural colored and moorit colored animals will be added.

Moorit Romneys – procedure for registration has been accepted by the board. A modified certificate of registry has been approved for moorit colored Romneys, which will attach an M for carriers and MM for colored animals. This information will be located in front of the current ARBA number.

Junior Show Results – an update on the results from the show was provided, with the following winners recognized: Champion Romney Ewe and Champion Romney Ram – Ethan Kennedy
Reserve Champion Romney Ewe, Best White Fleece and Best Head – Teresa Hromis
Reserve Champion Romney Ram – Ethan Plank
Best Natural Colored Fleece – Ava Jo Hayes

Willis Plank and Charlene Carlisle were thanked for their leadership and coordination of the junior Romney show at NAILE. The participation this year has taken the breed off the probation list. Discussion regarding the junior show and class structure was held, with questions discussed on separating the white and natural colored classes, and selecting champions in both.

Fund Raising – a silent auction was coordinated by Charlene Carlisle. The auction table was visited regularly throughout the social and dinner time. Funds from the auction will support the junior shows held during the All-American and NAILE.

Door prizes were provided, and presented to Ava Jo Hayes, Betsy McPherson, Ethan Kennedy, Katherine Moore, Charlene Carlisle and Callie Burgess.

A presentation of “Best Supporter” award was made by Charlene Carlisle. The recipient, Esther Kennedy, was thanked for her support with junior show activities and her assistance with promotion of ARBA. Her willingness to give, provide food, and support the efforts of others was highlighted as she received a thank you plaque.

National Show and Annual Meeting 2017 – a proposal from Allison Seyfert was approved by the board at the recent board meeting. The Garden State Sheep Breeders Sheep & Fiber Festival in Ringoes, New Jersey, September 7-10, 2017. Details of the show and meeting will be provided as plans continue to be made.

National Sale – the board is recommending the sale be held at the New York Bred Ewe and Ewe Lamb sale held during the Fiber Festival and Show in Rhinebeck, New York in mid-October. Charlene will contact Greg Deakin with the possibility of having this option.

Silent auction results were announced and monies collected.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m., social time continued.

Submitted by
JoAnn Mast, ARBA Secretary