

Great Lakes regional meeting held at the Maumee Ohio Mid-Michigan show
January 14, 2006

RD Loretta Baugh welcomed all present and explained it was going to be a short meeting to touch base on several items. Secretary Joel Chaney was not able to attend the meeting due to work responsibilities so Jerry Kithcart is taking the minutes.

Financial " Chuck Gradowski presented. Chuck informed that it is felt that we are in good shape. Fundraising has been excellent with ACE 50-50 doing extremely well. Last year the ACE 50-50 made \$9650 and this year already over \$3000.

Anyone wishing more info on the treasury or having questions should check any time with either Chris Simpson or Chuck.

Loretta emphasized how valuable the ACE 50-50 has been to the region and requested that we not take it for granted as it is necessary that we keep doing it. As fundraisers go, it is painless, does not interfere with club fundraisers, people expect it and look forward to it.

Loretta also informed the group that she has asked Chris Simpson and Chuck Gradowski for a budget for the Annual and expects that to be ready to present by June.

June Regional Show " Teresa Signore and Sharon Powell presented.

Sharon reported that we have a nice number of volunteers already willing to help out. No one was quite sure whether the judges were in contract yet or not or how many rings the show would be. There was some discussion regarding six rings versus 8 rings. Consensus seemed to lean towards an 8-ring show although it was noted that this would put some pressure on all involved to get Saturday judging over in time so that folks could get to the Awards dinner in a timely manner. It was suggested that judges would need to be fast on Saturday and not "half-fast" (Say "half-fast judges" three times fast).

June Regional Awards Banquet " Jerry Hamza presented

Jerry reported that the banquet flier is ready and will be on the website soon. They are getting some great bids on food for the banquet and there may be a need for food-testers to meet in Canton soon " many volunteered.

Jerry stated that this would be a good, fun Regional Awards Dinner. We should look forward to a sit-down dinner with real silverware, round tables, plenty of room and a room arrangement where everyone should be able to move around and see well.

They are also planning a pre-dinner cocktail hour with hors d'oeuvres.

Loretta stated that we will once again accept sponsorships for the awards this year and that we will keep the cost at \$25 per award. We are not out to make money at the Awards Dinner, we hope to make money at the show, but that is not the purpose of the dinner. Therefore awards sponsorships help to cover the cost of the awards we receive.

There was some discussion regarding possible sponsorships of the tables at the Dinner (centerpieces?).

2008 Annual â€“

Loretta reported that JoAnn now has a logo ready for the 2008 Annual. We are looking into prices for having T-shirts made with this logo on them â€“ they should be available for sale before the 2007 regional awards show. We will not be selling them at the 2007 Annual so as not to interfere with another region's function/fundraising.

Website â€“ Elizabeth Rymph reported that for clubs using auto-entry, there were a few broken files and thus some problems. Entry clerks should check with Elizabeth.

Fliers in Catalogs â€“ Loretta reported that Marge Baird is still doing this but she can't do it if the clubs do not get their fliers to her.

Scheduling - Loretta reported that Pam has appointed a National Scheduling Committee to look into the problems involved with show scheduling. We need to see where that is going before we change too much what we are doing. Still, if Sandi Douglass has not been notified of a club's show date, Elizabeth will not put it on the website. Clubs need to make sure that they confirm their show dates with Sandi.

On The Road Again â€“ Pictures from the shows are coming in but Marianne Harris and Jerry Kithcart requested that everyone please take more pics and send them in. We need pictures of as many folks and cats, etc. as possible from all over the region.

Welcome Committee â€“ Carol Haydu suggested we consider forming a welcoming committee made up of folks with outgoing, pleasant personalities. The purpose would be to announce to new exhibitors at the beginning of a GLR show that the welcoming committee was there to assist them with getting to know how things work at the CFA shows and the GLR. These people could accompany them to a ring, introduce them to others, etc.

Chuck suggested that Carol develop a one page list of suggestions for folks on the Welcoming Committee of things they can do, as a guide to new members and to maybe get more volunteers, since theyâ€™ll know what they are getting into. Carol will do this.

Spirit of the Great Lakes â€” Loretta asked that clubs keep in mind both the Spirit of the Great Lakes Award and the Clerk of the Year award. Marilyn McBane will be heading this committee again so lets be sure she has a list of quality candidates for her committee to look over.

Next Meeting â€” Loretta announced that the next meeting will be at the Cincinnati show. She hopes to keep having frequent but short meetings.

Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jerry Kithcart