

APHA Convention 2009 Colorado Springs, Co. September 30, 2009—October 4, 2009.

Submitted by Gwen Russell—Alternate—voting director California

The general meeting was held on October 1, 2009. Pat Mullins was given an appreciation award for many years of service as a youth leader. Several past presidents were present as well as two members from Australia, and Brazil.

APHA memberships are 81,267, which is down 11% from last year. Membership fees are going up next year and that includes youth memberships. You will now be able to pay life memberships out over a period of 12 months.

Registration is down 22% from last year. We did pick up two new corporate sponsorships, New Holland, and Purina.

The Youth World Show was deemed a success. Youth participating was 148 more than previous year. Youth membership represents 8% of total membership.

We voted on several new proposals. Some of the new rule changes passed were the new color requirements, point system for jumping, having back to back two judge shows at the same facility, the requirements for novice youth will remain at 50 points, and no new charges for PAC.

There was discussion about having exhibitors qualify for world show. No real conclusions came of this it will be further discussed at workshop. Cindy Weigh-Carter suggested we have a formal committee for PAC. This received positive feedback from EC. There was discussion of the possibility of an International Horse Show following the Youth Show. Very few felt this was needed. The judging committee suggested more accountability for world show judges. The judging academy will be Feb. 25-28, 2010.

Professional Horsemen have forms for registering as a professional on line. They would like to give recognition to judges who have 25 years or more of judging. There is a need to give APHA champions more recognition. Ways to do this were discussed. There is a proposal for a 45-ovr walk-trot division in process. This came from Gwen Russell and Jan Mannion in Amateur Committee. And finally more discussion will be made to move the Youth World Show to other locations each year.

New President: Linda Vance—President Elect: Travis Titlow—Vice President: Scott Jackson.

A Foundation Gala dinner was held at the Bell Ranch. We had great Mexican music and food. We were given a demonstration by a therapeutic riding group. They not only help handicapped children but also injured Iraqi veterans. We held a silent auction and were able to make \$12,000.

The trip to Pikes Peak was wonderful. The barbeque at Flying W Ranch with the entertainment was beyond great. I personally felt APHA's Teresa did a great job coordinating all of the functions.

Submitted by Gwen Russell – October 14, 2009