

April 9 PNER Board of Directors conference call board meeting

In attendance:

Eileen Reilich  
Darlene Anderson  
Karen Lieman  
Terre O'Brennan  
Becky Fiedler  
Tani Bates  
Carlene Benson  
Paul Latiolais  
Gail Williams  
Tiffany Buob  
Lois Fox  
Deo Peppersack

Quorum established, meeting called to order at 7:06 pm

Terre moved to approve Sunday January 26, 2014 meeting minutes, Eileen seconded.  
Amended to identify Rita Rush as the new PNER Treasurer. **Motion passed**

A letter was received to the Board from Kathleen Lewandowsky. Paul commented that he had talked to her regarding her concerns and they are an AERC issue.

Executive Committee elected: Gail Williams moved that the Executive committee consist of Mary Nunn, Becky Fiedler and Tani Bates. Paul seconded. Motion passed

Darlene moved to change the wording in Article XIII of the bylaws; Eileen seconded.  
Wording in the by-laws, Article XIII 'Auditors' to be replaced by "Financial Review Committee", Section 1: "auditors" to be replaced by "members" and 'audit' to be replaced by "review"; Section 2: "an audit" to be replaced by "review" and "audit" to be replaced by "financial review committee". The section will now read: *"Article XIII: Financial Review Committee*

*Section 1: A committee of three (3) members, non of who shall be directors or officers, shall be elected by the members for a two-year term. They shall at all times have access to the books and records of the Corporation, and shall be responsible for systematically and regularly checking the accounting systems in use. They shall review the books and records at least annually and shall report their findings and recommendations to the Directors.*

*Section 2: After the close of each fiscal year, there shall be a review of the year's business by the financial review committee.*

Motion passed. This change will have to be voted on by the General Membership at the 2015 Convention to go into effect.

Election committee nominated and approved: Members are Mary Nunn, Chair; Gail Williams, Deo Peppersack and Terre O'Brennan

Appointed position that needs to be filled: Raffle Queen. An appeal to be made in the PNER newsletter

Discussion regarding the Education Committee and their responsibilities and funding. Their budget is \$6000 to fund expos, trail masters clinics and endurance 101 clinics and other educational opportunities. There was discussion about the process for reimbursement for the cost of endurance 101 clinics at rides. Any request for reimbursement needs to go to the Treasurer through the committee chair. Gail said that she can put together a TrailMasters course if there is an interest. Eileen expressed concern that names from interested individuals at the Clark County expo and new members have not been forwarded to the appropriate rider rep to be contacted. Karen will get new PNER member info to rider reps, Gail will get contact information for new AERC members in our region to the rider reps. Heidi needs to be contacted to request the names of the contacts collected at the expo. Deo would like PNER to be represented at the Idaho expo. Paul is going to find the banner and send it to Deo to use there. We also need to find the brochures. There was a discussion about advertising. Oregon Horse Source has their annual trail riding issue in May that we advertised in last year. We used additional funds to advertise the PNER Convention last year. Paul moved that we take \$1000 from the education budget to be used for advertising, including the Horse Source ad. Gail seconded. Motion passed.

Membership report: Newsletter distribution continues to be an issue. If someone is not getting the newsletter, she needs to know so that it can be corrected.

There was discussion regarding Ride manager ads: Ride flyer ad rate is \$50 and includes ride flyer in the handbook, newsletter and website. After the handbook is published, ride flyer ads can still be purchased for \$50 but will only include newsletter and website exposure.

Discussion regarding PNER 'store'- Merchandise is still not available on the website despite repeated requests. It is not working for Lois to haul it to rides; some inventory was lost last year. It is not a fund raiser as much as a way to advertise PNER. After much discussion, the consensus is that

1. Lois will ask Cathy Leddy to help develop an order form for the newsletter
2. Eileen offered to list the current inventory for sale on her Ebay store
3. Lois will develop an inventory list to be emailed to Ride Managers that might be interested in using PNER stuff for awards.

There isn't a big mark-up now and prices seem to be going up. Polo shirts sold well but we are out of many sizes and colors. Lois will price check and have a few more made for a better selection.

There was discussion about using Café Press. We can't use it for current inventory, but it would be a good alternative and give us a better selection in the future.

100 mile award proposal by Lois, Paul seconded. *"Junior 100 Mile Award: Honors every PNER junior member completing a one day 100 mile PNER ride in the current ride year. Sponsored by Layne Simmons.*

*Senior 100 Mile Award: Top 3 senior horse/rider teams accumulating the most completions in the current ride year of one day 100 mile PNER rides with a minimum of 2 completions to qualify. Points to break any ties. Sponsored by Lois Fox"* The award is essentially the same but with some minor wording changes and the minimum requirement of 2 completions and will be reinstated for the 2014 ride year. Motion passed. Notice will be put in as an addendum to the award list on the website and newsletter.

There was a brief discussion about the Canadian sanctioning concerns. Endurance Canada is in negotiations with AERC. There may be changes next year.

Tani proposed that PNER purchase another projector, with a budget of \$600. Darlene seconded. Last year at convention there was a need several times for multiple projectors for presenters. The hotels charges to rent a projector are over \$450. To have multiple sessions at convention, it is needed. Motion passed.

There was discussion regarding 100 mile rides. In the Northwest region currently, the spacing of the available rides is problematic and difficult to 'fix'. There are a couple of rides offered early in the season and again later in the season, making it difficult to compete at more than a couple per season. Two questions were asked: "Do we know what is keeping people from doing 100's?" and "How do we offer an effective 100 mile clinic?" Several ideas were discussed. We are going to keep thinking.

It was agreed that the general membership needs to be made aware of the bylaw changes proposed. They will be posted in the newsletter before the general meeting in January 2015. There was consensus that the conference calls are helpful and another will be scheduled for prior to convention in October or November.

Gail motioned to adjourn and Darlene seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:42

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Fiedler

Conference call PNER Board meeting Nov. 13, 2014

Quorum established 7:10 pm

In attendance:

Board Members:

Tani Bates, Lois Fox, Kathleen Ferguson, Gail Williams, Terre O'Brennon, Carlene Benson, Tiffany Buob, Dory Jackson, David LeBlanc, David Lewis, Becky Fiedler  
Points Secretary: Rachel Webb

Motion by Kathleen/ Lois second: approve minutes from April 2014 Conference call published in November, 2014 PNER Newsletter  
Passed unanimously

Points report by Rachel. There are currently inaccuracies in the point/award standings. Rachel is unable to run reports and has some computer/programming problems that need to be resolved. The LeBlanc program will not be ready for the 2015 ride season so we will continue to use the Access program for reporting. Rachel will ask Adam Falk to repair the current program so that Rachel can use it. Several years ago, the Board passed a motion to purchase dedicated computers for points and membership but it was never done. This would help when secretaries and their computers changed if we had a dedicated computer for those positions.

Motion by Kathleen/Dory second: that a dedicated laptop for points and membership is purchased and the required program installed. There was discussion concerning the scope of need for computers by secretaries in general and the requirements for the computers in question and the cost. There was a friendly amendment by Kathleen, to limit the cost of both laptops to \$1000. Motion passed unanimously. Rachel was directed by the Board to go forward with the purchase as soon as possible.

Convention report: Tani has two veterinarians scheduled to speak at 2015 convention; Martin Vidal from US-Davis and Erica McKenzie, OSU. Scheduling session times is an issue. There was discussion about having time for committees to meet as well as attend the speaker sessions. Tani will post the speaker schedule and committee chairs are responsible to contact her with their requested time slot so that it will be able to be listed on the convention schedule for other interested members. There was discussion about an international session. There is a meeting scheduled, hosted by Carol and Darlene, about getting started in FEI. Friday board meeting will be at 12, General Saturday meeting at 11, and Sunday board meeting at 8 am.

Education Committee had an assignment from Jan 2014 Board meeting to create a welcome packet. Several rider reps shared their strategies for getting information to new members. It was decided that a welcome letter be drafted for addition in the annual handbook. Tiffany will get a draft to Elayne Barclay for inclusion in the 2015 handbook.

Bylaw changes: There are two bylaw changes previously passed by the Board that we will vote on at our General Meeting in January 2015. The propose motions are:

1. PNER Boundaries will be defined in the bylaws to be the same as the AERC boundaries for the Northwest Region.
2. 'Audit Committee' will be changed to 'Financial Review Committee'
3. Motion by Gail/Dory second, that "any expenditure in excess of \$100 by the president, and less than \$300 shall require unanimous approval of the executive committee." After discussion, Gail withdrew her motion.

Motion by Lois/Tani second: Article IV, section 1, paragraph a: the last two sentences, beginning with "The President shall have spending authority" shall be struck. In Article V, section 1, will be added "The executive committee shall have spending authority to a maximum of \$300. Executive committee approval for the expenditure must be unanimous. Any expenditure in excess of \$300 shall require approval of the Board of Directors. This gives limited authority to the executive committee, rather than a single individual, to approve necessary expenditures when the Board is unavailable to meet. There was more discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

There was discussion about renewing PNER's ad in the annual Oregon Horse Directory by Oregon Horse County. We will be listed in the classified sections and agreed not to pay for an additional ad this year.

There was some discussion regarding a PNER booth at Expos this year. R&T is interested in sharing a booth. No one expressed interest in chairing that effort. The efficacy of the expos is difficult to establish. The Board directed that a change on the PNER application form be made that includes a spot to ask where the applicant heard about PNER. Becky F will follow up.

Gail Williams reported that there are possibly changes for animal transport into Washington. She encouraged attendance at public meetings regarding the change which may require vet certification for dogs and horses going into Washington in 2015. She will report any changes at convention's general meeting.

Due to concerns regarding the PNER website, there was discussion regarding hiring a website developer. David LeBlanc and David Lewis were skeptical of the rates Becky F had received from the half dozen companies she queried. PNER would incur significant costs, at least initially, of \$2000-\$3000. David Lewis would like more members to take on the content manager role; Eileen Reilich and Darlene Anderson have been taking on the majority of that responsibility. Becky will email the perceived problems to David Lewis. David will offer a tutorial on Friday morning of convention to get a wider base of individuals able to maintain and correct the website.

Gail motioned to adjourn with David LeBlanc seconding. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Fiedler

PNER Board meeting, Friday night agenda

**Roll call**

Gail Williams

Mary Nunn

Anna Sampson

Marilyn Milestone

Janis Pegg

Becky Vital

Rachel Webb

Dory Jackson

Becky Fiedler

Paul Latiolais

Paula Rasler

Zach Nunn

Terre Obrennan

Elaine Barclay

Kathleen Ferguson

Rita Rush – new treasurer appointee

Kathryn Lewindowski

Clarence Nunn

Desiree Johnson

Andre Marechul

*Quorum established*

**Printed agendas, minutes from past meetings, and financial packets are distributed.**

Kathleen moved to approve April minutes, Dory seconded. Motion passed, minutes approved.

Mary moved to approve October minutes, Paula seconded. Motion passed, minutes approved.

**Financial report – document attached. (Janis)**

PNER adhered to the budget much better in 2013. Most of the 2013 income comes from the 2013 convention. The sale of PNER merchandise was challenging, but made about \$580. Tack sale and raffle ticket sales were way up. Income overall was up 20%. Convention location expense savings in 2013 was offset by speaker expenses. Awards cost less last year. Scholarship cost is down. Education brochure was precisely on target for price. Handbook expenses were down. Newsletter expenses were down. Janis has created a “break even” budget for 2014. The board applauded Janis’ good work.

**Education committee report (Paula)**

No changes since October conference call. We are still hoping to do expos this year, but there are no concrete plans for that yet. PNER would like to do a Trailmaster clinic in conjunction with a ride. The education committee would like to get out of the recruitment business. AERC keeps education and membership/marketing separate.

**Tech committee report**

No tech committee members present. Please consider tech when adding new awards. Our database clunks when it rolls, so please check with the tech committee before creating a new award. Tech committee summary: “we’ve had issues.” Many of the issues have been overcome! But some remain. If somebody wants to propose changes, the Board is happy to hear a proposal. EDIT: David Lewis

reported that David LeB and he battled with the database but have moved it to another location which is free. The membership database is being completely redesigned, but isn't finished yet. The other update is that the website team is growing. Eileen Reilich, Tani Bates and several other members are now helping with the project.

#### **Scholarship committee report (Aarene)**

Only one essay was submitted, and it's a good 'un. The committee will award full monies to that person. The committee will get together when the drinking starts, and will adjust the score rubric for future years.

#### **Merchandise report (Lois)**

PNER doesn't make a lot of money per item, and selling items at rides is very complicated and takes a lot of space. Lois would like to sell items from the website and deliver to the ride (to avoid postage/sales tax). Some merchandise has gone missing. Janis suggested that American Trail Gear or another local endurance vendor to carry the merchandise, market and deliver it. This was enthusiastically received.

#### **Membership report (Rachel)**

A plea to ride managers to use AERC's forms to report finishing stats, including Junior and Junior BC awards. If a junior wins both "open" BC and "junior" BC, s/he gets points for both awards...or not? There is debate. Clarification: there must be at least 2 starting juniors to hold a junior BC award. Rachel will write down some clarifications to be approved by the Board. Mary and Anna and Zach will bring a proposal to the Board on Sunday.

#### **Old business:**

##### **Defining membership area, criteria, Montana riders credited for Idaho rides**

Last year there was a request to allow Montana riders to get credit for Idaho rides, because there weren't any Montana rides. Late in the year, there a Montana ride was sanctioned that was partially in our region. Lois would like to use the same boundaries that AERC uses to clarify the PNER region. (AERC currently usually the Continental Divide as a boundary). The PNER bylaws currently say that "Western Montana" is part of our region.

Paul proposed the motion to allow Montana rider to get state award points for rides from Idaho *and* Montana. Terre seconded. There was discussion. Motion passed.

Becky asked for a motion to begin the process of clarifying our regional boundary. A proposal must be submitted in writing to the Board, and then published to the Membership, and then presented to the Membership. Lois proposed the motion that the PNER boundaries be defined in the bylaws to be the same as AERC boundaries for the Northwest Region. Dory seconded the motion. Motion to amend the bylaws passed.

##### **Reporting by ride managers to points secretary**

Rachel would really like everyone to use *the same form* to report ride results. She will produce a template (which Anna created) and send it to each ride manager to be used. Those who do not cooperate will be walked off the plank.

##### **Advertising: brochures, expos...**

Tabled until Sunday.

##### **Jr. BC definition**

Tabled until Sunday.

##### **Vet proposal- how do we encourage vets? (membership in PNER)**

In 2010, a proposal to support vet students was approved. This scholarship was not renewed after 2010. Can it be renewed now? Lois would like to have a point person in charge of this if we go forward. This is *not* a scholarship committee problem. Kathleen proposed that we query the Membership at the Saturday meeting to see if anyone is interested in taking on this task.

**New business:**

**Terre O'Brennan let PNER know that most (if not all) BC rides will decline to sanction with AERC in 2014.** She will write something for the newsletter explaining the reasons for this (there are lots of reasons). There is not much cross-border riding, and now Canada has its own organization. PNER will still accept BC rides for points. AERC members can get *miles* (but not points) for non-sanctioned rides in Canada. Talk to Terre if you are completely confused.

Gail moved that the meeting adjourn, Dory seconded, everybody ran like rats.

**Saturday PNER General Meeting 1.25.2014**

10:15am meeting brought to order

Minutes read, two corrections made. Paul Latiolais moved that the amended minutes be accepted. Terre O'Brennan seconded, motion passed, minutes approved.

John Parkey asked for clarification of the financial report, and Carol Giles clarified that PNER spent about \$2100 more than it took in during 2013, which is a vast improvement over past years. There was a discussion of the practicalities of selling PNER "gear" in states that charge sales tax. Carol Giles reported that the PNER books are in good shape.

Becky Fiedler told members that there have been changes to improve issues with membership and newsletter distribution. She asked for feedback from members. PNER has been advertising to other equestrians in various outside publications like Northwest Horse Source and Oregon Horse Country.

There was a question about the British Columbia issue, with riders wondering about getting credit for rides outside the U.S. Riders can "apply for miles" credit through AERC. PNER will count points and miles from rides that happen in B.C.

Brandi Eber from Oregon Horse Country gave a brief presentation to the membership. This program will probably expand soon into Washington, and possibly also into other states eventually. The goal of the program is to promote equestrian tourism and equestrian businesses in Oregon. This program serves as a statewide equestrian "Chamber of Commerce" information hub.

Becky reminded members that our beautifully produced brochures are available to members. Take a stack and share with potential new members! The brochures are also available online at the Endurance 101 website: [www.endurance-101.com](http://www.endurance-101.com)

**Election of Officers**

Darlene Anderson nominated Becky Fiedler and Tani Bates for re-election. Karen Leiman seconded. Becky asked for other nominations. Crickets.

Gail Williams moved that nominations be closed, Dory Jackson seconded. Gail asked for an election by acclamation, Jim Beidle seconded.

Everyone said "aye," and Becky and Tani were suckered into another year of craziness.

There was applause for Cathy (newsletter), Elaine (handbook), Rachel (points), Kathleen (awards) Janis and Rita (treasurer), the Davids and Adam (tech), Aarene (junior advisor).

Gail Williams gave a report on the AERC-I issue. Gail has been AERC rep for about 20 years. There has been a motion to AERC to divorce itself from FEI because of non-enforcement of rules on drug infractions and reporting of horse deaths. Most of the FEI problems stem from the Middle Eastern region of FEI. AERC will vote on this issue at the national convention in March. The proposal has been modified and will continue to be modified before a vote is taken by AERC representatives. There are multiple issues involved here. Carol Giles is an international rider and representative, and gave more clarification. FEI is a very political organization, and AERC has alignments with countries that have similar values (Canada, Europe, etc) to try to promote our values about the welfare of the horse. Paul led a discussion with members. There has never been an American FEI horse that has tested positive for drugs, and AERC riders lead by example. USEF is very drug-intolerant, and has tried to make FEI enforce their own rules. Terre O'Brennan spoke to the issue. Most of the problems with bad behavior is coming

from FEI's Region 7 (the Middle East). Endurance Canada was formed to be the FEI affiliate, and she is quite sure that if AERC ceases to be the FEI affiliate, another group will form and take up the slack. Region 7 will probably not reform; in response, Endurance Canada intends to boycott Region 7 events. FEI is not enjoying the current bad press. FEI's new strategic planning group is hearing our demands for a return to technical trails that test the skills of horse and rider rather than the skills of a pit crew. She urges AERC to stick with the fight and not opt out. Ron Sproat reminded us that if AERC supports this motion, it will kill opportunities for Americans to ride internationally. He asked PNER to make a motion that our organization officially oppose the motion before AERC.

Mary Nunn made the motion that PNER not support AERC's proposal to remove itself from FEI. Sharke seconded. There was a friendly amendment to say that PNER does not support any move that would precipitate a move to stop co-sanctioning AERC and FEI rides. Mary Krauss seconded that amendment. Becky Vital suggested that the amended motion be given to membership via the newsletter. Mary Nunn asked about the mechanism to call a vote. Gail said that any message that PNER wants to send to the AERC board needs to be voted on today. Becky suggested that this motion be tabled and discussed at the Sunday meeting of the PNER Board. The discussion was tabled until state reps could be elected.

**New reps are:**

**BC**

Rider Rep: Barb Holmes-Balmer

Alternate: TBD

Ride Manager Rep: Terre O'Brennan

Alternate: Grant Balmer

**Oregon**

Rider reps: Carlene Benson and Sharke

Alternate: Anna Sampson

Ride manager reps: Mary Nunn and Lois Fox

Alternate: Gina Rice

**Washington**

Rider reps: Kathleen Ferguson, Eileen Reilich and Dory Jackson

Alternate: Heather Wimer, David LeBlanc, Kim Black

Ride manager reps: Tiffany Buab and Gail Williams

Alternate: Darlene Anderson and David Lewis

**Idaho**

Rider rep: Deo Peppersack

Alternate: Karen Steenhoff

Ride manager rep: Dale Schrempp

During the break, the amended motion before membership was put on the screen, reading:

*To ensure that the welfare of the horse remain the focus at the international level, PNER believes that it is essential that AERC continue to be the national USEF affiliate for endurance and not take actions that would jeopardize the affiliate status. This includes any attempts, threats, or actions to stop the co-sanctioning of AERC and FEI rides.*

Motion passed, two in opposition.

**Sunday Board Meeting 1-26-2014**

Dale Schrempp  
Rachel Webb  
Dory Jackson  
David LeBlanc  
Gail Williams  
Darlene Anderson  
Becky Vital  
David Lewis  
Becky Fiedler  
Paul Latiolais  
Clara Berner  
Zach Nunn  
Mary Nunn  
Anna Sampson  
Sharke  
Carlene Benson  
Aarene Storms  
Eileen Barclay  
Cathy Leddy  
Monica Bretherton  
Sharke's sister  
Eileen Reilich  
Clarence Nunn  
Rita Rush  
Lois Fox  
Kathleen Ferguson  
Tiffany Buob  
Kathleen Lewandowsky  
Mona Thacker  
Joan Fleming  
Patricia Betts  
Terre O'Brennan

**Meeting Called to Order 8:08am**

Minutes from the Saturday general meeting were read, some minor corrections made.

Board position responsibilities were clarified for new members.

Positions that will be open in 2014: Raffle Queen, Secretary (Terrible or Otherwise)

**Education Report: (Darlene)**

The education committee still wants to do at least one expo (Washington). Heidi Larson will organize that expo, with Paul Latiolais' help. There was discussion about the role of the Education Committee in regards to recruitment. Heidi was able to use the 2013 expo as a recruitment tool, but it is not an effortless process. Education is part of PNER's charter, and that includes education of the public about

our sport. Becky Fiedler said that convention is PNER's main education effort, and the expos really *are* about recruitment. Darlene said that the education committee recommends that a recruitment committee be formed. They are working with Gail Williams to have a TrailMaster class in 2014. The committee is asking for \$6000 (which may not all be needed). Becky asked the Board if PNER should partially subsidize clinics for members. David LeBlanc said that he thinks that education equals recruitment, and he doesn't see the need for a separate committee. Gail said that AERC keeps membership/marketing separate from education. Regional directions from AERC are asked to communicate with new members to try to retain them for more than three years. Rachel said that the lack of follow-through is part of the problem. This is also a funding issue: education committee doesn't want to have to justify its existence in terms of solid numbers from recruitment. Oregon Horse Country has grant money available for education, and PNER can qualify for that money. There was more discussion. The education committee will collect information about interested people contacted at expos, and then forward that information to rider reps.

Becky asked if the education committee could come up with a packet of information that can be sent to potential new members. Elaine Reilich asked if the rider reps could be the recruitment committee. Gail spoke about Trailmaster classes.

Lois made the motion that PNER join Oregon Horse Country again in order to apply for grant money. Sharke seconded. Motion passed.

The education wants a budget of \$6000 for 2014. Lois made the motion that the education committee be given \$6000, as long as there will be follow-up with interested people contacted at expos. Paul seconded. Motion passed.

Zach reported from the Junior Luncheon. The juniors would like to use some of the 2012 "raffle" money to fund a special craft program at convention in 2014. They would also like to pursue a PNER "letter" that could be awarded when juniors spend a minimum of 100 hours on horseback during a year.

Zach, Mary, and Anna proposed the following clarification to the "Junior BC" wording: *Junior Best Condition points will be based on a field of 3. There must be at least two starting juniors on the same distance. If a junior is a top 10 finisher, the junior would be judged alongside the seniors in the overall best condition. If the junior receives the overall best condition, those points go towards the junior best condition award even if there is only one starting junior.* There was discussion. Mary moved that the proposal be accepted for the 2014 season. Sharke seconded.

Sandy Cheek submitted a proposal in writing that PNER give some money to the Western States Trail Foundation (Tevis Trail) in order to preserve and repair this important trail. There was discussion. The Western States Trail is not in the Pacific Northwest region. Most Board members would prefer to see that PNER support trail preservation and repair within our own region.

There was discussion about some awards that are redundant (such as the Oliver Jones award). Eileen Reilich moved that the Oliver Jones be retired, and Terre seconded. AHA will be given the option to sponsor the award.

Lois complimented Kathleen's procurement of awards in 2013. (applause). The awards banquet this year was brisk and enjoyable. She wanted to know if PNER is over-emphasizing rewards for 100-milers, especially since the opportunity to compete in 100-milers is currently very limited in our region. There was discussion. The goal of awards is to encourage people to ride more, and this award doesn't help with that goal. Lois moved that PNER discontinue the 100-mile award, Paul seconded, motion passed.

Tech committee:

The Davids have made good progress on their database in the last month. They will finish it "soon" and would like to launch it as soon as it will work, even if that launch date is mid-season. There was discussion. Rachel will step down as points person if we switch mid-year. David Lewis said that committee does not want to switch mid-year unless the product is unanimously ready. Becky adamantly does not want to switch systems mid-season. David LeBlanc said that the new software will require minimal training. Rachel will be given the opportunity to choose the transition point—when she is comfortable with the new system, the change will be made.

Tech committee would like more members to volunteer to provide content. Website team would like to work with a recruiting team (part of the education committee) to provide materials to new and potential members.

Gail said that she would report the results of the PNER convention to AERC, including the message voted on by PNER members during the general meeting.

Becky asked the Board if a "vet membership" could be created. Mary Nunn moved that vets be given a "newsletter-only" membership. Lois seconded. Motion passed.

Carlene asked if an "official" Facebook page can be created. One already does exist. Can the Yahoo group be re-energized?

Paul moved that the meeting adjourn. At least three people seconded. Lots of people yelled "AYE" and headed for the door.

October 21, 2013 PNER Board conference call

**Roll Call**

Rachel Webb  
Karen Steenhoff  
Carlene Benson  
Becky Fiedler  
Gail Williams  
Karen Leiman  
Tani Bates  
Lois Fox  
Mary Nunn  
Heidi Larson  
Aarene Storms

Quorum achieved.

**Membership secretary change**, membership is now Tiffany Buob and Karen Leiman

**Treasurer** Janis Pegg will be stepping down but is willing to stay thru March 2014 and train new appointee: Rita Rush. Several people spoke to Rita's ability, and others complimented Janis on her work as treasurer.

**Tech committee:** Rachel needs somebody to fix her current Access database report problems; there's something wrong with the code and it won't export to Word. Karen asked if the data will export into Excel, and it does export but the report is garbled. Screen shots are operational, but even copy/paste doesn't work. The process is frustrating.

David LeBlanc has offered to write a program specifically for us, but it's still not available. The tech committee *will* have something ready by the self-imposed deadline of December 1, 2013. Adam Falk (who set up the original code) may be the only one to write us out of this corner, we may have to beg him to help us again. Karen L. offered to try to help. In theory, the new program provided by David LeBlanc will solve the problem.

Rachel praised Anna Sampson's method of collecting and sending ride results to the points secretary, and asked that other ride managers copy Anna's forms and methods. Gail will help with this.

Some ride managers don't respond promptly to Rachel's requests for results; a handful of them want her to take the information from AERC, which is not how PNER collects data. Lois said that sometimes the southern OR ride managers send *her* the ride results, although she hasn't been the points person for years! Gail can provide ride manager email info to Rachel, since she has that information for sanctioning. Lois and Karen S. and Becky will try to help with this.

**Merchandise:** order more? Selling from the website? Propose a PNER table at convention to sell merchandise, include brochures?

Selling stuff out of boxes at rides hasn't worked as well as we had hoped. The logistics of trying to sell materials this way is very difficult. Lois would prefer that we sell via the website.

Becky suggested that PNER merch be sold at a booth during the convention; Jessica Anderson may be available to take charge of this there.

What sort of merch would we like to carry? Something small and inexpensive, perhaps. Bandanas, coffee mugs, chapstick holders, or even even chapstick with our logo? Sweatpants? Undies? >g< Lois will price out some objects. Karen will investigate bandanas. Gail will also check out bandanas with her local t-shirt printing company. A bunch of different colors would be great, so we'll check out colors also.

*(In related news, Gail will also order the 250-mile pins for 2012 and 2013 ride seasons in time for the convention.)*

**Junior "raffle" funds:** Funds from the junior "raffle" will be used to purchase PNER sweatshirts for all active juniors. The sweatshirts will be distributed at convention. Becky will make sure that this does not constitute "gifting" of funds. Tani will head up a fundraising activity for juniors at convention.

*(In related news, Becky would like to recognize and officially thank "super members" who have been tremendous help to members. She will check with Carol to make sure we don't do anything to mess up our non-profit status by doing this. There is a \$25 limit on this kind of gift.)*

**Early registration raffle:** In the past, we have given out a ride entry raffle ticket as an incentive for early membership renewal. PNER pays for this. The raffle winner would get a certificate to give to the ride manager to send back to the treasurer for reimbursement. Deadline for "early registration" is December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Notice of this will be in the next newsletter.

**Convention update, costs:** Portland Airport Sheraton January 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. The rooms will be \$99/up to four people. Two breakfasts per room, two drink tickets per room. Each room has two queen beds. This place is significantly cheaper than the other; cost for members is about the same and the costs for food and facility comes out lower for the organization.

There will be a larger vendor space, all in one room. Ideally, there will be a small admission fee for access to lectures, and an additional small fee for the banquet, with a family package available. Gail suggested having a "registration fee" (individual / family)

plus a “banquet charge” for the food. If the logistics allow, we would prefer to keep the trade show free to encourage non-members to come and shop.

Encouraging people to buy banquet tickets is also important—the raffle is a big incentive for this. We need to stress the “must be present to win” raffle.

**Dues:** PNER hasn’t raised dues since 2004. Do we want to propose an increase of \$5/individual, \$10/family? What about the newsletter? Most people are now receiving the newsletter via email, so mailing costs on that has gone down. Newsletter-only members also get a copy of the handbook, so that part of the postage cost still exists.

Tani moved that 2014 individual membership dues be raised from \$35 to \$40, newsletter raised from \$20 to \$25, family membership be raised from \$50 to \$60. Motion carried, one abstention. Becky will check with Carol to make sure that raising this via conference call is okay.

**It was time to feed horses, so the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.**

April 20<sup>3</sup>, 2013

**First Quarter Call Agenda:**

**Roll Call**

Becky Fiedler  
Paul Latiolais  
Kathleen Ferguson  
Mary Nunn  
Monica Bretherton  
Dr Jenn  
Paula Rasler  
Janis Pegg  
Tani Bates  
Karen Leiman  
Anna Sampson  
Aarene Storms  
Terre O'Brennan  
David Lewis  
Carlene Benson  
Dory Jackson  
Alyssa Gottschlich  
Lois Fox

Quorum achieved.

Mary Nunn moved to accept the Sunday morning board minutes, Kathleen seconded. Becky amended the minutes to say that she has the PNER equipment except for the banner, which Paul has. Amended minutes accepted.

**Awards Stuff**

Steph Teeter isn't going to sponsor Top 5 100 mile Sr horse/rider or Top 2 100 mile Jr. horse/rider; Lois Fox will sponsor this award with minor changes. Also, Melissa Coy will sponsor Veteran Horse, Dory Jackson will sponsor Animal Horse, and Mary Nunn will sponsor Jr Rookie award—this is a change from the handbook. Kathleen reminded sponsors that they need to procure the awards and bring them to convention. This information will be confirmed and posted in the newsletter.

**Treasurers Report:**

Janis has emailed the report. She summarized for the group: She discovered that credit card with "rewards" aren't available for our type of group (only for individuals). We will use a money market account instead—thus far, it has earned about \$10. CD's are more difficult to transfer when the office of treasurer changes hands within the organization.

**Scholarship:**

We will offer a single \$1000 scholarship. Members who would like a copy of the scholarship judging rubric can call or email Aarene.

**Expo Reports:**

Paula has sent out 72 emails thus far in response to people signing up for PNER information at the Albany Expo; another 40 are pending. At least 12 people have replied to her already with their intention to join PNER as a result of contact made at the expo. Contact numbers were down a bit this year—the expo was not as crowded this year as it has been in past years. Paul said that the Washington expo had better attendance this year than in 2012, and many membership applications were distributed. He also said that the membership pamphlets were very well received at Albany.

**Brochure stuff:**

Becky said that the brochure looks really good, very professional and appealing. Monica said that about 750 brochures are left after the Expo, so those can be given to ride managers. Members who want to distribute brochures, posters, or postcards can print them from .pdf files that will be made available via the PNER website. Postcards can be left at vet offices, feed stores, etc. Posters can be posted at trailheads. Monica can bring brochures to HOTR. Paul and Darlene have some also. They can also be distributed to ride vets, who can put them in their clinics.

Janis suggested that posters be designed with “tear-offs” at the bottom, so that the poster itself can act as a recruiting tool. The poster already contains a QR code so that it can be read by smart-phones. There is also space on the poster for local people to add their local contact info. Karen suggested that the poster .pdf be sent to all the rider reps. The link will be available to all members via the website. Paula said that some education money still exists for more printing, but she’d like to see us use the brochures first. Most of the brochures are currently in a box at Paula’s house. Becky directed Paula to contact Idaho ride managers to see if they want some brochures and mail them as needed.

**Merchandising stuff:**

Everything is ready. No Portland-area riders have volunteered to deliver stuff to HOTR, so they will debut at Grizzly Mtn. There will be polos, sweatshirts, and trailer decals. Lois wants to keep the inventory-on-hand relatively small. This won’t be a “fundraiser,” but will raise awareness of the organization when people wear the clothing. Janis wondered about baseball caps. Paul asked about on-demand merchandise, and this is definitely possible for embroidered items. If the shirts sell well, we may expand to hats eventually. Lois and Karen will work with David Lewis to add products to the PNER website “store.”

**Rider Rep and new rider stuff:**

Becky asked Alyssa if state rider reps could be linked to new riders so that they could contact new members to welcome them and send them contact info for local mentors if needed. Dory asked that Alyssa send the list of new riders to the rider reps. Another suggestion is that ride managers write “NEW RIDER” on ride cards (or hand out a colored tail ribbon) to help everyone identify new folks. A green ribbon means “green horse,” but this could also be a good label for new riders also.

There was discussion about clarifying the responsibilities of a mentor. This has existed in the past, but has gone away—can we find it, or should we create something new? Mentor rigs might be marked with a placard in the truck window, or ride managers can leave a sign-up spot at registration. Becky suggested that Ride Manager reps share these ideas with other ride

managers; she will also write something up for a newsletter article. Names of new riders can also be published in the newsletter, if that information is easily available.

#### **Junior BC stuff:**

Mary and Lois do not have an updated proposal yet; there is \$975 available from the Junior Raffle that might be able to support ride managers in order to provide a Junior BC award. The rule will stand for 2013.

#### **Convention stuff**

Convention will be held Jan 24-25, 2014 at Portland Airport Sheraton. Costs are lower there than the Embassy.

There will be a charge to attend seminars, and a charge for convention food, but costs will be kept as low as possible. A sit-down dinner may be cheaper than a buffet.

The raffle will continue. We may need another slideshow creator, and may need a MC for the banquet. The computer raffle was thrown together at the last minute at the 2013 banquet and probably should be better coordinated in the future. The money raised might be used to hire a junior-specific speaker, or to buy PNER gear.

Paul made the motion that any raffles that occur at convention should be approved by the PNER President and PNER VP. Terre seconded. Lois would like the motion to be amended: unusual fund-raising events need to be approved by the PNER President and VP. Friendly amendment accepted and motion passed.

#### **NW Horse Source advertisement**

There is an Endurance 101 article forthcoming in the May issue of *NW Horse Source Magazine*; AERC has already purchased a full-page ad for this issue. Monica said that she can possibly put an ad together in the time available. Does PNER want to fund a similar ad? Paul made the motion that PNER fund a 1/6 page black&white ad for a single month at the cost of \$155, assuming that Monica can put it together in time. Paula seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Tech stuff**

The new rider database is being built; another portion isn't quite ready yet. If the entire package isn't ready in time for the first ride, the old database can be used and then data can be migrated. Tech Committee is still working on building applications for this. There will be a cost of about \$10/month as a hosting fee to connect databases to the website. There are new features that are pending for the website, and the tech committee will be seeking member volunteers for updating content on the website.

The current priority list for the Tech Committee (as directed by the BOD):

- Number one priority right now is to get the new points system operational.
- Post all Ride Flyers on the Ride Calendar. The HOTR flyer is on the website, but some of the other ride flyers haven't been uploaded yet. Also: need to upload and/or link all of the ride flyers onto the ride calendar if they don't already exist. (See <http://youtu.be/gM4wBk2kCsE> for the instructional video). Volunteers who would like to help make this happen and don't have a PNER website account can contact David Lewis.

- Membership Form - New field needed: *How did you find out about PNER?*
- Create the User Interface (application) for the Membership system. For now, Alyssa has access to use our existing (old) system, so getting the new one online is lower priority than the points database.
- PNER Website: Ride List - Some members are confused by the ride list. We could make this simpler by making all links have an underscore rather than just a different color.
- Google Nonprofit Org. This will allow us to create e-mail aliases, manage email lists, and share documents online easier than using the Yahoo Group. David submitted the Application April 1<sup>st</sup>, and should have a response within the next 30 days.

Dory made the motion that the \$10/month fee be approved for the tech committee. Paul seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Oregon Horse Country stuff**

The Oregon Horse Country is a well-funded organization that promotes horse sports and events. They are major marketers, and present at fairs and expos in Oregon all year long. PNER could join this organization in order to let them do part of the work. Lois and Paula are both enthusiastic about this organization.

Lois made the motion that we spend \$100 to join the Oregon Horse Country. Paul seconded. There were several expressions of support. There was discussion of where the money should be taken from the budget. Janis suggested that a "Marketing" account be created. The Oregon Horse Country motion was approved.

Lois made the motion that \$1000 be taken from the Education Committee to be reallocated to a Marketing and Advertising fund. Dory seconded. Motion passed.

Becky indicated that adjourning the meeting would be appropriate. So we did.

**PNER Sunday Board Meeting January 20, 2013**

**Mouseketeer Roll Call, sound off now!**

Lois Fox, OR RM rep  
Cathy Leddy, newsletter editor  
Monica Bretherton, WA rider rep alt  
Dory Jackson, WA rider rep  
Davis Lewis, tech committee + ed committee  
Paula Rasler, OR rider rep  
Paul Latiolais, past prez  
Kara Henry, potential treasurer  
Carlene Benson, OR rider rep  
Becky Vital, WA rider rep alt  
Tani Bates, VP  
Becky Fiedler, prez  
Carol Giles, audit committee  
Christine Voglmaier, BC rider rep  
Terre O'Brennan, BC RM rep  
Kathleen Fergus, WA rider rep  
Trish Frahm, ID RM rep  
Karen Bumgarner, ID rider rep  
Gail Williams, WA RM rep  
Aarene Storms, indispensable and terrible secretary, also Junior advisor  
Elayne Barclay, PNER handbook  
Allyssa Gottschlich, membership  
Anna Sampson, OR rider rep alt  
Mary Nunn, OR RM rep  
Zachary Nunn, Junior rider rep  
Julia Sayer, Junior rider rep alt  
Karen Steenhof, ID rider rep alt  
Ramona Thacker, peanut gallery  
Joan Fleming, peanut gallery  
Cindy Sayer, peanut gallery Interested PNER member  
ySharke, past VP  
Sharke's sister, peanut gallery  
Lori Hudson, peanut gallery

**Meeting brought to order 8:10am**

Aarene read the minutes from the Friday board meeting. There was clarification of the status of Junior BC awards in Idaho: the minutes are correct in saying that Idaho rides were reportedly not offering Junior BC, but it isn't necessarily so: some Idaho rides *do* offer Junior BC. Karen motioned to accept the amended minutes, Gail seconded, motion passed.

**Convention report:**

Paul gave the preliminary convention financial report. The report is attached. The final report will reflect more income and all the costs. Fewer than 15 banquet tickets were left over. Carol reminded the new board that there is a document defining the responsibilities of board members for a 501-c3 not-

for-profit educational organization. We need to always ask the question: *is what we do consistent with our stated mission of education*. We also need to make sure that our decisions reflect the wishes of the membership. She gave examples of proper decisions and well-intentioned improper decisions. Carol is always available to give advice about proper spending on behalf of PNER.

### **Tech Report**

Karen reported that the Tech committee is seeking our archives, which include past handbooks. Information from this archive will be added to the website. David reported the status of the website, amount of traffic to the site, and plans for the coming year. Tech committee would like to add some advertisements to the site to help cover the cost of hosting the site. Gail commented that Karen Leiman watched the streaming video feed of convention lectures from home, and she thought it was wonderful. There is also evidence that some people have joined PNER for the sole purpose of being allowed remote access to the recordings.

Lois expressed concern that non-public information (such as member names/addresses) would be posted on the website, and was reassured that there is no plan to do that. There is a plan to add a "members only" (password protected) section to the website, which would include access to the video archive.

Gail commented that the AERC board, which has monthly (as-needed) phone conferences, is able to accomplish much more business in a timely manner. She encourages the current Board to institute quarterly phone conference calls for the Board. Trish Frahm suggested that the Board explore video conferencing, which would satisfy a "face-to-face" requirement for a Board meeting. David said that current technology could support video conferencing. Lois read from the bylaws regarding notification of meetings to the general membership. If we do a conference call, we need to notify members via the newsletter about the date/time of the planned call. There will be a cost to establish quarterly conference calls (with proper notification to membership). Kathleen Ferguson moved that David will be authorized to organize this, and \$500 is allotted for the process. Trish seconded. Motion passed. There was discussion about scheduling; there will be a meeting on a Monday in April. The schedule will be organized via Doodle.

### **Education committee report**

Paula reported that the PNER sponsored two expos in 2012 at a cost of \$900. More than 350 people were directly contacted via the booths at these expos. There were several PNER Endurance 101 clinics (in WA and BC) in 2012, and these were successful and did not cost PNER anything. The committee would like to do more expos in 2013, including an expo in Idaho. Aarene Storms is scheduled to present 2 Endurance 101 clinics at the Albany expo in 2013, and the committee would like to reimburse her for gas/food during that event. Terre would like to clarify that the purpose of the expo booth is not only education but also recruitment. Karen reminded the Board that, in years past, PNER had some brochures promoting the organization. Paula responded that the ed committee does plan to create that kind of a brochure. Monica said that she would be happy to create a one-page brochure (which includes a membership form) when she mails out copies of the Endurance 101 book. Paula clarified that Aarene had been asked to do this clinic before *Endurance 101* was published. We need to be careful to avoid conflict of interest. There was discussion. Karen moved that when a member of PNER does an educational presentation and selling product on the premises, that the member be asked to donate a small amount back to PNER. The motion was not seconded. Sharke said that the conflict of interest is too strong, and should not be allowed. Dory said that Aarene should be able to do the presentation without the stipend and sell books with no connection to PNER. Dory moved that Monica be allowed to

create a brochure for use at expos and rides to promote PNER, which will be available as a downloadable .pdf. Additionally, \$500 will be set aside to fund the printing of this brochure. Lois seconded the motion. Motion passed.

The education committee would like to fund a Trail Master class for PNER members in 2013. Ride managers would be given enrollment preference. The committee asks for \$1500 to cover participant costs. Gail will need to get 10 people to commit to taking the class before it can be scheduled. She moved that the education budget include \$1500 to subsidize 10 members at a Trail Master class in 2013. Paul seconded. Motion passed.

The ed committee wants to help first-time members get educational material by subsidizing books for these members. They would create up to 50 "vouchers" of \$10 each, to be used towards the purchase of educational books about the sport of endurance. The vouchers would be used in an online "store" hosted by PNER's website. The "store" needs to be created before this issue can be addressed.

The education committee would like \$5,000 for education in 2013, with recognition that they will probably not need that much. Lois asked that the proposed budget be trimmed. Gail clarified that the education budget is high because education is our primary purpose. Gail moved that this amount be approved. Paul seconded. Two people opposed, the motion passed.

The education would like to focus on mentors in 2013. They would like to reward mentors by establishing validation and qualifications for mentorship. Discussion. PNER can't approve or disapprove mentors. Paula clarified that they would prefer to reward mentors. Gail said that AERC has re-designed their mentor program so that it doesn't become a vehicle for horse sales. As an AERC rep, Gail acts as a yenta for mentor/mentee relationships, using the state rider reps. The education committee will continue to work on proposals for this. Alyssa said that there are about 25 new members so far this year. Alyssa would like to connect these people with their local rider reps. Mike Maul from AERC can also provide new rider information from AERC. This information will be shared with Alyssa.

#### **Executive committee vote**

Gail defined the purpose of the executive committee. This committee has limited authority to spend money under \$100 and make quick decisions. This committee also chooses the ambassador. Carlene and Gail were nominated. Gail was elected.

#### **Junior rep**

Zach reported that at the meeting yesterday, the juniors brainstormed junior issues and how to cope with them. This brainstorming session is a jumpoff point for new content for the forthcoming *Endurance 101 for Juniors* book, and several PNER juniors will provide anecdotes and ride stories for this book. They also discussed the Junior BC issue. Lois asked why, in the ride results, junior bc results are not always reported. Gail said that results are reported via a spreadsheet *and* an additional email. It's possible that the junior bc is left out when there is no additional email—a reporting problem, rather than a lack of support. This needs to be standardized. Mary proposed that "the full field" for Junior BC be defined as "two" junior riders, because there are rarely 6 or more juniors in a specific distance at a ride. Mary and Lois will work on a proposal. The definition will be classed as "under revision" in the 2013 handbook. Aarene Storms will continue to act as Junior Advisor.

#### **Scholarship committee report**

Aarene reported that \$1000 will be awarded to Kirsten Maholland, and her essay will be published in the PNER newsletter.

Lois made a motion to reduce scholarship budget to \$1000, with an award to only one student each year. The entire amount does not need to be awarded. Gail seconded. Motion passed.

#### **PNER Quartermaster and store**

Lois would like to see the PNER "store" established. She has several sources for screen printed and embroidered items that can be created inexpensively and sold on the PNER website to benefit the organization. She will need to get several bids. Dory encouraged the board to act on this so that it will get done. Mary moved that PNER give \$5000 to make merchandise available, knowing that the store would be self-supporting once it's running. Paul seconded. This material would be sold via the website/Paypal, and most deliveries would be done by Lois. Motion passed.

#### **Montana stuff**

Lois proposed that Montana riders be allowed to accrue Montana state award points using Idaho rides until there are at least 2 Montana rides. Paul seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Stallion award stuff**

Lois moved that the stallion award be retired until there are more stallions competing. Given the current economic situation, PNER should not reward people for breeding horses when there are too many now needing homes. Gail seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Paul stuff**

Gail called for applause for past-president Paul Latiolais. There was a bunch of that.

#### **Membership stuff**

There is a repeating issue of defining membership (within our region, ability to vote, etc). We will monitor this situation.

#### **Newsletter stuff**

Cathy Leddy needs the membership list in order to send out the electronic version of the newsletter. She will work with Alyssa to do this. David Lewis and David LeBlanc will assist. Cathy needs to buy the program Adobe In-Design. The software would belong to PNER, not to Cathy. Paul moved that PNER purchase the software at the discounted price of \$400. Paula seconded. Motion passed.

#### **Other stuff**

Convention charges will be re-vamped. The new prez and vice prez will work on a proposal for that. They would like suggestions and ideas.

Paul suggested that somebody on the BOD assist Darlene Anderson as moderator of the BOD list. Gail volunteered.

David questioned the wording of the "Family Award". There was discussion. Does PNER want to expand the award to allow adult siblings? He will return to the board with a proposal. Lois moved that the phrase "committed relationship" be substituted for "marriage" in the definition of the award. Dory seconded. Motion passed. There was further discussion about the purpose of the award, which was

originally to encourage parents to ride with kids. Gail encouraged the board to think about the issue and encouraged David to propose changes to the BOD via the listserv.

Lois moved we adjourn, Dory seconded, we ran for the door (and the bathroom!)

**PNER General Meeting, Saturday January 19, 2013**

**10:08am called to order.**

**Minutes read.** Darlene Anderson moved, Karen Bumgarner seconded. Minutes accepted.

Prez Paul Latiolais reminded membership that elected representatives (rider reps, etc) should be available to attend the Sunday morning board meeting as well as the Friday meeting at convention next year, and also some phone conferences throughout the year.

**Financial Report:**

Carol Giles reported that the audit committee looked at the book and they look fine. Last year Carol drafted guidelines for PNER expenditures and these guidelines have been created and followed. Financial report is attached. Paul noted that the convention "financing system" is probably going to change again. We are hoping to increase revenue, this will be discussed in depth at the Board Meeting on Sunday. Karen Bumgarner said that in the past, PNER has held a "PNER Fundraiser Ride" that is held to benefit the organization.

Gail Williams nominated Darcy Bean to participate on the audit committee. Jannelle seconded. Carol Giles nominated, Ron Sproat seconded Darlene Anderson. Karen Steenhof nominated Carol Giles to continue on the committee, Karen Bumgarner seconded. All of these were elected by acclamation.

**Elections**

Thrills and chills in the PNER elections—for the first time in yonks, we've got more than one set of nominees!

Ron Sproat nominated Becky Fiedler/Tani Bates for president/VP, Lois Fox seconded. Dory Jackson nominated Paul Latiolais and Jannelle Wilde for president/VP, Patty Robinett seconded. A short recess was called so that members could retrieve their PNER membership cards in order to qualify for a ballot. Veep Sharke called to close the nominations.

Becky spoke to the membership about her past experience with PNER, her business experience, and her desire to support the organization. Tani would like to get more involved with the sport and give back to PNER. There was applause.

Paul reminded the membership to vote early and vote often, but he is just kidding. Paul has been president for the past 3 years, and would like to finish a few more things: the website, for example. He recognizes that although membership numbers have dropped, it has not dropped as precipitously as that of AERC and other equine organizations. Jannelle noted that both sets of leaders are good, and that whichever set is elected will do a fine job. She reminded members that this group thrives on consistency. There was applause.

**Continuation of Old Business (while votes are counted)**

**Scholarship Committee**

Aarene Storms reported that there was only essay submitted to the committee, and it's not a \$3,000 essay so the committee will be returning some of the budgeted money to the general fund. It is a very good essay, and it will be awarded some money and it will be published in the PNER Family News so that members can enjoy it.

### **Ride Manager report**

Lois Fox reported that RM's still need to elect their representatives. At the RM meeting, the ride managers discussed ways to economize the running of rides and how to entice more riders to come. They also discussed Junior BC awards, and how to help this regional award be available to all the juniors. Some ride managers currently don't offer JR BC (it is a voluntary) at their rides, so juniors at those rides don't receive points towards the regional award. Lois intends to encourage all juniors to show for BC at her ride by offering a certificate of participation. Sherry MacFarland would like to see the junior BC awards be converted to a "high vet score" award, available to all juniors at a ride regardless of finish placement. Mary suggests that sponsors/parents gently urge/remind ride managers that juniors + sponsors = money for ride managers. Sandy Cheek wanted to know why ride managers would *not* offer this. Lois thinks that sometimes the objection belongs to the vet, not the RM. Adam clarified that PNER wants the results from RM's. Karen Bumgarner says that the high vet score is something that some RM's choose to recognize and some do not, and PNER doesn't have control over that. Gail Williams said that PNER cannot force a ride manager to offer Junior BC and have it be judged.

Gail reported that AERC is concerned that PNER rides are sometimes incorrectly measured (either too long or too short). She asked that members who carry portable GPS devices please communicate their GPS measurements to the ride managers. There was applause.

**Results of the election: Becky Fiedler/Tani Bates are the new prez and vice prez. There was applause.**

### **Education Committee report**

David Lewis reported that there was PNER presence at two expos. We spent about \$900, not the entire \$6000 that was allotted to the committee. They would like to have presence at more expos, encourage RM's to have more Endurance 101 clinics at rides, and create some webinars (including E101). They want to create a better mentorship program for the organization. There was applause.

### **Technology Committee report**

The "Web" Committee is now called the "Technology" committee, because they are helping with a lot more than just the website—they are helping with *all* geek stuff. They are also seeking more help with tech *and* with content for the website. Karen Bumgarner and Gail Williams will be getting the archives from Darla Westlake so that the history of PNER can be stored and available online. There was applause.

Our proposed quartermaster for 2012 chose not to submit a proposal, so new leadership will be looking for a quartermaster. The quartermaster is the person who puts together a merchandise catalog.

### **New Business**

Dorothy Olson said that she would like the newsletter and our rides to be family-friendly. There was general agreement for this.

Sandy Cheek asked about financial losses at convention in 2012, and wanted a comparison with this year. She is a past VP, and understands the complexities of financing the convention and banquet, and wants to encourage people to buy their tickets to the banquet to support the organization. There was applause, and some whooping. Paul said that the "banquet fee" will be renamed to reflect the reality of financing of convention. Gail reminded members that convention costs include food, meeting space, and speakers. A good way to support PNER financially is to buy raffle tickets.

Dory Jackson motioned that we adjourn, Jala Newfeld seconded. People left.

**New Board members for 2013:**

BC Rider rep: Katrin Leverman, alt Christina Voglmeier

BC RM rep: Terre O'Brennan

OR Rider rep: Paula Rasler, Carlene Benson, alt Anna Sampson, Ruth Sheridan

OR RM rep: Lois Fox, Mary Nunn, alt Jannelle

WA Rider rep: Dory Jackson, Becky Vital, alt. Monica Bretherton, Kathleen Ferguson

WA RM rep: Gail Williams, Heidi Larson, alt. Marilyn Milestone

ID Rider rep: Karen Bumgarner, alt Karen Steenhof

ID RM rep: Trish Frahm

**Friday Board Meeting January 18, 2013**

**Board members present:**

Janis Pegg, Treasurer  
Gail Williams, WA Ride Manager Rep  
Aarene Storms, Terrible Secretary, WA Rider alternate  
Paul Latiolais, Prez  
Dory Jackson, WA Rider Rep  
Lois Fox, OR Ride manager rep  
Terre O'Brennan BC RM Rep  
Carlene Benson OR rider rep  
Darlene Anderson, OR Rider rep  
Sharke, Vice Prez  
Mary Nunn, OR RM rep  
Katrin Levermann BC rider rep  
Spencer Falk Jr Rep

**Also present:**

Jannelle Wilde  
Mona Thacker  
Patty Betts  
Clarence Nunn  
Alyssa Gottschlich, membership  
Elayne Barclay, handbook

**Meeting called to order: 2:26pm quorum established**

**Minutes were read, Lois moved they be approved, Darlene seconded, motion passed.**

There was discussion about items in the minutes. How much of the stuff that should have happened actually did happen? Darlene reported that the E101 clinics at Mt Adams and Klickitat were successful and didn't cost PNER anything. More money was budgeted for expos than was actually spent. Paula collected information from the expos, but she is not here to present that information right now.

There was a discussion of a mid-year 2013 meeting. Dates and locations were discussed. Phone conferencing and mail-in voting were also discussed.

**Financial Report:**

Janis Pegg presented the financial report. Bottom line, PNER "lost" \$8391 in 2012. Expenses were flat, but income was way down. A budget was projected for 2012. Some expenses were voted, but most were 2011 expenses plus 5-6% increase. We missed the budget by about \$2600 because income was down. Membership was down 10%, which is paralleled in AERC. Convention lost more money than usual in 2012 because of the ice storm a few days prior to the party. 2012 award expenses were way down, because Carlene is awesome. Cost of postage is up (membership cards had to be mailed separately last year). There was a surprise donation of \$150 from the Witlow family. Handbook ad income was also down. Getting a credit card that accumulates flight miles was discussed. Buying investment CDs was discussed, but the general feeling is that the economy does not support that at the moment. There was discussion of how to raise money for PNER. There was applause for the report.

**Membership Report:**

There are currently about 140 new or renewed members. Alyssa will make sure that everything is current in time for the General Meeting tomorrow morning.

**Awards Report:**

Carlene found even more bargains this year. Costs are down again.

**Scholarship Report:**

Aarene reported that, although the committee has not officially met yet, only 1 essay was submitted, and it's not a \$3,000 essay. The committee will return some of the 2012 scholarship money back to the organization.

**Convention Report:**

Sharke reported that convention costs are much higher than our current budget allows. We are spending too much money on convention without bringing in fees. Sharke recommends that fees be charged for the speakers AND banquet in the future. Raffle and tack sale brings in some money, but not enough. Gail suggested combining convention with another equestrian organization.

**Web Site Report:**

There was more discussion about the website and the newsletter. The word "patience" was emphasized. We want the newsletter to advertise in every issue that ride results are FINAL after 30 days following their publication. We also need to push the PNER.net *website* as a source of official organization information and keep that website current and correct. The PNER Facebook should mirror the website, not replace it.

**Ride awards/state standings:** Lois proposed that Montana riders accrue points in Idaho towards their category, because there are few or no Montana rides. Lois also proposed that the Stallion award be discontinued or suspended. Lois also proposed that the PNER Junior BC Award be discussed, because there is not a Junior BC award given in Idaho or BC. Mary Nunn would like this award re-examined because there are more juniors in the organization now. These issues cannot be settled today, they have been tabled.

**Trail Committee report:** Gail asked for more members on the committee. Aarene volunteered (and also volunteered Jim Beidle). Gail asked that members take pictures and document the time and the trail work that they do. She also asked if there is interest in PNER hosting the Trail Master class again. There was much support for the Trail Master class. Gail will write a newsletter article asking members to document trail work and participate in Trail Master training.

**Canada report:** There is thought in Canada that "Canada" would like to become a "region" for AERC. Terre O'Brennan wants PNER assurance that BC riders would still be able to participate in PNER. Comments reflect love and support for our friends from the North. PNER will recognize BC ride points even if they are not AERC sanctioned.

Darlene motioned that the meeting adjourn, Gail seconded. Motion passed, meeting adjourned!

## **Junior Meeting Minutes, Saturday January 19, 2013**

Sixteen juniors and young riders, plus a few supportive adults met at the convention to chat and eat pizza together. We all introduced each other and talked about our horses. The juniors helped me (the Junior Advisor) brainstorm some topics that are most important to communicate to juniors new to the sport, including:

- How to estimate your preferred speed (and how to communicate that to a potential sponsor!)
- Lists of stuff to send to a vet check
- What vet checks are all about—what the vets look for (and why)
- How to be a “catch rider,” including the benefits and complications
- How to sponsor a sponsor

Junior Raffle (laptop computer + camera + other assorted goodies) ticket sales have raised at least \$600. Tonya Stroud was instrumental in putting this raffle item together in order to raise money for PNER Juniors. She suggested that money raised could be used to get PNER jackets for active PNER juniors.

We elected a new Junior Representative and alternate. Zach Nunn will be the new junior rep, and Julia Sayer will be the alternate.

We assembled a list of “Super Sponsors.” These are PNER adults who help juniors, not only by sponsoring juniors at rides, but also by helping them train and compete during the season. Here are the names of “Super Sponsors” identified by the 2013 PNER Juniors:

Aarene Storms  
Adam Falk  
Patty Robinett  
Lori Hudson  
Dr. Cassie

Mary Nunn  
Anna Sampson  
Steph Teeter  
Bobbi Jo Ogren  
Janelle Wilde

Jessica Evans  
Dr. Jenn  
Draea Gibson  
Paula Rasler  
Paul Latiolais

Dory Jackson  
Mary Smultea  
Jim Beidle  
Mike Foss  
Cindy Sayer

Tiffany LaPlante  
Cynthia Petticolas  
Julias Bloomfield  
Darlene Anderson  
Nance Worman

Broce Worman  
Mary Krauss  
Gail Williams  
Katrin Levermann  
Regina Rose

Sirie Neal  
Tonja Stroud  
Tammy Scheck

Gail also encourages PNER members to attend the AERC convention at the Grand Sierra Hotel in Reno.

Terre informed the membership about some of the details about the double-sanctioning of rides by Endurance Canada and AERC. PNER continues to offer PNER points for Canadian rides sanctioned by Endurance Canada.

Ron Sproat is concerned that the international endurance community will “separate” from AERC. He encourages people to participate in international competition, and encourages Gail (our AERC rep) to encourage AERC to support international competition. Lois expressed concern about the current setup of national championships. She was blunt and opinionated, there was laughter. She would like to see the national championships return to a point-based award, rather than the current single event. Karen Bumgarner spoke to the issue, and she does not support the national championship being decided by a single ride. Morgan Smith does not feel that AERC supports her as a rider, at all (except for *Endurance News*). Janelle Wilde agreed that she feels that PNER is more supportive of her personally than AERC. Carol Giles reminded the membership that AERC protects trails, which is vital to our sport. Dr. Jenn reminded the membership that AERC can send a representative to speak to PNER about the benefits of AERC membership.

Sue Somers reported that they need more data about the “Help us give our members what they want” survey, aimed at increasing ride attendance. Eileen Reilich suggested that we use Survey Monkey. Rachel Webb has access to Qualtrix academic survey tool, and offered that as an option. Bottom line: vote early, vote often. (I’m joking). Currently there is only 7% respondents. Eileen shared the questions on the overhead. Eileen showed the questions and some of the existing data.

Gail reminded the membership of what needs to be decided in state meetings. The group split up for state elections.

Sharke moved we adjourn, Jim B seconded. Everyone voted agreement by standing up and walking away.

### **State Elections**

#### **Oregon:**

Rider reps – Darlene Anderson, Carlene Benson

Alternates – Anna Sampson, Kelly Nutter

Ride Manager reps – Mary Nunn, Lois Fox

RM alternate – Adam Falk

#### **Washington:**

Rider reps – Dory Jackson, Julie Barnfather

Alternates – Aarene Storms, Rhonda Guilford

Ride Manager Reps – Gail Williams, Marilyn Milestone

RM alternate – Heidi Larson

#### **Idaho:**

Rider rep – Nance Worman

Alternate – Linda Walberg

Ride Manager rep – Liz Smallwood

RM alternate – Steph Teeter

**British Columbia:**

**Rider rep – Katrin Leverman**

**Alternate – Brian Malkowski**

**Ride Manager rep – Terre O'Brennan**

**Montana: no information available**