

Virginia Equine Artists Association
General Membership Meeting, March 28, 2008,
Cultural Arts Center, Glen Allen, VA

Present:

Debby Thomas, Wilma Bradner, Linda Wolitz, Elaine Hurst, Gail Guirrerri Maslyk, Pam Wilkinson, Marion Mercer, Carole Newton, Linda Warshaw, Robyn Ryan, David Everette, Anne Ross, Kristin Wise, Dorothy Chhuy, Pam Wilkinson, Jillian Chilson, Renae Major.

The meeting was called to order by President Debby Thomas who introduced the board members. Each VEAA member was asked to tell their name and a little about themselves.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Wilma Bradner reported a balance of \$2,669.27.

Montpelier Races Show

The 2008 Montpelier show was discussed. Some participating artists came early and helped set up. Others came late. In fairness to all, everyone should help set up and take down. We need to preset a number of participants according to the available space. Eight or nine artists is a good number for the double size tent. The 2008 set up design was good. Could we obtain a larger tent if more artists want to participate? We also need to know what artists need for their set up.

Celebrating the Horses of Virginia Show

We will continue with our online "Celebrating the Horses of Virginia" exhibit while other venues are looked into.

More lead time is needed in contacting galleries. We will participate in another "Celebrating the Horses of Virginia" project in 2010. Kristen Queen has written a grant application to the Horse Industry Board seeking funding to help with our expenses.

Strawberry Hill Races Show

The VEAA will have a booth at the Strawberry Hill Races on April 11. If interested, contact Kristen Queen before April 4. There is no fee to enter. We have been invited to participate in the show at Foxcote Barn on June 6. Gail Maslyk will coordinate at Foxcote. We have also been invited to show our work at the Virginia Derby at Colonial Downs in July (20% of sales to the TRF), and at the Virginia Draft Horse and Mule show in Culpepper in September.

Member Involvement

Member involvement is encouraged and needed. It's not fair to a core group to do most of the work. Regional representatives are needed.

Contact Debby Thomas or Kristen Queen if you can help.

Workshop Interest

Members indicated interest in the following workshops:

- 3-5 days with Lynn Maderich (primarily oils, can teach in pastels or other dry media),
- sculpture
- watercolor
- equine jewelry

We are open to more suggestions. Contact Elaine if you're interested in a workshop not listed here. In general, weekend workshops or workshops of one or three days are best. Time of year is a consideration.

Marketing

Group marketing works. Co-op ads in publications have already brought sales and commissions.

We have been contacted by the Horses in Art magazine to see if we are interested in another back cover ad in their summer edition for \$800. The Horses in Art ad is open to all VEAA members so if you are interested, contact Kristin Wise. Equestrian magazine has offered the VEAA co-op ad space for \$250 each, or for \$200 each if 10 people are interested. (A show of hands indicated big interest in this.) The deadline has passed but Kristin Wise will check into it. The VEAA website offers a free "Artist of the Month" space. Send your image to Pat Bevan our website coordinator. Individuals can also submit photos to the Chronicle for use on their front page.

VEAA Blog

We would like to have some type of VEAA blog. Yahoo group and Facebook are possibilities. It was suggested that the group needs a workshop that will help us with interactive online activities and web marketing.

The meeting was adjourned and lunch was served. Attorney Joan Bellefield Davis gave a very informative presentation on copyright law and offered time for questions and answers. She also touched briefly on LLC's and Trademarks.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Rena Major, Secretary