

# Virginia Equine Artists Association

Annual Meeting, March 8, 2014  
The Mare Center, Middleburg, VA.

Present: Eleszabeth McNeel, Wilma Bradner, Debby Thomas, Renae Major, Robyn Ryan, Donna Doyle, Cheryl Ernest, Linda Warshaw, B. J. Clark, Ron Heath, Becky Knotts, Ginny Reardon, Marion Mercer (and her sister).

The meeting was called to order by President Eleszabeth McNeel. She expressed our appreciation to the Mare Center, Jacob Grove and Rebecca Splan for allowing the VEAA to meet at the facility. During the meeting, images of member works for the Montpelier Center for the Arts was shown.

Rebecca Splan gave a brief overview on the formation and operation of the Mare Center. The land (420 acres) was purchased in 1949 by Paul Mellon and donated to Virginia Tech for equine research and science. It averages 50-60 horses under the care and management of students in the Equine Studies Program .

Attendees were asked to introduce themselves.

Secretary: The minutes of the last annual meeting were approved as read.

Treasurer: We have a balance of \$2,507.52 as of March 7, 2014. The balance on the debit account is \$251.16. Expenses included: SCC annual fee of \$25, Liability insurance \$181, previous annual meeting catering \$200, web renewal \$45 for two years, website maintenance \$102.09, Facebook ads \$125, Secretariat's Birthday celebration (2013) \$180 and (2014) \$125, Montpelier Hunt Races \$450, Art on a Wire \$200. Treasurer also provided a paper explaining the procedure on VEAA exhibit sales.

Membership: We currently have 45 members. A roster was provided for attendees mark any changes.

Website: The VEAA website is in the process of being redesigned. It will include a "FAQ" page. If a member has a question about the site, he is asked to contact a board member.

Social Media: We currently have 1,136 followers on Facebook. Members are encouraged to send images, events and awards to Jill. Some things we can look forward to doing in the future include Pinterest, Google+, a VEAA blog, building our email list and incorporating Twitter more. If anyone is interested in these, please let Jill know.

Exhibits/Events: Five people have committed to the Outer Banks trip April 8-10. A trip to Cashiers, NC, to photograph Gypsy Vanners is planned for Friday, July 11, 2014. Contact B. J. Clark if interested. Let her know if you have other ideas for a trip.

Gallery Shows: Art on a Wire in Midlothian, is scheduled for May 31-June 14, 2014. Work is due May 29. River District show in Sperryville will be June 21-Aug. 10. This is a juried show. Entries due May15. Information will be available soon for the Gallery Flux show.

Booth Shows: Secretariat's Birthday Celebration, March 29. This was a good show last year. The Museum of the Horse will be open by then. Contact Debby Thomas  
Piedmont Expo, also on March 29. The fee for a booth is \$100. Contact Eleszabeth McNeel  
Wine and Trotter Festival, May 10. (May)  
Locust Grove Wine Festival, May 17  
Roanoke Valley Horse Show, June 16-21. (Contact Cheryl Ernest)  
Rose Mount, September 13-14. (Contact Robyn Ryan)

Workshops: Cheryl Ernest has been in contact with two artists: Lynn Maderich and Lesley Harrison. Six to eight attendees are needed for the workshops.

Members were encouraged to think of ways to get involved in the VEAA.

The meeting was adjourned for lunch which had been prepared by VEAA member Bill Easton.

After lunch we were given a tour of the National Sporting Library and Museum in Middleburg, and a tour of the MARE facilities by Rebecca Splan.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rena Major, Secretary