

## **General Meeting of the Ride and Tie Association**

Meeting held in the group area of the Cuneo Creek Horse Camp  
Humboldt Redwood State Park, California

June 18, 2009

Meeting was called to order at 4:12 PM, by Don Betts, President

- ❖ Don reported on results of the earlier meeting of the Board of Directors

Result of election to Board of Directors:

- Steve Anderson 3 year term
- Lani Newcomb 3 year term
- George Hall 3 year term
- Ben Volk 2 year term

Gave thanks to Pat & Nita Browning and Cindi Brown for their past service on the Board of Directors

Announced that the next Championship will be held in Trout Lake, Washington on Mt. Adams. There is a great camping area and trails. It is a great place to spend a week. White water rafting on tree rivers, climbing and even skiing down Mt Adams, fishing, windsurfing on the Columbia, and huckleberry smoothies are some of the things that are available.

The site of the Wild West Ride & Tie is being considered for 2011.

Bethany Draeger of Sacramento, California is the new Junior Editor for the Newsletter.

We are still in need of a Junior Representative on the Board of Directors.

Thanks to Melissa Queen for her service as Junior Editor and Junior Representative for the Board of Directors. She will be attending Dartmouth next year.

New officers for the Board of Directors

- Melanie Wier is Vice President
- Ben Volk is Secretary
- Don Betts remains President and Steve Anderson remains Treasurer

The Association had a booth at the Los Angeles Marathon Expo and will probably have one at the Portland Marathon in October.

Requested input from the membership on future revenue and increasing membership and participation.

- ❖ Carol Ruprect suggested raising the membership and entry fees. She also suggested getting a major sponsor for publicity purposes as well as money.
- ❖ Don Betts suggested that it would be great if we could find a sponsor interested in promoting women in sports.
- ❖ Carrie Barrett mentioned that there are a lot of women's sports companies.
- ❖ Title 9 was mentioned as a possible company to approach.
- ❖ Don Betts mentioned that Don Strong was the Board member responsible for coordinating sponsors. If anyone has a contact with a business or would like to contact a business that would possibly be a sponsor be sure to contact Don Strong to make sure no one else is already in contact with that organization.

- ❖ Chris Amaral said sponsors deserve/expect something for their expenditures. Ride & ties real promotion comes from wearing their stuff and taking their product to other events and being in photos in other mags etc....*not* from an event with 37 teams participating.
- ❖ Carol Ruprecht suggested that a company wanting adventurous family image could use us for advertising and that our image could be valuable.
- ❖ Don Stong said it is important to let potential sponsors know that their donated products get exposure outside of ride & tie as well.
- ❖ Steve Anderson announced that there would be a “Hall of Fame” award given after the race and that the Association has established a “Horse of Distinction” which is separate to honor other horses that have made a major contribution to our sport, but do not meet the criteria for the “Hall of Fame.” There will be a form on the website for nominating horses.
- ❖ There are tow saddles that have been donated for our Championship. The Specialized Saddle will be auctioned and the Black Forest tree-less saddle will be raffled.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40. It was followed by a pot-luck and tunes.