

NYSLA Spring Meeting Minutes

March 29, 2014 at Muller Field Station, Honeoye, NY

In Attendance: K. Moynihan, T. Keech, J. Reeder, M. Reeder, N. Keech, S. Mikloiche, L. Mikloiche, C. Sleight, G. Cicora, C. Cicora, T. Cicora, D. Smith, J. Fiene, D. Engasser, A. Arber, R. Rex, M. Dodge, A. Kuscsik, J. Tower, W. Robarge, A. Robarge, R. Spry, T. Henning, C. Henning, M. Marks, C. Sigas, J. Miranda, K. Miranda, H. Miranda.

President Rob Spry called the meeting to order at 1:23 and began a review of the competitions from last year followed by the 2 new shows added for 2014.

Bath: Julie Miller, contact person sent the following notes. She will be resigning as contact person. Jon Preston will announce and Cale Sigas is back up. Dave Engasser will provide 3 standing block stands, Julie will provide 1. Wood lots will be scouted in early April and a crew is needed for felling and blocking. Turning of wood will be done by Dave Engasser and another work crew will be needed. A hopper for blocks will be dropped off at the competition site. Members will be timing. Matt Marks, Wally Robarge and Chris Henning volunteered to work on the wood.

Hancock : Jason Miranda, contact person, reported that they are leaving the competition as it was last year with perhaps some improvements to the burling ; no new activities as were discussed at the Fall meeting ; wood is being acquired ; there will be bagpipes!

Stony Creek : Jake Bederian , contact person, sent an email stating everything is a go. There was a risk last year of cancelling the show at the last minute due to wood procurement issues. Tim Keech suggested someone help Jake out this year. There was discussion regarding which members are closer. Cobleskill College might be the closest school. Rob Spry will contact Dave Johns to ask for help from Cobleskill team members and alumni.

Churchville : Paul Pfenninger, contact person, stated the show is a go with the same events and perhaps an earlier start time of 10 :00 a.m. Money is secured. He is purchasing the wood. He will need help turning the blocks once he has a date when Dave Engasser is available. The goal is to turn and wrap them in May or June. LaVonne Mikloiche praised the event which was a new competition last season. There was discussion about how to add axe throw as an event for interested competitors. It will be listed on entry form as » bring \$5 cash to enter », money will go into a pot to be awarded perhaps as an elimination event to make it interesting for the crowd. Competitors will be drawing for wood the day of the show. Laura Pfenninger will be in charge of the wood draw.

Macedon Center : Chris Henning, contact person, reported he might be changing some events. Time constraints are still an issue. Macedon Center Festival organizers expressed concern about the low turnout for Amateur Day. Marty Dodge was unsure of why the FLCC team did not participate as usual. He will share his collegiate coaching contacts with us so that we can help promote the amateur day. Ashley Kuscsik, a new member, asked if this is the event for new competitors as she would like to participate and knows other interested women. Amateur status for this event means you have not won money in the past 5 years. You cannot compete in both the amateur and professional events offered at this Festival. Dennis Smith said he would be interested in being a liaison to the college teams.

Clarkson : Kevin Moynihan, contact person, said « same old, same old » but if he makes changes he will let us know. He will be purchasing wood from a different source this year, hopefully white pine.

Marathon : Dave Engasser, contact person for this new show stated he was approached by the committee for the Central NY Maple Festival. Dave did not want to do an exhibition but chose a smaller version of our typical show limiting it to the 2013 season's top 12 men and top 8 women. Hopefully it will be a success and grow in the future. He has parking passes and pancake breakfast tickets for competitors and volunteers. Mark Schaub will do a wood draw. Chops will be done « Australian « style where times do not matter. Andrea Robarge asked if points count towards 2014 Overall. They do not.

Owego : Gary Hammond sent an email stating this new show will be held July 12 at the Tioga Co. Fair. Funding is set. He will send Nancy Keech a list of events soon so an entry form can be created. Gary specified that men will be required to enter at least 6 events, including a chainsaw event and women must enter at least 4 events. Gary and Jon Preston will announce. One show will run from 10:00 – 1:00 and another from 1:00 to 4:00.

The trailer towing schedule will be as follows:

- Marathon to Bath – Dennis Smith
- Bath to Owego – Dennis Smith
- Owego to Hancock – Mirandas
- Hancock to Stony Creek – Steve Mikloiche
- Stony Creek to Churchville – Paul Pfenninger
- Churchville to Clarkson – Chris Henning
- Clarkson to Macedon Center – Chris Henning

Dave Engasser registered the trailer and took it for the NYS inspection. The Treasurer will reimburse him for expenditures . He suggested the battery be pulled each winter to avoid draining the charge.

Questions were raised regarding watches, P.A. system and first aid kit. Rob Spry stated PA should be okay. Dave will go through watches before Marathon show and replace any batteries as needed. Mirandas stated they can replenish anything needed in first aid kit.

In new business :

Peg Engasser sent a draft of a business card we could use to hand out to anyone interested in our organization. It had the NYSLA logo, president's name, web site address, mention of Facebook page and on the back, contest dates and locations. Paul Pfenninger stated he can get them printed for free from MCC print shop. Members agreed on business card size, use color logo if possible, initial order of 500 and remove president's name. Nancy will forward Peg's design to Paul.

Cale Sigas asked if we could also create a poster for businesses to post on bulletin boards to further promote our competitions, the reasoning being that more spectators will lead to more sponsors. Paul Pfenninger stated advertising is the responsibility of each event committee. Andrea Robarge suggested posters could be given to the contact person to be passed on. Ashley Kuscsik volunteered to create a flyer. Chris Cicora suggested 8 1/2 x 14 size. Aubrey Arber suggested leaving room on flyer for each show venue to add information. Rob Spry suggested using design similar to the proposed business card and add a photograph.

Dennis Smith asked if there are videos showing the various events. He was directed to YouTube.

Dave Engasser passed on comments from Nathan Waterfield regarding the Marathon show included the top scoring competitors but there is a need for an event for newer and less proficient competitors. General discussion included agreement that it is a sport where you have to work your way up, we do provide handicap chop event, and different competitors go to different shows. Nancy Keech, scorekeeper, stated the 2013 season showed a wide spread of payouts and points over our membership, not just the top 20. Dennis Smith stated he sees the pros helping the newbies. Tracie Henning suggested Nathan do a training session at a competition. Dave Engasser asked if we could add another handicapped event like sawing.

Tim Keech asked if there was a possibility of a different fee for someone just entering as a cross cut partner. Andrea Robarge stated that some shows have a lower fee if a partner is only entering that one event. Paul Pfenninger thought this should apply to doubles events only. Nancy and LaVonne felt this would present unnecessary challenges with entry forms and record keeping. Matt Marks felt this should be decided on an individual basis through application to the Board of Directors. A motion was made that if a person wants to enter just one event it would apply to doubles events only, they would still have to be a member, the charge would be \$5.00 and it would have to be approved by the Board on an individual basis. Motion passed.

Nancy Keech reminded members that officers and committee heads were to create job descriptions. She shared Julie Miller's description for Board Member and Shirt Committee. Nancy also has completed descriptions for Secretary and Scorekeeper.

Mary Reeder raised the question of if you are already an Officer, you shouldn't also be a Board Member. Therefore, LaVonne Mikloiche (Treasurer) who was our Overall Women's winner cannot take Julie's vacated board position.

Election of Officers and Board Members: Mary Reeder was nominated by LaVonne Mikloiche to be a Board Member, all voted in favor. Rob Spry stated he would remain President if no one was interested in the position. Tim Keech nominated Steve Mikloiche for Vice President if no one else was interested, all voted in favor. No challenges to Secretary or Treasurer positions either so Nancy Keech and LaVonne Mikloiche will serve another term. (Secretary note: it was not discussed in the meeting, but according to past practice, Dave Engasser, 2013 Men's Overall, should replace Paul Pfenninger, 2012 Men's Overall, on the Board.)

Julie Miller resigned, via email, as Shirt Committee chair. Jacob Tower is interested in the position and asked if a different company should be used next year. LaVonne stated that we have already paid for the cost of creating the screen print used by our current company. If we change companies, we will have to pay for another screen to be created. Andrea Robarge, Dennis Smith and Steve Mikloiche discussed possibilities of cheaper rates and it was agreed new prices would be presented at the Fall Meeting. Dave Engasser asked if the 2014 shirts would be available at the Marathon show. He was told they would be at Bath.

Nancy brought up that the website, www.nylumberjacks.org, was not maintained according to our agreement with Steve Lichtman at KJNArts, notably, no results after the Bath competition were posted. Ashley Kuscsik offered to create a new website if needed. There was discussion as to how to get Steve to manage our website as per our agreement. It was agreed that Kyle Spry, as President should send a letter to KJN Arts to release the codes so we can work on the website ourselves. Chris Cicora offered to help draft the letter. Julie Miller sent log in information for all the webmail accounts attached to the website. It is important to log in and check these accounts occasionally and delete any spam. Julie is working on setting spam filters.

Nancy shared that there are many requests for information regarding shows sent to our email address and submitted on the « request for info » page on our Website. We currently do not have accurate information on financing or other needs for hosting a competition. A 2009 Contact Person handout is our most recent document. Katie Miranda offered to update all the information and share it with current show contact people and Board Members for their input. This will hopefully be able to be incorporated into our Website.

Treasurer LaVonne Mikloiche shared her Treasurer's Report stating a current balance of \$17,376.12. She reminded us of the need to keep a cushion in the account for prize payouts.

The question was raised as to whether the trailer was weighed, as discussed at the fall meeting. No, it has not been. Dennis Smith offered to have it weighed when he tows it. Rob Spry motioned that 2 new impact drivers and screws be purchased as existing ones are often tied up setting up springboard. Paul Pfenninger agreed to make the purchase. All were in favor. The question was raised that since we do have a significant balance, should we pursue applying for Non Profit status. It was agreed that it is not necessary and may have negative tax reporting consequences. Wally Robarge mentioned that the screens are shot and should be updated for safety reasons. Jason Miranda stated he could get rough cut lumber for frames. Steve Mikloiche said he could get a metal stamp of the NYSLA logo for the screens. At the Fall Meeting it was also discussed that we need to build our own standing block stands. This idea was tabled again until the trailer is weighed with the current load and we can determine if it can handle the additional weight.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Nancy Keech, Secretary

2013 Treasurers Report

Beginning balance		\$13,412.06
~Bath	entries 77	\$1,135.00
	men 50 2jrs	
	women 27	
~Hancock	entries 44	\$640.00
	men 31 2jrs.	-\$125.00
	women 13	total \$515.00
	assoc. pd. contact person	
~Churchville	entries 51	\$745.00
	men 39 2jrs.	
	women 12	
~Stony Creek	entries 39	\$565.00
	men 27 2jrs.	-\$550.00
	women 12	total \$15.00
	assoc. pd. Contact, H judge, Jack and Jill	
~Clarkson	entries 45	
	men 31 2jrs.	
	women 15	\$655.00
~Macedon	entries 48	\$700.00
	men 31 2jrs.	
	women 17	
	Show entry total	\$3,765.00
Members		
On time	61@\$25.00	\$1,525.00
Late members	40@\$1,200.00	\$1,200.00
Membership shirt \$		-\$1,010.00
	Member total	\$1,715.00
	Total	\$5,480.00
Mileage Pay out	Total	-\$566.30
Receipts and purchases	Total	-\$3,270.64
2012 overall jackets	Total	-\$180.00
Shirt order	Total	-\$178.00
	Ending balance	\$14,697.12
2014 memberships and shirt \$		\$ 2,0370.00
Marathon reg.		\$500.00
Marathon show cost		-\$200.00
Balance as of 3/29/2014		\$17,376.12

