

## Mason Dixon Membership Meeting and Banquet

The Mason Dixon Membership Meeting and Banquet was held on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Plaza Hotel in Hagerstown Maryland. Elections were on the agenda, but as all the current officers were unopposed, the BOD will remain the same except for Marie Williams who is asking to be able to step back as secretary for awhile due to personal reasons. Karen Basehore is going to help cover that area, but even more importantly she is taking over the Membership committee with Lori Wieszkowiak offering her help. Their aim is to welcome new members and inform them of how the Regional system works. They also help to get in touch w/non-renewing members.

Many other issues were discussed at this meeting. Due to operating costs in publishing and mailing our regional newsletter, ideas were requested on how to cut that budget. We tossed around the idea of making it smaller, such as a trifold printed on both sides. Another suggestion of making it quarterly as opposed to bi-monthly was struck down due to the fact that when that was attempted in the past, there had to be too many interim mailings to keep members abreast of upcoming events. The solution as it stands right now is that members will receive an email with a link to the current issue which will be on the website as a PDF file when it is published. This will allow you to either read it on the computer or print it out. If you would prefer to continue receiving the Power Glide in hard copy, an extra 5 dollars can be added to your regular membership fee for that purpose.

At the Lexington VA show in 2007 we would like to do a silent auction to help raise money. Anyone who can donate an item is asked to do so. They do not have to be horse related. The hope is that in addition to raising funds it will also be a way to get people to come to the show and stay for the auction, socialize and have some fun.

A suggestion was put forth that a full class fee for walk/corto/ leadline class should not be charged. It was pointed out that 1) its a non pointed class and 2) for a family to pay that extra money to lead their child around is counter productive to trying to get new youth/families etc into the breed. It was agreed on that it will now be a free class.

The Icelandics have requested to be included in our May Day show. An informal vote was done and we agreed. They are only asking for 12 classes throughout the whole weekend and they don't feel the number of horses will be as many as at the fall show. This led to the point that the fun classes which are usually held at the Fall Dillsburg Show were sorely missed this year. We do not know if they can be brought back for the 2007 fall show but with the Icelandics at the May show plans are to include fun classes.

The idea of a 'multi-regional show' was also discussed. We would like suggestions of a central area where a show could be held, hosted by Mason Dixon, Northeast and Great Lakes Regions. We may also look into having an event with these regions that is non show oriented such as a trail ride