

National Block & Bridle Club
Mid-Year Meeting (Advisors' Luncheon)
July 27, 2001
Indianapolis, IN

President Hayden Brown called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM and asked all those attending to introduce themselves. Chapters represented included: NC State, Fort Hayes, Delaware Valley, University of MO, University of KY, Texas A&M, Brigham Young, Texas Tech, Clemson, and Ohio State University. Officers gave the following reports.

President (Hayden Brown): The Senior Award nominations were due June 1 because materials have to be to ASAS by July 1. There were 10 nominees and three have been chosen. Their names will be read alphabetically at the ASAS awards program tonight, but their exact placing will not be announced until the Convention.

Scrapbooks have traditionally been judged when brought to the convention. Finding judges is always a concern but hand delivery of the scrapbooks is easier and safer than shipping. An ad-hoc committee consisting of Tim Marshall (chair), Debra Aarons, and Jodi Sterling has been appointed to examine the issue of judging scrapbooks.

Vice President (Harold Harpster, delivered by H. Brown): There are two nominees for the Sophomore Award, 11 nominees for Junior Scholarship, and 11 chapter reports. Results will be reported at the national convention in November 2001.

Secretary/Treasurer (Cindy Wood): The minutes from the St. Louis meeting were accepted as distributed, as was the mid-year financial report (see attached). There is \$53,786.91 in the Money Market account, and \$5,3319.26 in the checking account. Examples of jewelry offered by the company that handles our membership certificates were discussed. It was decided that information about jewelry purchases would be added to the web site as soon as details were worked out.

Editor (Jeannette Moore): There are 7 or 8 published yearbooks in this year's competition. Chapter abstracts are still being accepted; there are already more this year (12+) than in the past. The national web site is updated regularly, and chapters are encouraged to keep theirs up to date as well. A flow chart or "Yearly Checksheat" will be added that lists dates and deadlines.

Jim Spain gave a report on the 2001 convention held last January in St. Louis, MO. There were 615 total attendees, including 90+ from U of MO, and 44 chapters were represented. Despite sleep deprivation, everything went well. The hotel security staff were pleased although there was some rowdiness. The "holding area" for play late at

night was a big success. He reported that their main challenge was coping with the inevitable problems that come with being new to hosting a convention. The Adam's Mark Hotel changed staff three times, and they ended up with fewer students than expected. That caused havoc with the budget, as did the fact that fundraising was not as successful as hoped. The chapter ended up \$42,000 in the red. They plan to pay \$32,000, but will not give back the \$10,000 advance from the national organization. He suggested that National look into sponsorship by national corporations to help with future conventions. He also suggested that we come up with a protocol for chapters looking to host the convention. Bottom line: underestimate attendance, overestimate expenses, underestimate donations, and READ THE CONTRACT.

Fred Thrift reported on the 2002 convention, scheduled for Nov. 8-11, 2001 in Louisville, KY and hosted by the University of KY chapter. He indicated that if 600 attend, they should break even. Lodging is at the Holiday Inn South, for \$84.00/night, 1-4 people. Registration starts at 2:00 PM and the business meeting is from 9:00-10:30 PM. Friday is the tour of Central KY, followed by a dinner cruise and a dance at the Holiday Inn. Saturday morning will be seminars at the fairgrounds, followed by an afternoon at Churchill Downs. That night is a rodeo and a dance. Sunday there will be a breakfast banquet, and the program will end by 10:30 AM. This will be an alcohol-free convention. Registration is \$75.00 per person, due by Oct. 15. Packets of information need to go out Sep. 1.

Cindy Wood reported on the 2003 convention, hosted by the Virginia Tech chapter. The dates are Jan. 23-26, 2003. They are looking for a hotel in the DC area. The program will revolve around agriculture and politics. Penn State has volunteered to put together one or two tours, and the University of MD may help, too. Right now the plan is to have the main meeting on Friday, tours and awards banquet on Saturday, and adjourn on Sunday.

Jeannette's term as Editor ends this year. President Nevil Speer appointed a nominating committee consisting of Tim Marshall, Ron Lemanger, and Mike Gould to begin the process of electing a new editor.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Wood
Secretary/Treasurer