



Northern Horse & Mule Harness Association

PO Box 274, RPO Downtown, Fort St. John, BC V1J 6W7

General Meeting September 10, 2024

www.NHMHA-harnessclub.ca Email:
nhmha.harnessclub@gmail.com

The meeting was held at NLC, FSJ in room 103

Attendees:

- *President:* Julius Reimer
- *Secretary:* Marion Dunn
- *Directors:* Maureen Simard, Louise Kempthorne, Theo Miedema
- *Members:* Debbie Logan

Julius called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. A quorum was present.

Minutes: Minutes from the August 13th meeting were read by Marion, who moved the minutes be accepted; seconded by Maureen, carried.

Treasurer's Report: Susan had sent Marion an email with her reports because she knew she wasn't able to attend in person. However, the reports didn't come through as an attachment which wasn't discovered until the meeting was in progress. In following up, the updated information is: Adjusted bank balance in chequing as of August 31 was \$2,427.32. The Savings Account balance was \$6,047.12.

Theo submitted a donation cheque #264 from the Petroleum Association in the amount of \$1,500.00. He also gave a \$10 bill which he had received as a tip at the Oilmen's weekend rides. Marion will provide these to Susan. More on the Oilmen's weekend in the Old Business topics.

Old Business

North Peace Fall Fair August 16-18: Julius competed in 2 classes for which he placed 1st in Obstacle Course in Harness and 1st in Driving class for Pony - Single. He also used his pony team to deliver the salt blocks to the Heavy Horse Pull event – but they ran out of salt blocks! There was only one event participant (Gord MacKenzie) but he had two teams. Garnet was the judge for the Heavy Horse Pull.

Oilmen's Weekend Peace Island Park: August 16-18: Theo said the whole event was wonderful this year. The camping area at the old cabin site was a bit harder to find but once the kids found the site there were many wagon riders – and on the Saturday the pony rides were another great success. The wagon rides were all 3 days; Maureen and Louise brought 3 horses and swapped them out to drive singles for the full day; Julius brought his wagon and pony team except for Sunday when he switched over to the Fall Fair; Bev and Dale gave wagon rides. Brad/Susan, Theo/Deb, and Louise brought horses (King – the horse, Doll – horse, Fin & Lacy – horses, and April – pony).

Friday-Sunday: Wagon rides began about 5pm on Friday, 10am on Saturday and Sunday. Pony rides started at 1pm on Saturday and went non-stop! Deb said there were lots of kids and teens – with noticeably more boys participating than last year. Deb said her contact at the Petroleum Association (Don Hogarth) apologized that he wasn't very organized this year but would be better next year. He did just fine!

Hudson's Hope Area: FALL WAGON TREK August 30 to Sept 2, 2024

A unanimous evaluation of the event was that it was Marvelous!!! Even the weather was good the entire time – despite a few drops of rain. 37 people attended in carts, wagons and on horseback. The campsite

was near the beach to Williston and the sand provided firm footing both in and out of the water. The campsite offered lots of spots in trees or in the open. Donna brought the totes of supplies, the tables, plus her tent which was set up by her and a number of people who arrived early. Donna also shopped for supplies and food for lunches. Susan brought the hamburgers and hot dogs from the club inventory after caring for the meat in their freezer for some time. Theo/Deb brought the AAA First Aid Kit.

A main firepit was set up by our group. The water was provided by a water trough from Shona Campbell Smit and a truck tidy tank by Susan. Another water tank was on site, too (Dale?). Garnet arranged for and transported two portapotties on a trailer from a Hudson's Hope company. There will be an invoice coming for that rental. Everyone was willing to help with things! Louise set up supplies for the meal Saturday including the coffee urn but Donna kept the coffee flowing the rest of the trip.

Lee & Lisa brought their Cook Wagon, and it was sure great to have them provide the hot lunches!

Donna will store the trailer with the club supplies and tables at her place.

Susan had a large sandwich board sign that was used for the trek campsite entrance (plus a number of other signs that provided good direction to the camping area).

Thank You to everyone for pitching in and making this Fall Trek a very successful weekend! Many thanks to Shona, who was an excellent trail boss and showed us a lot of great driving/riding areas at Williston Lake. Marion gave Shona a few club 2024 Calendars as a memoir.

One concern was brought up by Marion who, with Louise, Vera and Susan, had broken up the line of live fire on the beach on Monday morning in the driftwood strip. If unbroken, the fire would have reached the sideslope hill at the north side and could have moved into the forest. Attempts to connect with 911 was not answered, and instead Susan went up to the campsite to bring her truck and tote water tank down to the beach. Pails were used to douse the fire at the firebreak margins and seemed to be effective. However, the fact that we couldn't reach 911 was unnerving.

Followup: Shona informed us that there is another option for a camping site with more grass and which is a bit closer to Hudson's Hope. It's still close enough to access the Williston beach.

New Business, Admin and Membership

New Business: Julius commented that he participated in the Kiskatinaw Fall Fair in a few classes where he got a 1st in log skidding (with his ponies!) and 2nd in wagon driving. It was also a fun time.

Use of Photos/Videos posted on NHMHA's FB Site: Marion and Connie attempt to request permission to use the photos that people in our closed FB Group post to our site, but it would be much easier if we could have a provision put into the site to allow for using this content. A **Motion** was put forward by Marion to add this condition to our FB Group site: "Group members who post photos or videos to this Platform are inherently giving the NHMHA permission to use the same for the Association's business, such as Minutes, NHMHA website postings, ads, newsletters and Calendar". Seconded by Louise and carried.

Plans are Starting for the CHRISTMAS PARTY! A tentative date of Sunday, December 1st was chosen. Julius will ask Mike and Angie Pomeroy if it is possible to hold the sleigh day and dinner party at the Pomeroy Dance Barn once again. It is such a pleasant place to be for Christmas! More planning to follow at next meeting.

Correspondence / Communication: No correspondence received.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm by Garnet.

NOTE: Meetings are held every second Tuesday of each Month: 7 to 9pm.



NHMHA's next general meeting is on October 8th at NLC in FSJ, Room# to be posted.

Website: maintained by ConnieLynnGraphics nhmha.harnessclub@gmail.com

Membership: <https://www.nhmha-harnessclub.ca/membership.html>

We have added a revised page to our printable calendar on our website.

<https://nhmha-harnessclub.ca/img/NHMHA-2024-calendar-online.pdf>

Sooooooo many great pictures and videos were posted to the NHMHA FB Group Site. Thanks to everyone who participated!

Northern Horse & Mule
Harness Association

2024 FALL WAGON TREK

