

Here we are again at the end of another year, and for me, the end of my term as President of the Ontario Clydesdale Club. I have been very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with a great group of directors and I extend my sincere gratitude to each of them for helping to make everything run as smooth as possible for the club and to make my job easy.

The Annual Meeting has been set for January 28th, 2017 at 1:00pm at Carson's Auction Barn. Ken Galbraith is geared up and ready to take over the reins and step into the President position and we will be looking to fill some director spots. If you are interested in having your name put forward as a director, please contact myself or any of the current directors before the meeting.

Over the past couple years there has been interest expressed in creating more opportunity for riding classes, ploughing competition, learning to decorate/hitch etc. The club has opportunity to grow and support these types of events but we need people to spearhead committees to make this happen. Now is your chance to get involved and we would love to hear your ideas and plans.

At the last Annual Meeting a committee was formed to review the current Bred and Sired program and come up with some suggestions on how to improve it. The committee met in November and the following proposals will be discussed at the AGM on January 28th :

Proposal #1 – increase the entry fee to \$100.00

Proposal #2 – Exhibitors choose their best placing at a maximum of four out of the seven recognized shows to count towards their placement in the program

Proposal #3 – Points to be awarded correspond to the number of entrants in the class, to a maximum of 5 points then 5-x get one point. Example: If there are 8 entries in a class then 1st gets 5 points, 2nd gets 4 points, 3rd gets 3 points, 4th gets 2 points and 5th - 8th get one point. If there were 3 in the class then 1st gets 3 points, 2nd gets 2 points, 3rd gets 1 point.

Proposal #4 – you can include the placing of one unrecognized show if the show has:

A minimum of three eligible yearlings from three different exhibitors,

One eligible entrant notifies all eligible owners in the program of the fair two weeks in advance for

it to be counted towards placing that current year.

It is hoped that these proposals will

- Increase payout
- Create new interest in the program
- Attract people who can go to only a few shows
- Promote the breed

Donna McKeown and her crew did a great job again this year preparing and serving the delicious food for our Annual Royal Social. We were overwhelmed by the number of people who turned out this year and it's always a difficult event to guess how many people will attend. A huge thank you to Philippe Desharnais for donating the buns and cookies –your help and support is very much appreciated.

Karley Robertson is working at organizing our Annual OCC Clydespiel which will be held in Listowel. She is just confirming dates and there will be more to come on this.

Mark your calendars for the OCC Annual Banquet on Friday April 21st at the Listowel Ag Hall.

Tickets will be available at the AGM.

Arden Nywenning is busy organizing the Jackpot as our 2017 fundraiser and would appreciate if those interested in entering horses get in touch with him as soon as possible.

Now that the show horses and handlers are enjoying a much deserved break and the brood mares are waiting patiently for foaling season to begin, I hope everyone can take some time to enjoy this beautiful time of year with friends and loved one. Merry Christmas and I wish you the

very best for a healthy and prosperous 2017.

President's Message...

Elaine Tillot