UP Chapter Minutes from March 6, 2010

Attendees: Victoria Jenema, Karin Steffens, Tracee Horn, Kathy Caspary, Tina Ozanich, Brenda Jacques, Karen Brechlin, Kathy Bull, Celeste Gasiewicz, Lucy Aho, and Kathy Bull. We were joined by guests from the WDCTA state board, Pam Doolittle and Stephanie Severn.

Secretary's Report: Motion made by Tina and seconded by Karen B. to approve the minutes from January 2010. Approved.

Old Business:
Cookbook: Karin S. updated members on the status of the cookbook fundraiser. There is an April 17th deadline to enter recipes. We've got quite a few from prominent horse people too. Kathy B. moved and Tracee seconded a motion to go forward with cookbook understanding that we won't know the full cost until we see how many recipes are entered and decide how many books will be ordered. Approved.

We discussed marketing the cookbook and Pam offered the assistance of the WDCTA, including the website, shows clinics, the annual meeting and ads in eQuester. Victoria reminded everyone that $1 goes to assist breast cancer research.

Future clinics: Tracee said Anne is trying to contact Colleen Kelly for a possible clinic, but we haven't gotten a response. From her website it looks like October might be possible. Her clinics start on Friday with theory and have riders Saturday and Sunday. Kathy B. moved and Tracee seconded a motion to try to get Colleen Kelly for a clinic. Approved

New Business:
Victoria introduced WDCTA president Pam Doolittle and Board member Stephanie Severn who drove up from the Madison area to join our meeting.

Pam thanked us for the invitation and said she's trying to get around and meet with groups to see what we're interested in doing for the future. The board is excited to redefine the club including the governing structure.

She asked, "Why do we belong to WDCTA"? The answers were: connection with each other, clinics for learning and shows, although the opportunity for shows are becoming less and less. Victoria would like something for the youth with year end awards. Karen said she loved the L judge program and would like an USDF instructor program. The state board is planning to have an intro program and a lower level instructor program.

The board is also thinking about doing a schooling show awards to be separate from the recognized show awards.

Members praised the new look of the eQuester and suggested adding a column with chapter news along with an ask the expert column. Members also discussed the location of the annual meeting thinking about meeting a little more north. The state board is looking into Green Bay and Wisconsin Dells for the next meeting. The state board will fund the annual meeting, setting up a committee. They need volunteers from this area. They will decide at the next meeting in April.

Talked about a scholarship program to ride with local dressage instructors. Instructors who've been through the L program or earned bronze and/or silver medals.

Pam asked for feedback about how we feel creating a committee within WDCTA vs. a chapter. Our chapter would become a separate committee and our funds would be kept separate for our committee to use. It would be one line in the budget. Members were receptive to the idea, but we'll have a chance to talk about it before the state makes a decision.

If any of the other chapters reorganize, the state board has some money to contribute as seed money. This was done for our chapter when we formed years ago as well.

Pam brought up the idea of changing the name of WDCTA and asked members what was important to them. Kathy C talked about openness and friendliness from the new board. The state board library will be updated. Finally, we discussed volunteer hours to win awards.

Finally, the state board has created a bylaws committee, One way to start is to review other bylaws, educate the members about what it means, and then look at the structure of the organization. The board will have the final bylaws reviewed by an attorney who is familiar with Wisconsin non-profit organizations. It will cost money but will avoid problems in the future.

Motion made by Kathy C. and seconded by Brenda to adjourn.