

Northwest Tractor Pulling Association

Annual Meeting

Saturday, February 25th, 2006

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Wayne Arnold, Bonnie and Fran Atteberry, Jeff and Heather Dunton, Bill Hesse, Tom and Candise Hill, Maynard Hobart, Rob Holveck, Steve Kenitz, Bob and Pat McGrotty, Brandon, Brooks, Fred and John Pfister, Steve Rosenlund, Walt Shaver, Jim Turner, Allan Vanderzanden, and Andrea Woodward.

Two new members joined our NWTPA today! Welcome to Steve Rosenlund and Allan Vanderzanden.

Old Business: No one had old business to discuss.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Andrea Woodward reported that we ended the 2005 calendar year with approximately \$15 less than we started. We begin 2006 with \$1,889.70. A Balance Sheet Summary Report follows. Our first pull of 2005, the Banks Fun Pull, was rained out and this cost us in many ways. We decided to give half of our take on the Banks Barbecue Lawn Tractors back to the Sunset Park Association, since they had the majority of work and costs that weekend.

Our decision at last year's meeting to cut our joining fee from \$70 to \$15 helped us considerably. In 2004 we only had 19 active families (those who paid their annual dues). But by the end of 2005 we had 33 active members! In previous years we'd had 3 or 4 new families join per year, but in 2005 we hit an all time high with 16 new memberships!

President Report: Steve Kenitz offered a general welcome. He discussed his February trip to the huge Tulare, CA West Coast Nationals Tractor Pull at their annual Agricultural Show. There may be some interest in more of our members going in the next year or two.

Steve's main concern is the ongoing one of rising insurance costs. For example, it cost \$945 to insure our Columbia County Fair pull in 2005. In 2002 we spent just \$751 to insure two pulls. We've never increased our hook fee, nor do we want to. Other local organizations are having the same problem, and there was discussion of approaching the other clubs to share one policy instead of all purchasing them separately. Bob McGrotty volunteered to approach the 59ers to see if they might have interest in combining policies to cut expenses. We could also share mailing lists, publicity, etc.

AGRI-TRONIX Technology: Allen Vanderzanden presented his new speed and measurement sled monitor system. It will display ongoing speed and distance as you pull, and remember the past 100 measurements in case we have to go back and re-check information. This should be a nice addition to our pulls!

Tractor Rule Review: After some discussion, we decided to leave all of our rules as is. We discussed using Duals on Garden Tractors, and since many believe that these do not make a tractor pull better, saw no need to not allow them.

Truck Rules and Classes: We have standing rules, but now that we have members who are primarily truck owners, these should be reviewed by those who are most closely involved. Wayne Arnold volunteered to get together with other truck owners to review the classes and rules.

Safety Discussion: The main concern brought up is that of liability. Everyone who pays a hook fee automatically signs a waiver of liability on their entrance form. Exhibitors occasionally do not fill in an entrance form, however, and family members who are on the field do not automatically sign waivers. We decided to use Wrist Bands to make sure everyone not in the stands signs a waiver. Several in attendance volunteered to make sure that people on the field all have signed waivers. Wearing the wrist bands will make this task easier. No cost for the bands. Please help your family by reminding them to sign waivers and get wrist bands before the pulls begin. Thanks!

Election of Officers: Steve Kenitz was voted to remain as President.
Bob McGrotty was voted to remain as Vice President.
Andrea Woodward was voted to remain as Secretary/Treasurer for 2006.

Extra Help: We discussed how much help it takes to put on a pull. Because of Steve's work schedule (the day of the week when he's most critically needed at work happens to be Sundays) and Andrea's need to be in Colorado during at least one pull this summer, it is only possible for us to continue as officers if everyone is willing to help with the many tasks involved. Fortunately many of the members attending the meeting volunteered to help in any way they can. One continual need is for an announcer. Jeff Dunton volunteered to try to find a radio announcer willing to do this for us. Bob McGrotty volunteered to get a PA system set up for our Banks Fun Pull. Walt Shaver volunteered to take a lead role with the St. Helen's Pull.

Website: Another unfilled need is that of a webmaster for us. Bob and Pat McGrotty will approach Mike Schorn to see if he can help us. If anyone else knows of anyone who might be willing to maintain our site for us, definitely let us know! It's not a huge duty. Post the schedule, pull results, and perhaps a few photos. Who has this expertise?

Pull Schedule for 2006: We'll be putting on our traditional three pulls, plus adding a fourth at the Polk County Fair! Two other pulls are possibilities that various members are looking into. Stay tuned for breaking news! After visiting Vernonia last October during their Salmon Festival, we determined that it is too late in the year to guarantee a dry field, and rather far out of the way for everyone to get to, so we won't be setting up a pull there. The full schedule follows these minutes.

Submitted by Andrea Woodward, Secretary/Treasurer, and Steve Kenitz, President, *NWTPA*. Feel free to contact us with any comments, questions, or offers to volunteer!

**Northwest Tractor Pulling Association
2006 Tractor and Truck Pull Schedule**

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**Sunday, June 11th
Banks Fun Pull
Sunset Park**
Weigh in at 10, Pull at 1 p.m.

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**Sunday, July 23rd
Columbia County Fair
St. Helens, OR**
Weigh in at 9, Pull at noon
(Due to Fair Imposed time constraints, we may have to limit number of hooks per tractor to two, depending on overall turnout.)

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**Sunday, August 13th
Polk County Fair
Rickreall, OR**
Weigh in at 9, Pull at noon

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**Saturday, August 19th
Banks Barbecue
Sunset Park**
Weigh in at 10, Pull at 2 p.m.
(NWTPA in charge of the Garden Tractors. Trucks and other Tractors will also be pulling Saturday and Sunday. All hooks \$15.)

For the first 3 dates, Hook Fee is \$15, \$10 if you are a member. If you have any questions or input, or are interested in membership information, contact Steve Kenitz: (503)280-0602, sakenwood@aol.com, or 4324 NE 47th, Portland, OR 97218.

We hope to see you this summer!

Contact Steve Kenitz, President, with any questions or comments:
sakenwood@aol.com, (503)280-0602