

RWHA Election News

2013

Our elections are fast approaching. This year the Vice President position will be voted on as well as the 2 Board Members at Large. The Vice President position is for 3 years beginning the first week of Nov. 2013 and running to Nov. 2016. The Board Members at Large positions are annually running November to November. Jan Black currently holds the VP position and we all thank him for his dedication, wisdom and the personal sacrifices he's made in order to serve. Theresa Schieffelbein and Jenifer Kraus both hold Board Members at Large positions and they've been invaluable in their service and insight. Because the RWHA has grown and there are members all over the country, anyone holding a Board of Directors position must be prepared to dedicate time. Time to research, time for the membership at large, and time for meetings. A clear mindset with dedication and vision for the future protection and proper propagation of Red Wattles and the RWHA membership at large without bias and favoritism is necessary. Most board members also use their own finances for some projects. Communication is much easier and faster now with email, cell phones and skype.

This past year the board has drafted and approved our Artificial Insemination program or AI, with the help and blessings of many long term experts including ALBC and Dr. Sponenberg. We also updated and provided better descriptions to our breed standards and card grading system also with the help of long term experts and Dr. Sponenberg. We all understand the breed standard will continue to be improved upon but will always keep our heritage red wattle hog standards that are not for the typical show ring known today. It is our hope they will be in a class of their own with other heritage hogs, and winning blue ribbons.

We've increased our Registered RW hog population to 2040 and our membership to 143. It's been a great year for our hogs and our members and we're not done yet. We've gone from the critically endangered list with ALBC to a watch list.

We've reached a point where we could help another endangered breed of hog, the Choctow, by donating funds to ALBC and their efforts to save this wonderful breed. We were in the same position not long ago and now look where we are.

We've placed our history on our website so that everyone can read and enjoy and we're always searching for more to add.

We've corrected our website now to only show current members so there is less confusion for us and for anyone else searching for red wattle breeders or information.

We've worked with UC Davis to type and hold DNA samples while constructing family lineage for Red Wattles. This information can also be seen our website.

We stopped paying AT&T for conference calls when the board went to Skype for their meetings. This saves hundreds of dollars per year.

There are 2 questions to answer if you are considering running for office.

1.) Please tell everyone a little about yourself.

2.) What is your vision for the RWHA and the Red Wattle bred?

If you are considering holding one of the positions that will be open, please answer the questions above and send to me at:

Kathy Bottorff

RWHA

41 Jones Rd.

Horse Cave, KY. 42749

You can also send them by email to: redwattles@hotmail.com

The deadline for your replies on election questions is Sept. 21, 2013. Any received after that date will not be considered.

There are 2 other items the Board of Directors wants to place before the membership for vote. They will also be included on the election ballots. Because the RWHA has grown so fast and our membership continually changes with challenges both positive and negative it's felt that 2 of our by-laws need to be adjusted. They are as follows:

- 1.) The association reserves the right to cancel or refuse privileges in the association upon the request of three (3) members in good standing and with the approval of a 80% (4 out of 5) majority of the Board of Directors. Reasons for dismissal shall include but not be limited to: detrimental conduct and dishonest dealings. Member will be notified of action taken by registered letter signed by the Board of Directors who voted in favor of the disciplinary action. *The requested change is 80% or 4 out of 5. As it is worded now every board member must be in favor of disciplinary action.*
- 2.) Board members may be impeached by the board for failure to perform their duties as outlined in the by-laws of the association or follow the rules for the association as set forth by the majority vote of the board. The member must first be warned of the infraction in writing. If the board members does not become compliant with the rules of the association, the member will be removed by the remaining four members of the board or a 4/5th majority of votes by the membership.

Membership may ask for a recall of a board member by filing a formal complaint signed by 15 members in good standing. The complaint must detail the reason for the request. This request for resignation and a rebuttal by the board member in question will be presented to the membership and a vote of 3/4th of the full membership. Board members must attend/log in or be available for 3 out of 4 of the required quarterly meetings during the year. When calling the required quarterly meetings, the President must chose a time, date and type of meeting in a one month time period that all board members are available.

This allows for a board member to be removed from position when not performing the duties of the position. As it is now if a person is elected, that person holds office until the term expires even if he/she is not performing their duties.

