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General Membership Meeting 2023 ARBA Convention
Monday, October 9th at 8am Room W2

General Membership in attendance along with Hannah Yost, Hollie Kremer, Kara Perez, Margaret Funck, Bill Brockman, Vernon Brown, Roxanna Dabney, Nancy Wollam

- ❖ Hannah Yost, President, called the meeting to order with 2 officers and five directors present
- ❖ Motion to approve the 2022 General Membership meeting minutes from 2022 ARBA Convention by Bill Brockman
 - Seconded by Nancy Wollam
 - Approved by General Membership
- ❖ Reports:
 - President: FoxCon will be 2025 Nationals. We have 3 bids for members to vote on, Colorado, Missouri and Ohio. There are sheets with what each venue offers and listed on the website as well. The general membership of the club will be voting for the location. We hope that this show brings fellowship amongst breeders and will also host a couple of stand alone shows as well as nationals.
 - Secretary: I would like to award the membership referral awards for the 2022-2023 year. Amanda Schultz, Victoria Lanter, Hollie Kremer, Doni Posey, Vernon Brown, Mallary Goldman McBee, Josh LaRue, Kara Perez, Hannah Yost and Suzel Bozada-Deas, all had members mark them down as referrals. With 4 referrals, Suzel Bozada-Deas wins a \$50 visa gift card and tying for second place is Kara Perez and Hannah Yost with 3 referrals. Also, as of January 1st 2024, sanctions will also be increasing from \$7.50 to \$10.00. We make the most money from sanctions. We are still on the lower end of club sanctions, but felt it was time to increase the fee. Clubs can still get sanctions for \$7.50 on 2024 sanctions if received before January 1, 2024
 - Treasurer: Balance total is \$28,344.29; Checking \$24,443.87; Paypal \$162.13; Youth Scholarship \$3,655.03. Expenses should be about equal to income for the 2023 year.
 - Standards Committee: Margaret Funck, co-chair, no emails for comments recently. There is an email that goes to the standards committee for questions on the standards. Deadline for standard updates/changes is March 2024 from the standards committee to ARBA.
 - Constitution and By-Laws committee: Michael Peterson, chair, read our rule on weighing all rabbits at nationals. We will need to revise that rule, due to being in conflict with ARBA show rule about all rabbits entered should get a judge's opinion on the rabbits, even if it is disqualified from meeting SOP weight rules.
 - Auditing committee: Vernon Brown, chair, Teamwork is excellent between treasurer and secretary! Roxanna's numbers are spot on. Very open and readable. We are looking for another person to join this committee.
 - Election committee: Suzel Bozada-Deas, chair, gave a brief overview of election process. Explain that we moved the secretary and treasurer to advisory positions and added Karen Waldrop to round out the team. Working on going online for next year's voting. It

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was asked if in the C&BLs for electronic and it was something that was amended in the last C&BL update. Also from this voting process, lots of missing/wrong addresses. Please see Suzel to check your contact info. Suzel also passed out a evaluation form on the voting and asking all to complete and hand back in by end of convention.

- Youth Committee: Jo Mladjenovich, chair, read by Hollie Kremer youth committee member, the Youth Committee is very pleased with the response of the youth members of the club who attended Nationals and received a “Rabbit Show Survival Kit”. We are looking forward to having many youth participants attend the craft project workshop directly after this meeting at our booth. The project is the brainchild of Heather Shaffer, who also did all the prep work, and brought in the necessary equipment for the project. We hope you will express your gratitude for her creativity and hard work. We look forward to having another successful Convention and wish everyone the best of luck.
- Newsletter Committee: Victoria Lanter, co-chair, hoping to publish another newsletter after Thanksgiving. Asking for content and high-quality photos. Once the new website is up and running, there will be a place to drop photos of all things silver fox. Content doesn’t have to long, can be a small paragraph of what you liked best at convention, tips and tricks, etc.
- Social Media Committee: Kara, chair, Vernon has done a great job of stepping up to help with the posts on Facebook. Will continue to tag team, but Kara would like to focus on live streaming nationals and convention for those not able to make it. This committee is also looking for more members to help spread the work load of communicating to members via Facebook and maybe other platforms.
- Guidebook Committee: Lynn Fishbeck, report given by guidebook member Michael Peterson, working on digitizing guidebook. Also working on updating as well and having a new revision by convention 2024 is the committee’s goal
- Awards Committee: Jo Mladjenovich, chair, read by member Hannah Yost, graphics on the awards for this year’s convention were created by Dawn Plokhooy. Dawn is the wife of John, an active member from Pennsylvania. Dawn and John are famous at East Coast shows for providing distinctive awards in many venues. We hope everyone enjoys and uses their awards at their local shows to “show off” their Convention placements. This year, everyone who places in the top ten in sweepstakes will receive a medallion commemorating their place in the top ten. Last minute problems with the sweepstakes software made it impossible to have the top three plaques produced in time for Convention. However, as soon as we have those results in hand, the plaques will be ordered and mailed to those winners. We thank you for your patience. We have had inquires regarding a vendor who wanted to provide awards to our club. She was unable to send pictures of her work and we cannot honor that request without pictures and a subsequent price quote. If you are aware of an award vendor who’s work, you’d like to see providing awards for our club, please let them know that they can contact any member of the Awards committee and we will be happy to share their pictures with the rest of the committee.

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- Marketing Committee: Michael Peterson, chair, 2023 was better for the marketing committee than 2022. Congrats to Lisa Summey for her winning National t-shirt design. 37 shirts were pre ordered for Nationals. Kristen Krugel won the Conventional t-shirt design. Lots of thought went into that design and the background details on the t-shirt design are posted online. Pins and Patches were designed and ordered along with stickers that are for sale at the booth. 2024 National shirt design contest will be starting soon.
 - Achievement Committee: Nancy Wollam, chair, Walter Garland award was started in memory of Sam Cheshier. She was a great mentor and help keep silver foxes going. Meara Collins was the first person awarded and Jo Mladjenovich was the second person to receive the award. Would like the general membership to start submitting names to the committee for upcoming awards.
 - Website Committee: Kara Perez, chair, goal was convention, but unfortunately didn't make it. Have several current and new members kicking butt on working behind the scenes on the website. Looking to add someone to the committee who has web design, artistic talent. The new website will also have on demand, online ordering, a place to drop photos and mentorship chat group space.
 - Show Committee, Hannah Yost, chair, already discussed 2025 FoxCon Nationals. Lots of bids coming in for 2026 and backup 2025 Nationals. This was not the case just a few short years ago. 2024 Nationals will be Decatur, Illinois and 2024 Convention back here in Louisville, Kentucky.
 - Sweeps Committee, Michael Peterson, chair, announced the top three in each category. Thanked Linda Townsend for allowing him to use her excel sheet as a base for calculating sweeps points, which is definitely a much harder task than it sounds. There are a lot of reports, there is a lot of double checking, lots of reaching out for show reports.
 - Scholarship Committee, Hannah Yost, chair, did receive one application. Unfortunately, that application was a few months short of meeting the membership requirement. The committee extends the wish that this very qualified candidate re applies this up coming year. Hannah has reached out to known eligible candidates to make sure they know about the scholarship. Discussion about the timeline for the scholarship is due. It's later than most scholarships, but does a line with ARBA scholarship timelines. Also discussed that while the application does take effort to complete, it's a good step into adulthood, that things take effort for the money that is being offered.
 - Mentorship Committee, Nancy Wollam, chair, eagerly awaiting a spot on the website.
- ❖ Old Business
- Standard Committee Questions
 - Discussed still trying to come up with a good word to describe the texture of the ideal silver fox fur. Gordon did a talk on Silver Fox at the judges' conference and brought 4 silver foxes up for judges to feel the differences in the coats. Also stated that judges' conferences are open to the public except for the very last part of the conference.

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- Discussed surveying judges what they also would like to see clarified on our standard.
- Recipe Book
 - Please send recipes to Hannah or secretary's email. Goal is to have by FoxCon 2025
- Volunteers
 - Please think about volunteering. We have many talented people in this club. We don't want to burn people out.
- ❖ New Business
 - Huge Thank you to Sandi Shaffer for the Booth! Bill Brockman as well and several others that helped to make the booth possible! Thank you to all volunteers! Runners, behind the table, in front the table, ones that man the booth, etc. We could not be the club we are without volunteers.
 - 100th Convention
 - Gordon Williams spoke about this historical event
 - Going to have a time capsule that will be stored at the ARBA headquarters and will be opened in 25 years.
 - Motion to cover the cost of the pizza Michael Peterson brought in yesterday during the show by Amber Naill
 - Seconded by Nancy Wollam
 - Motion passed
 - Motion to consider Jim Rowland for 2025 Convention by Nancy Wollam
 - Seconded by Kaitlin Konnick
 - Discussion about recent judges and other judges asking to judge Silver Fox at conventions/nationals
 - Asked members to seek out judges they like judging Silver Fox and ask their availability for conventions and bring those with availability back to the board to place on a list of wanted Silver Fox judges
 - Motion dismissed
 - Hannah thanked Jo Mladjenovich as the outgoing board member and welcomed new Director Lisa Summey and Nancy Wollam as she moves from Director to Vice President.
 - Good Luck to the Blues on their first presentation tomorrow!
 - Rare Breed Listing
 - Vernon has been asked by the Livestock Conservancy to be the liaison between them and the Silver Fox club as well as help advise them on what requirements would be needed to remove a rabbit breed from the rare breed list. The Livestock Conservancy has never removed a rabbit breed from the list and due to our recent surge in numbers and popularity, they are looking at what requirements we need to hit to be considered as a recovered breed and removed from their rare breed list.
 - Motion to dismiss meeting by Jonmarc Truesdale

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- Seconded by Roxanna Dabney
- Motion approved
- Meeting dismissed at 9:22am

❖ General Membership attendance listing:

Kaitlin Konnick	Lisa Summey
Patty Konnick	PJ Ford
Amanda Schultz	Sherie Singer
Amber Naill	Kelly Cosenza
Teresa Kuhn	Grace Cosenza
Chris Kuhn	Savannah Cosenza
Shaun Farmer	Jennifer Wallace
Melinda Farmer	Suzel Bozada-Deas
Chloe Farmer	Kjiersten Kazda
Linda Townsend	Janee Kazda
Darren Dehart	Pat Wehner
Audrey Inman	Addison Laumin
Risa Bayliff	Hailey Kuhn
Sandi Stauffer	Cristy Collins
Sonya Garcia	Meara Collins
Gordon Williams	Rebecca Lilly
Jonmarc Truesdale	Christopher Lilly
Michael Daniel	Tammy Brecht
Callie Dehaven	Amy Hiusser
Michael Peterson	Tiffany Taylor
Emerald Duckwitz	Sue McGonegal
Hather Keister	Rebah Heins
William Sheaffer	Erik Lydon
Nora (Elyria) Hagans	Victoria Lanter