

## 2008 WPCSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

The Welsh Pony & Cob Association of CA., Inc. is very excited and pleased to be hosting the 2008 WPCSA AGM this year. With permission from the Society, we are patterning this year's AGM after the last two Pony Symposiums we have held for the WPCAC. This is going to be a great opportunity for everyone who is there – lots of time for networking and visiting, opportunities to join in on Committee Meetings and the Open Forum, lots of time for learning, and attending both the Jr. Awards Banquet with featured speakers and the WPCSA Awards Banquet.

The dates for this year's AGM are February 13 – 17, 2008. The actual location of the AGM will be the Stockton Sheraton Hotel, a brand new hotel overlooking the Delta waterways. We are very excited about being able to host this event in this beautiful new hotel.

An overview of the schedule of events is:

Wednesday, February 13, 2008 – Arrival

Thursday, February 14, 2008: Committee Meetings (Licensed Officials, Show Rules, Ethics, Qualifications, Half-Welsh) will all be held in the morning/early afternoon. Both the Ethics and Qualifications Committees are closed meetings, but all others are open to all. The Board of Directors will have their meeting upon the conclusion of the Committee Meetings. That evening there will be a Wine & Cheese Reception, with a Pasta Bar, and Virtual Tour of WPCAC Members Ponies/Welsh Pony Farms.

Friday, February 15, 2008: Come meet *David Jones* of Tely nau Stud, for an entertaining visit. He will be discussing Life as a Welsh Pony Judge @ home and abroad, and Equine Exhibitor's Expectations.

Lunch will be enhanced by a visit with *Jeannine Berger*, D.V.M., Ph.D. Dr. Berger was born in Switerland where she graduated from Vet School in 1991. She then worked at the Vet school at the University of Zuerich in large animal reproduction and field service until 1996, where she completed her doctoral thesis. She was in private practice until 1998 when she came to UC Davis where she worked with Dr. Madigan in the department of medicine and epidemiology. In January 2005 she started her residency in clinical animal behavior medicine with equine emphasis and will completed her residency in July 07 with board certification in October of this year.

In the afternoon you will have the opportunity to come meet with Dr. Cecellia Penedo Ph.D., Equine Geneticist, University of CA, Davis. Dr. Penedo spoke at our first Symposium, and we have been anxiously awaiting her return. She is one of the tope Geneticists in the country, and has so much to say!

After all this “education”, the Open Forum will be held, which is always a lively discussion for members in attendance. This will be followed by a Wine & Cheese Reception, Light Dinner, and the Silent and Live Auction. This year's Live Auction is going to be really special – please stay tuned for details as they come out. (Yes, we'll post all the information on all pony lists as well as the web page, and information direct to the WPCAC members).

Saturday, February 16, 2008: After a Breakfast Buffet, the WPCSA will hold their Annual General Meeting. Following this, with a break, I'm sure, will be the WPCSA Jr. Awards Banquet, featuring 2-3 individuals, sharing with us the differences in showing in the US, Wales, and Australia. Our “own” Jessica San Diego Brister, hopefully Zoe Tomlinson, and David Jones

will be the featured speakers. It is our hope to have a “forum” presentation – entertaining not only to our Jr. Members, but the adults as well. After this, Richard Gearhart will hold a break-out session. Richard has a recent degree in animal embryology and works in agricultural communications. He did a presentation for our Pony SymPonyium last year, that was very well received. Folks have asked to have him back, so here he is!

We will conclude this very busy day with a wine tasting, full dinner, WPCSA Awards, and dancing to celebrate, with a live band!

Sunday, February 17, 2008: After our Breakfast Buffet, there will be a Judge’s Clinic, organized by Carrie MacWhorter. Carrie has had a project this year of trying to get new judges for the Welsh Pony exhibitors, and has spent a great deal of time with training clinics in her area. The WPCAC Awards Luncheon will follow, from Noon – 3:00 p.m., where all of those who have participated in the Pacific Coast High Point Program will receive their awards.

As you can see it’s going to be a very busy few days, but very worthwhile. Members help will be asked for. We do need a Youth Coordinator. We’ve had a member offer to help, but we will need someone who is willing to do activities with our youth throughout the weekend. We do have some activities lined up already, and are looking for ideas/suggestions, as well as someone willing to over-see the program.

So – mark your calendar, let us know what YOU would like to do to help (we will post a list of help needed items shortly), and plan to come and show the WPCSA what a great group of people in CA own Welsh Ponies!

Located  
Bob Hope Theater, Arena, Weber Points Event Center