

U.S.A. PLOWING ORGANIZATION

Pres: John Gaard
46314 276th Street, Chancellor, SD 57015
Phone: 605-201-1857

Vice-Pres: Mike Penas
18282 Lace Ave., Hutchinson, MN 55350
Phone: 320-296-9592

Sec'y-Treas: Joel Wagner
203 Clearfield Rd., Wethersfield, CT 06109
Phone: 860-882-9731

Director: Michael Rhoades
8572 Fisher Dangler Rd., Union City, OH 45390
Phone: 937-968-5292



Director: Robert Miller
548 Miller Rd., Millersburg, PA 17061
Phone: 717-692-2443

Director: Michael Fitz
2071 290th Str., Melbourne IA, 50116
Phone: 641-751-9500

Director: Don Klehm
13543 N 2700 E Rd., Forrest, IL 61741
Phone: 815-832-4449

WPO Rep: Conrad Gruber
33009 Co. Rd. 14, Paynesville, MN 56362
Phone: 320-249-9310

WEB SITE FOR USAPO: <http://usapo.org>

USAPO Directors Meeting February 13th, 2021

A USAPO board of directors was held via phone conference. Called to order by Pres. John Gaard at 9:05am Central time on February 13th, 2021. Directors online were: John Gaard-SD, Robert Miller-PA, Joel Wagner-CT, Michael Fitz-IA, Don Klehm-IL, Mike Penas-MN, Michael Rhoades-OH, and Conrad Gruber-WPO. Gene Gruber, Kevin Holl, Ray Elsberry, and Dale Dirksen were guests.

The minutes of the last director's meeting from July 29th, 2020 were summarized by Joel Wagner. Don Klehm moved to approve the last director's meeting minutes, Mike Fitz seconded, passed.

The financial report for all of 2020 was read along with outstanding bills (see Appendix in the back of the newsletter). There was some clarifying discussion how USAPO should handle Memorials. We lost some good friends this past year and we discussed how USAPO should respond. It was generally accepted that USAPO will always send cards and in certain cases contribute flowers. Mike Rhoades moved to approve payment of bills and to approve the financial report, Don Klehm seconded, passed.

Old Business:

Conrad reported that there was some confusion over USAPO's payment of the WPO dues. WPO dues were inadvertently paid twice in 2019 which was assumed to cover the 2019 WPO dues as well as the 2020 WPO dues. Conrad Gruber has been informed that the second payment of dues in 2019 was used instead to pay for car

hires for the WPO administration at the 2019 world meet in MN. Also, since there was no world meet in 2020, dues would not be collected by the WPO and the second payment should have covered the 2021 WPO dues. Assuming a 2021 world meet occurs in Ireland, 2021 WPO world dues could be a liability. Mr. Gruber will work with the WPO to sort this confusion out.

Director's Reports:

SD – John Gaard – A plow site has been selected for the 2021 SD State Championship meet scheduled for August.

OH – Mike Rhoades – A plow site at the Dale Dircksen farm has been selected for the 2021 OH State Championship meet scheduled for July.

CT – Joel Wagner – Nothing to report.

IL – Don Klehm – Nothing to report.

PA – Bob Miller – PA is tentatively planning the PA State Championship meet for May 13, 14. PA has also decided to give up its USAPO National meet in 2022 to be transferred to MN.

MN – Conrad Gruber and Mike Penas – MN will be holding its MN State Championship near Lake Wilson west of Slayton, MN on August 27, 28, 2021.

MN will be hosting the 2022 USAPO National meet near Vernon Center, MN to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the World Meet held there in 1972.

IA – Mike Fitz – Kevin Holl has declared a site for the USAPO National meet to be held August 11-14, 2021 in Conrad, IA. The IA State Championships will be held on Wednesday August 11. Kevin Holl informed the Directors that the lands to be used for practice and competition is seeded to rye, underseeded with red clover. Standard classes will be offered; Antique, Open, Small Plow, and Reversible for Senior and Junior participation.

Accommodations for the 2021 USAPO National Meet: Marshalltown, Iowa Hotels

The following hotels are located in Marshalltown and within a ½ mile of each other. No one has more than 20 rooms available. Hotel rooms will not be blocked out for USAPO. So, please call early to reserve your room, first-come first-serve sign-up for the plowmen and their families.

Best Western Regency (\$79, No trailer parking)
3303 S. Center St.
Marshalltown IA. 50158
641-752-6321

Hampton Inn and Suites (\$100, No trailer parking)
102 Iowa Ave. East (Behind Casey's General Store)
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-753-6795

Holiday Inn Express (renovation, should be open by Aug, No trailer parking available)
102 Iowa Ave. West (Behind Casey's General Store)
Marshalltown, IA. 50158
641-854-2900

Super 8 By Wyndham (\$65, No trailer parking)
3315 S. Center St.
Marshalltown, IA 50158
641-753-3333

Baymont by Wyndham (\$75, No trailer parking)
115 Iowa Ave. West
Marshalltown, IA. 50158
641-752-4844

Comfort Inn (\$90, Trailer parking available)
2613 S. Center St.
Marshalltown, IA. 50158

Restaurants are located within the same ½ mile circle as the hotels. The hotels and restaurants are located on the South side of Marshalltown along Highway 30 (also called Lincoln Way was created in 2013 and runs from San Francisco to New York City, the first transcontinental highway, named after President Lincoln). The plow match will be held North of Marshalltown, approximately 15 miles from the hotels and restaurants.

There will be food vendors available for breakfast and lunch at the show site. The plowperson's banquet will likely be catered with plowpersons, families, and guests under tent.

All represented states need to get the list of plowpersons representing their state to Mike Fitz. Additionally, contact Mr. Fitz (641-751-9500, iowaplowing.org) for help with tractors and other equipment that may be needed by the competitors.

Early practice may be available Wednesday August 11. Confirm with Mike Fitz (641-751-9500).

USAPO will be responsible for the trophies for the 2021 USAPO National meet. IA will review plot layouts with John Gaard. Scratches to be put in the weekend before the meet.

New Business:

World Report – Conrad Gruber – The 2021 WPO world meet in Ireland is planned for September 12-21, 2021. A final decision will be made in May 2021. There is an 8-person limit for each country to sign up for the WPO world plowing meet packages provided by Ireland. It was moved by Don Klehm that USAPO will be represented by Haley Gruber for conventional, Kevin Albrecht for reversible, Gene Gruber as Coach, Joel Wagner as Judge, and Conrad Gruber as the USAPO WPO representative. Mike Fitz seconded, passed. Remaining packages will be accommodated on a first come, first serve basis.

Don Klehm inquired as to who learns about the May decision concerning Ireland. Conrad Gruber will be notified and will pass the WPO decision onto the USAPO directors.

Russia WPO World Meet:

The WPO world meet to be held in Russia in 2020 was postponed to June of 2021 and then postponed again to August 2022. Historically the USAPO National Meet is the WPO qualifier for the world meet the year following the USAPO National. Thus, the 2019 USAPO National would select the representatives for the planned Russia meet in 2020. Then Covid hit.

There was considerable discussion of who would represent the USAPO at the planned 2022 WPO world meet in Russia. The discussion revolved around whether USAPO National competitor's names qualifying for the WPO world meet should be held in perpetuity until the next world meet happens in that particular country or whether we should maintain the relationship of a USAPO National for qualifying competitors for the WPO world meet in a succeeding year. With the uncertainty of holding the WPO world meets due to Covid, it was decided we should 'reset the clock' when a world meet does not happen.

Therefore, it was moved by Don Klehm to make the 2019 USAPO MN National a national meet only with the 2020 USAPO OH National as the qualifier for the 2021

WPO world meet in Ireland and the 2021 USAPO National in IA as the qualifier for Russia in 2022, Mike Penas seconds, passed.

It was also discussed that if the WPO world meet in Ireland did not happen this year, we would have to revisit how USAPO would address the new WPO schedule.

Two-Year Appointments of 3 USAPO Directors:

Mike Rhodes moved to accept John Gaard (SD), Mike Penas (MN), and Joel Wagner (CT) for another 2 years as directors, seconded by Don Klehm, passed.

Election of Officers:

Mike Rhoades moved to accept the current officers to retain the same offices, Mike Fitz seconded, passed.

Adjourn -

Don Klehm moved to adjourn the meeting, Mike Penas seconds, passed.
Meeting adjourned at 10:39am Central.

Joel Wagner, Sec-Treasurer

860 721 8209 home
860 882 9731 cell
jwagsfarm@aol.com

p.s.

2021 USAPO dues are due. Please check your address label. If there is a red check, use the form(s) on the last page to mail in your USAPO dues.

Please include an email for our records.

Appendix: 2020 USAPO Financial Report

Current Checking Balance	\$14,458.18
Uncashed awards checks	-\$125.00

Income:

Transfer from OH bank account	\$8515.35
Dues	\$2520.00
Pin Sales	\$39.00
Donations	\$240.00
JHW Reimbursement to USAPO from 2019 worlds	\$300.00
2020 USAPO National Entry Fees	\$675.00
2020 USAPO National Fee	<u>\$4000.00</u>
	\$16,289.35

Expenses:

Cost of checks	\$26.85
Phelan Insurance	\$535.00
Cost of Newsletters	\$444.32
2020 USAPO National Cash Awards	<u>\$950.00</u>
	\$1956.17

Open Bills to Pay:

Memorials	\$248.66
Cost of Newsletter	<u>\$196.40</u>
	\$445.06

Make Check Payable to USAPO Dues \$30.00 for year(s)_____

Name_____

Street Address_____

City_____ **State**_____ **Zip**_____

Home Phone_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Discontinue membership (sign)_____

Email_____

Make Check Payable to USAPO Dues \$30.00 for year(s)_____

Name_____

Street Address_____

City_____ **State**_____ **Zip**_____

Home Phone_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Discontinue membership (sign)_____

Email_____

Make Check Payable to USAPO Dues \$30.00 for year(s)_____

Name_____

Street Address_____

City_____ **State**_____ **Zip**_____

Home Phone_____ **Cell Phone**_____

Discontinue membership (sign)_____

Email_____

