



Hello fellow PBA members! The jonquils are in full bloom and are pleasant to view. In the woodland area burns, the native flora is starting to bloom. Small plants of yellow and purple flowers, grass, ferns and other plants all sprouting because of the sunlight hitting the forest floor. Very exciting indeed.

### **Semi-annual meeting!**

Our semi-annual meeting will be held April 12<sup>th</sup> from 2pm – 6pm at the Laclede Electric Co-op office at 370 Old South 5, Camdenton, MO 65020.

The planned schedule is:

2pm – 2:30 pm – meet and socialize

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm - Meal

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm - Stop the bleed training presented by Norrie Bradley RN

4:15 pm – 5:00 pm - Board presentations

5:00 pm 6:00 pm – door prizes raffle - open discussions and fellowship

To better serve our members this will be an RSVP event so that we can estimate the proper amount of food and beverages.

Please RSVP to [nianguabasinprescribedfire@gmail.com](mailto:nianguabasinprescribedfire@gmail.com)

Currently we have 34 members and family members registered. I personally want to encourage you to come and participate in fellowship, food, and learning. It shall be a fun event!

### **Shirts, Hoodies, hats – oh my!**

For those that ordered merchandise with our logo we will have these items at the meeting for you to pick up. Let me say thank you as well! I look forward to seeing our brand displayed around and about the counties we serve. For those that did not order items we will discuss how these items can be obtained in the future at the meeting.

### **What is a member in good standing?**

The board has reviewed our existing guidelines for being a “member in good standings” and have decided that our original requirements were too stringent, making it almost impossible for any member to achieve.

Fortunately, knowing that our first attempt of rules for membership may have changed as we progressed from our genesis to current state, our guidelines are constructed in such a manner that they can be changed when the need requires them to be changed.

With that in mind, the board approved the following as our new requirements for being a member in good standings. I believe the collection of revamped requirements give each member more and different options to participate and grow in our association. Below are the new requirements:

***1. Members must meet the following membership requirements.***

***a. To be an active member***

***i. Paying annual membership dues of \$25.00; and participate in one of the following activities.***

- 1. Participating in one (1) NBPBA burn projects of other members per fiscal year to include the actual burn, or burn site preparation or burn plan writing and site evaluation.***
- 2. Attend one (1) burn training per fiscal year endorsed by the Board of Directors; to include NBPBA hosted training or training provided by Missouri Department of Conservation or other accredited organizations.***
- 3. Administrative service to the NBPBA (Board of Directors, committee volunteer, etc.) may be given credit in lieu of one burn participation.***
- 4. Attend one of our semi-annual member meetings.***

***b. Before a burn can be conducted on your property or the property in which they are the Land Manager as designated by the Landowner you must:***

***i. Completed the MDC Landowner Burn Workshop or equivalent.***

As you can see besides your annual dues of 25.00 dollars, you now have four different activities of participation to be in good standings.

Notice that you can participate in burns without being MDC certified; but to perform a burn on your property you must complete the MDC Landowners Burn Workshop or equivalent curriculum.

I would like to close with three thoughts.

- **“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” - Helen Keller**
- **“If you don't know where you are going any road will get you there.” - George Harrison**
- **“Many ideas grow better when transplanted into another mind than the one where they sprang up.” - Oliver Wendell Holmes**

Looking forward to seeing each of you at our semi-annual meeting

With warm regards,

Lance Dunbar (NBPBA)