

**Texas Gulf Coast BBQ Cookers Association
Minutes – Regular Membership Meeting
Tuesday, April 22, 2008 – Valley Ranch Grill & BBQ**

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by President Ronnie Raspberry.

The minutes from the TGBCA Regular Membership Meeting held on Tuesday, January 15, 2008, were published in the Meeting Notice. A motion was made by Lon Babcock and seconded by Glenn Jarrett to accept the minutes as published. The motion passed.

Helen Halbison-Treasurer - gave a report to the members present. A motion was made by Lon Babcock and seconded by Glenn Jarrett to approve the report. The motion passed. All bills are paid.

Craig Sharry-Vice President – reported that the Cooker of the Year points have been updated on the website. There are four more cook-offs, including the Invitational, and the race is heated. It was also reported that it was time to give our website a face lift. He plans to do this over the summer or sooner if time permits.

Don Canterbury-Board Member – The cook-offs have been fantastic. Do not miss this month's National BBQ News.

Sandy Babcock-Vice President – reported that she is working with the promoters for two more cook-offs being held in June and August.

General Business

Sandy Babcock suggested that we go back to sending meeting notices out via regular mail instead of email. It seems that when we send out meeting notices via email, it results in lower attendance at the meetings.

Helen Halbison reported on how the Membership Committee was doing. Her committee members, Kenny Maggard, Roycie Raspberry, Muriel Wyland, and herself, were able to get 14 membership renewals and 23 new memberships. As of this meeting, there are 195 members in TGBCA.

President Ronnie Raspberry thanked everyone for attending the meeting tonight.

President Ronnie Raspberry read a letter that was addressed to him from Lon and Sandy Babcock. They are retiring from management duties at the end of December. They will continue to head judge and Lon would like to hold one more head judges seminar. Their phone numbers need to be removed from the website. We need to let new members come in and learn. Lon will no longer be picking up containers. Someone else will need to work with the promoters. The Invitational will need to be handled by someone else as it is a function of the TGBCA board. In addition, someone else will need to be responsible for reviewing the rules and coordinating head judges. He expressed sincere appreciation for all of the hard work they have done for the association.

There was a discussion regarding the Cooker of the Year points system. We need to simplify the system. A suggestion was made to have the points work the same way as the regular scoring system – 10 points for 1st place down to 1 point for 10th place. There would be no categories. Winners would receive additional points for the top ten places. We need to get something that is easier. The new point system needs to be ready for the first cook-off after the Invitational.

Craig Sharry reported the results of the survey regarding the turning in of two (2) chicken halves. There were 78 members who responded to the poll. The results were 61% in favor of turning in two chicken halves and 38% were against the idea. The poll provided a positive way for the members to give their opinion. A motion was made by Ron Booker and seconded by Glenn Jarrett to start turning in two chicken halves for all competitions. Lon Babcock started a discussion regarding the turning in of two chicken halves. He commented that the chicken gets thrown away if not going to next round. Jan Canterbury asked if the judges are asked not to touch one of the halves, so that if the product gets to the final table, the judges will be able to see a chicken half that has not been cut into. Sandy Babcock made the comment that the larger Styrofoam trays are more expensive

than the trays we use for the other categories. Lon Babcock recommended that we table the motion until they are sure the larger Styrofoam trays will work. After further discussion, Lon Babcock withdrew his recommendation to table the motion. With no further discussions, a vote was taken and the motion passed. There was one (1) vote against. The turning in of two (2) chicken halves will start the Invitational and use the larger Styrofoam containers.

Glenn Jarrett discussed the offer from Doug and Carole Ritter to hold a cooking class in the Houston area if there is any interest. If there is any interest, the class would be held sometime over the summer. They are open to suggestions on a place to hold the class. Also, if there is interest, a head judging class could be held in conjunction with this class. Glenn did contact the KOA and Houston Farm & Ranch, but both were too expensive. He is going to see about talking to the folks at the VFW where the TCPVA cook off is being held. Glenn will continue to pursue a location and getting the class together.

Craig Sharry provided the members present an update on Bill Cannon. Bill had surgery last Friday. He is home now and wanted Craig to tell everyone hello from him.

Sandy Babcock reported that her son is much better. He is getting stronger everyday. They may have to remove part of his lung, but are not sure at this time. He is going back to work.

President Ronnie Raspberry recognized new members and welcomed them.

With no other business to discuss, there was a drawing for prizes brought by Craig Sharry. Once the drawings were done, the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlynn Sharry, Secretary
Texas Gulf Coast BBQ Cookers Association