

**NOTICE OF THE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE**  
***World Farriers Association***

The 2010 Annual General Membership Meeting of the World Farriers Association will be held on Friday, February 26, 2010. It will be held in the Sellwood Room, Doubletree Hotel, Portland, Oregon, from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. A Continental Breakfast will be served members and delegates.

If there are matters that you wish to be included in the Agenda of the meeting, please make this known to Dr. Tina MacGregor, Secretary-Treasurer, by return e-mail at [wfassoc@msn.com](mailto:wfassoc@msn.com), or bring it to the attention of the President before the meeting is held.

Officer and Director reports will be received, as well as informal reports from individuals and countries represented.

---

World Farriers Association  
ANNUAL MEETING  
in the  
Sellwood Room, Doubletree Hotel  
Portland, Oregon  
February 26, 2010  
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.

**AGENDA**

Call To Order  
Introductions  
Minutes of 2009 Meeting  
Reports  
    Secretary-Treasurer  
    Vice Presidents (European, Asian, Oceania, Americas)  
    President  
Association Updates  
    All Countries Represented  
Old Business  
New Business  
    Future of the WFA  
    Matters Arising  
Adjourn

**MINUTES OF**  
**Annual General Meeting**  
**World Farriers Association**  
**Marriot Hotel, Chattanooga, Tennessee**  
February 27, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Walt Taylor at 7:10 a.m., while those in attendance enjoyed a Continental Breakfast. Each person self-identified and signed a sheet with their name and contact information. Attendance at the meeting was less than expected and fewer in number than in previous years.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

President's Report

Good Morning to you, and WELCOME to this annual meeting of the World Farriers Association. The fact that you are here means that you care about the practice and the profession of farriery around the world. You care enough to take the time and make the effort to be part of something that is bigger than any of us, bigger than all of us and the businesses or associations that we represent. Thank you for this interest and commitment. My wish is that more people cared, that more people and associations would see and recognize the needs of individuals and farrier organizations in other parts of the world where the practice of foot care does not enjoy the advantages of education and technology to which we are accustomed. Sadly, many are too caught up in their own lives and interests to be able to perceive what is happening elsewhere.

On this topic, it was and is my hope that the WFA would be the conduit through which assistance is given to farriers and equidae that are in need around the world. There are scores of charitable organizations that make an effort to ease the daily burden of life for both humans and animals as they struggle for subsistence. But very few are even remotely interested in foot care of the working beast, without which none can perform to their optimum level. To my knowledge, on the WFA has this interest at heart. Obviously, the only way to resolve those problems is through education and training of foot care professionals.

My concern is not just for that segment of our civilization, though. Every person that practices farriery around the world in 'developed' or 'undeveloped' countries deserves the opportunity to learn and share knowledge and skill with their peers. Although the WFA has had some considerable success in helping this to happen in some places, there are countless other places where we have not been able to have an influence. This is because we haven't had the people or the program assistance available in those areas of need.

This is why the WFA needs to be more proactive and visible to farriers and horse-oriented organizations around the world. They have a problem, but don't know where to turn for help because the WFA hasn't made itself well enough known or available to those in need.

Last year in my report to you, I suggested that if we don't change our *status quo* and become more individually interested and involved, we should seriously consider whether or not we should continue with the effort of the WFA. Inasmuch as I dropped

the ball and did not get that report to you and others, it is still a question. So I am reiterating that concern to you again this year. We have to make some positive changes and take positive steps toward change, or our efforts will not bear fruit. It is our choice. **WHAT WILL WE DO TO MAKE THE WFA VITAL, VIABLE, VALUABLE, AND VALUED BY THE FARRIER PROFESSION?** Other people outside the farrier's world recognize the value of the WFA to the horse industry and to the welfare of millions of people and their animals. Why can't we? That is the question I want to leave with you on this matter: Why can't we???

I would be remiss to not recognize the Asian Vice President and the Japan Farriers Association for their continued and valued support of the WFA and their recognition of the need for positive leadership in our profession in Asia. They have been exemplary in the assumption of leadership and in furnishing advice and assistance in foot care and farriery throughout the region. THANK YOU for your diligence and your commitment.

Also, I would be remiss if I did not recognize and pay tribute to the memory of Edward Martin and his work on behalf of the WFA over the years. He was one of the founders of the WFA and gave considerable time and effort to its organization and to ensure its success. He and I traveled a lot in Europe in the early years on behalf of the WFA. He was a strong supporter of an organization for all farriers in Europe, a fierce competitor who realized the value of farrier and blacksmith contests to raise skill levels and in the value of sharing of knowledge and skill, as well as a greater understanding and acceptance of each other as human beings. He will be missed.

The current economic hardship that plagues every part of the world surely has an impact on foot care and farriery. We have seen some of it already, and probably there is more to come before things get better. All of us hope that we will turn the corner soon, and move toward more prosperous times in the near future. How we (as individuals or organizations) will survive and what we will be in the future is unknown. During this time of change, I trust that we will remain firm in our commitment to our profession and to our professional organizations. Let's do our best to make 2009 a good year for the WFA. Get in touch with me if there is any way that I can help you or help the World Farriers Association prosper.

Again, THANK YOU.

Walt Taylor, President

Vice President Reports:

European: None

Oceania: None

Americas: None

Asiatic:

As for Japan, our economy was gradually recovering in the first half of last year. However, it has decelerated rapidly influenced by the American economy crisis. It is expected that a lot of people will lose their job and the economically severe condition will continue in the future.

The horse racing industry has many influences from that. In Regional Public Race Courses, they had a better annual turnover from betting tickets by September of last year than that of previous years, but it has deteriorated rapidly since that time. No

Regional Public Race Course was closed last year. However, it is possible that some Regional Public Race Course will be closed, if the severe economy condition continues.

In the Japan Racing Association, last year's annual turnover from betting tickets was a little bit lower than that of the previous year. The return was almost the same level. However, because of the economic crisis, the betting turnover has fallen considerably since January. JRA has held various and many enterprises to raise the popularity of horse racing. At the same time, they have reviewed all their business to greatly reduce expenditure.

I am quite concerned about what could happen to the Japanese horse industry in the future. JFA also could also feel the severe financial situation, as we have been receiving subsidies from JRA.

In spite of the situation, the same 30 farriers as last year participated in the Japan Farriery contests held last October. A bloodhorse breeding organization in Japan, the Japan Bloodhorse Breeder's Association (JBBA) has become a sponsor for some training projects that improve the skill and knowledge on breeding and rearing workers, veterinarians, and farriers. As part of these projects, JFA also holds a training program to teach the knowledge and skill of foot care to farriers and veterinarians. I felt their enthusiasm for improvement has led to a lot of people attending the program.

On the other hand, there is concern, too. In order to be a farrier in Japan, a one-year training course is required. This year, we had 16 openings for students for this course, but only 14 students were admitted. The scale of the horse racing industry of Japan is in reduction, and it will be necessary to examine the number of students for the farrier's school in the future. More than 20 Japanese farriers have participated in the AFA annual convention at their own expense in the last few years. However, there are only about ten people including four farriery students participating this time.

Thus, each member has a strong will for improvement in skill and knowledge, but I am concerned that the severe situation of the horse industry could badly influence the farrier industry.

In Asia, China (following the successful Beijing Olympics) has been highly active in the horse industry. Training groups consisting of people related to the horse industry and veterinarians from China frequently visit JRA, and they also visit the education center of JFA. They are interested in the skill and knowledge of farriery and the education system in Japan. There is an active information exchange between our staff.

We have been conducting training programs for Korean farriers for the last three years, requested by Korean Racing Association (KRA). Last year, the KRA requested us to continuously implement the same training project, but it was not possible due to both parties' schedule. JFA would like to accept their request this year.

We got the information that the Asian regional farriers competition was held in Malaysia. Last year was the 7<sup>th</sup> time the competition has been held and about 40 farriers from ten countries in Asia area competed. We received the invitation for this year. However, it was not possible to participate, as the date was very close to the Japan Farriery contests and we could not get contest rules. We would like to participate in the competition in the near future.

It is expected that the horse industry will be affected by the severe economic situation, as well as the other industries. Even so, we still think that it is important to keep a positive information exchange with farrier associations in each country to improve

farrier skill and to keep up good relationships. We would like to make every effort to contribute to the farrier industry of the world by cooperating with the WFA.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Dr. Yuzo Sato

Asiatic Vice President, Chairman of the Japan Farriers Association

February 27, 2009

Treasurer's Report: (Briefed)

Income:	\$1,075.00
Expenses:	\$ 656.34
Year-End Balance:	\$19,962.28

Other Countries:

European Federation of Farrier Associations (EFFA): Report given by Huw Dyer, representing the National Association of Farriers, Blacksmiths, and Agricultural Engineers (NAFBE), United Kingdom (UK). Both NAFBE and EFFA are strong and are working well. David Gulley (UK) is the current President of EFFA. EFFA has completed its certification scheme and it is in place. Farrier schools are being evaluated for compliance with accepted standards and membership levels are being sorted out. Northern Ireland is not participating in EFFA, nor are the 'barefoot' practitioners and their followers. EFFA educational and competitive events are scheduled in alternating years. Provisions of the Farrier Registration Act in the UK were extended to the Highlands and Islands of northern Scotland two years ago, and NAFBE is monitoring work there. The RSPCA in the UK has interest in the 'barefoot' movement in the UK.

American Farrier's Association: Jack Millman continues a concerted effort to bring the AFA and the WFA together. He serves on a re-organized Board of Directors of the AFA. He brought guests Steve Davis and Jock Owings to the meeting. Both Mr. Davis and Mr. Owings are on the AFA Board, as well. Both were welcomed to the meeting.

Swedish Farriers Association: By invitation of Mats Persson (former President of EFFA and the Swedish Farriers Association) Mr. Lee Green visited Sweden early in the year. He reported that the Association there is strong and very progressive, that their school(s) enjoys good facilities and makes many learning activities available to students. The association is more oriented to the daily needs and activities of its members.

**OLD BUSINESS**

European Vice President vice Edward Martin: At the 2008 AGM, the President asked Mr. Mats Persson if he would assume the role of European Vice President. Mr. Persson said he would consider the request, but he had not responded to the request as of this meeting time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Daryl Bean, member from Florida, proposed that the WFA sponsor a farrier speaker from a foreign country where the WFA and WTFE had worked to train farriers, veterinarians, and saddlers. After much discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and

carried that this effort be undertaken for the next AFA convention to be held in Portland, Oregon, in February 2010. The President was directed to identify a candidate for that purpose and move ahead to make it happen.

MATTERS ARISING

None

ADJOURN

There being no further business to be transacted, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 a.m.

Prepared from notes taken by Walt Taylor

FOR DR. C.M. MacGREGOR, Secretary-Treasurer (Unable To Attend)

---

---

Attendees at WFA AGM  
February 27, 2009

Jack Millman, Worthington, Massachusetts, USA  
Steve Davis, Franklin, Tennessee, USA  
Jock Owings, Chatham, Virginia, USA  
Tatsuya Mori, Japan  
Takuma Tomiyama, Japan  
Daisuke Ukan, Japan  
Daryl Bean, Florida  
Huw Dwyer, United Kingdom  
Lee Green, Yucaipa, California, USA  
Walt Taylor, New Mexico, USA

President's Report  
Annual General Meeting  
February 26, 2010  
Portland, Oregon

Good morning to all of you. It is my pleasure to be able to make this report to you today on behalf of farriers and equidae around the world.

In spite of many misgivings and much trepidation, the past year has been a good one for the WFA. I am not the only one that appreciates the fact that you are here or represented by someone. In addition, the thousands of people that provide foot care and farriery to millions of horses, donkeys, and mules around the world appreciate your concern, care, and commitment. Many or most may not even know about the WFA and the work that we try to do on their behalf. But sooner or later the influence that we have, collectively, will impact their lives directly in a very positive way. The challenge that we have had since the WFA was started in the mid-1980's – and still today – is to be able to provide support for and assistance to everyone that is a part of or affected by our profession. I realize that is casting a broad net; I realize that lifetimes and careers may be consumed in pursuit of that goal; and I realize, as well, that complete achievement of that goal may never be possible. But that isn't and shouldn't be a deterrent to any of us. If we are able to make only a small percentage of positive change, all of our individual and collective effort will have been well spent.

I can reflect on and compare our situation now with the WFA to that of the organization and founding of the American Farrier's Association that I undertook in the late 1960's. There were years of 'wandering in the wilderness' that were discouraging, difficult, and seemingly without reward or success. Then the roots that were put down hit nourishment and history defines what has happened since. Yet look at where we are today. In the late 1980's there was a political and social event that was unprecedented in Europe. That was the coalescing of separate countries into the European Economic Union, that once and for all established equal rights for professionals to practice across the member countries. The WFA realized the importance of that event, and began to work actively for the European farrier through the organization of a European Farriers Association. This was realized in the mid-1990's when the European Federation of Farrier Associations (EFFA) was organized, and it has achieved outstanding success in bringing stability and prestige to foot care and farriery in their area of influence. On that note, we are happy to have had the President of EFFA with us on several occasions previously. Mr. David Gulley, current President of EFFA and past President of the National Association in the United Kingdom is with us today. You will hear a report from him later in the meeting. In addition, the WFA has been instrumental in organizing or reviving farrier associations or organizations in a score of countries where little existed before. The Japan Farriers Association (JFA) has emerged as a leader in the Orient, giving advice, counsel, support, and assistance to farriers and the farrier industry in Korea and China as well as in Indonesia and Malaysia. Their support of and commitment to the WFA has been and is exemplary.

This is reiterated as a reminder to all of us of the positive changes that have evolved from WFA work and influence. Reflect on it and then use it to define opportunities and situations where we can either continue or expand our positive influence. None of us sees the complete picture of the needs that exist outside ourselves or the possible solutions to those needs. Collectively, we can see more. Working together we can provide more resources and solutions. I would ask that each of you examine your areas of interest for opportunities to be of service to our profession, then suggest ways that we can move toward more areas of service.

Both Tina and I have tried to be more responsive to wishes of members and needs of people during the last year. You suggested that the WFA provide a speaker for the AFA convention this year, as a way of showing how the WFA is involved in the big picture, and to acquaint farriers here with conditions and situations in less-developed or less-fortunate countries. We did this, and identified a man that was trained in Mexico by WFA as part of our Working Together For Equines program. Marco Antonio Torres of Milpa Alta was a student in the first training class we held in Mexico. He was an outstanding student with a keen desire to learn everything he could about foot care and farriery. He did well, and at the completion of the initial training he was hired by an organization (actually a combination of three groups) that provides free healthcare to working horses, donkeys, and mules in Mexico. Our aim in training him was that he would become a trainer himself, later on, and not just be a farrier for the halt or the lame. Our faith was well placed, and he has developed into a competent farrier as well as a competent trainer. He just returned from a training trip to South Africa, and is completing a farrier training course in Guatemala, even as we speak. He has worked in Honduras, El Salvador, and across southern Mexico, as well. You haven't met him because he isn't here..... He was unable to secure a Visa to travel to Portland. Sadly, his story won't be told here this year.

We put together a short 'newsletter' about WFA activities that was sent by email to everyone for whom we had an email address at the time and who had some connection with the WFA in the past. We had a lot of positive response to that, so can assume that this is something that should be done at least once between meetings. We will try to continue that. To be more meaningful, we need your ideas and information. Don't be bashful – contribute! Unfortunately, and we could say 'as usual', errors and omissions occurred with that missile. A few key people were missed, and we apologize for the oversight.

The International Reception that has been provided and sponsored by the WFA over the last three years has not been as successful as we hoped it would be. Given the nature of the event and the competition for time and attention of individuals, we haven't seen or enjoyed as much camaraderie as we had hoped. Nonetheless, we want to continue the event, if that is your wish. Here, I want to recognize and thank Lee Green of The Shoein' Shop. Lee has been and is a stalwart supporter of everything that is positive about farrier associations, knowledge and skills sharing, and fostering better personal and professional relationships between farriers around the world. He has participated in WFA farrier training events in North Africa and Mexico, as well as on his own initiative in Japan and Europe. Last year, The Shoein' Shop made a significant donation to WFA to help underwrite the cost of the International Reception. THANK YOU, Lee.



Today we welcome the President of the Japan Farriers Association, Mr. Teruyuki Imahara, who succeeds Dr. Yuzo Sato as WFA's Asian Vice President. You have already heard Mr. Imahara's interesting report. We welcome the entire Japanese delegation, and thank them for their long support of the WFA! You may not know that the JFA was one of the earliest to recognize the need for a World Farriers Association and that it has been the strongest in support of the WFA and what it does.

This concludes my report to you. But before I go, let me ask you again to be always thinking of how the WFA can be of more service to the world's farrier industry. Past work and accomplishments aren't enough. We have to be ever alert to need and opportunity. We can't do it alone. **WE NEED YOU!**

Thank you for this opportunity to share these thoughts with you.

Walt Taylor, President  
World Farriers Association

Minutes of Annual General Meeting  
World Farriers Association  
Sellwood Room, Double Tree Hotel  
Portland, Oregon  
February 26, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Walt Taylor at 7:07 a.m., while those in attendance were enjoying and completing a Continental Breakfast. Each person was asked to stand and self-identify, and to sign an attendance sheet with their contact information. That List of Attendees is part of these Minutes.

MINUTES OF 2009 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes, and the various attendant parts, were distributed to attendees, and time was allowed to peruse them, ask questions, or offer corrections, as needed.

Mr. Gulley, President of the European Federation of Farrier Associations, (EFFA) questioned the lack of a Report from the European Vice President on page 3 of the Minutes. He believed that Huw Dyer, representing the National Association of Farriers, Blacksmiths, and Agricultural Engineers (NAFBE) in the U.K. had made such a report at the 2009 meeting. Since Mr. Dyer was not and is not the WFA's European Vice President he could not make such a report. Mr. Dyer's report was on behalf of EFFA and NAFBE, and is on page 5 of the Minutes.

On behalf of the Secretary/Treasurer (who was unable to be present) the President discussed the Treasurer's Report. The only unusual item noted was on the **EXPENSES** sheet, category **740 – ARCHIVES**.

The President explained that during the many years that WFA was involved with the Working Together For Equines, Inc. (WTFE), program, hundreds of hours of videotapes were made of equine foot care and farriery work done by native people and WTFE in a score of countries in both the eastern and western hemispheres. Some of the videotape was raw and some had been edited into working documents for publicity and documentary purposes. Some of it was in NTSC (USA) format, some in PAL (European) format, and some still in Hi-8 cassettes in PAL. Deterioration of the original medium and fear of loss or destruction of the 'master' medium prompted a decision to copy and convert all the material to DVD in the NTSC format. These DVD's can be more easily stored, protected, and copied than the original media. The original works will be protected and preserved as completely as possible, but they will eventually become unusable. As the DVD's age, copies will be refreshed to insure preservation of the priceless window into other situations, conditions, and practices.

The President agreed to index or list the material copied and furnish that list to interested parties. This will be done as time is available. Provision could be made, as well, for purchase of the DVD by individuals. **ALL MATERIAL IS COPYRIGHTED TO THE WFA-WTFE AND COULD NOT BE USED EXCEPT BY PERMISSION OF WFA-WTFE.**

On page 5 of the Minutes there is an entry for the Treasurer's Report (briefed). Those figures are in error, and are to be disregarded in favor of the Balance Sheet and Itemized Categories of income and expense.

With these corrections and notations, the Minutes were approved as submitted.

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS

European Vice President: None

Oceania Vice President: None

Americas Vice President: None

Asian Vice President: By Dr. Teruyuki Imahara, President, Japan Farriers

Association:

Good Morning! It is my great honor and pleasure to be here for the first time and to have the opportunity to speak at this important meeting.

My name is Teruyuki Imahara. I succeeded Mr. Yuzo Sato as President of the Japan Farriers Association in June last year. He has briefed me about the history of the WFA and its various activities under the leadership of its President, Mr. Walt Taylor. I would like to express my deepest respect to everyone involved for your long-term contribution to the development of the farriery industry around the world.

It is my pleasure to report to you about the current situation of the horse and farriery industry in Japan, along with our activities in the Asian region.

The economic slowdown in recent years is negatively affecting the horse industry in Japan as in other parts of the world. The annual turnover in Japanese racing in 2009 declined from the year before as it has been doing for some time, and there have been no signs of recovery for more than ten years. This has led to a decrease in the amount of subsidy provide to the Japan Farriers Association, which in turn has suffered financially.

With respect to horse production and sales, about seven thousand five hundred thoroughbred horses were produced in Japan in 2009. This was almost the same as the year before. The total gross from the sales in Japan was thirteen percent down from the year before. The sale of foals suffered a large decrease, while there were some increases in the sales of yearlings and two-year-olds in training.

Next, allow me to explain about the activities of the Japan Farriers Association. The Japan farriery contests, which are an annual event, were successfully held in October last year with the participation of 32 contestants.

With the sponsorship of the Japan Bloodhorse Breeder's Association, the JFA has been conducting educational programs for the past several years to disseminate knowledge and information about foot care to farriers, veterinarians, and farmers in the breeding area. These programs always attract many people, giving us a feel for the breeding industry's eagerness to improve techniques and aim higher.

The JFA also conducts a one-year education course each year to train and qualify farriers. The course has 16 openings each year, but both the number of applicants and those who were admitted have fallen short of this number since last year.

The number of JFA members is currently at around five hundred. With the recent downsizing of racing, it seems that the trend is for farriers to shift their work from race horses to sport horses or to young horses in training farms.

As for farriery in the general Asian region, China as a growing economy has been active in the horse industry. China has yet to enact laws which regulate horse racing. However, horse racing has been confirmed in 19 locations, including Beijing, Wuhan,

and Nanjing. The China Horse Industry Association has requested the assistance of the Japan Farriers Association to help improve the skills of Chinese farriers, and a seminar on foot care including lectures and demonstrations was held in Beijing, which drew a large audience.

The JFA is prepared to continue supporting farriers in China and other countries in Asia to improve and develop their skills. There are also plans to accept foreign trainees at the Japanese Farriery Education Center in the near future.

THANK YOU for your attention.

President: By Walt Taylor, World Farriers Association

Good morning to all of you. It is my pleasure to be able to make this report to you today on behalf of farriers and equidae around the world.

In spite of many misgivings and much trepidation, the past year has been a good one for the WFA. I am not the only one that appreciates the fact that you are here or represented by someone. In addition, the thousands of people that provide foot care and farriery to millions of horses, donkeys, and mules around the world appreciate your concern, care, and commitment. Many or most may not even know about the WFA and the work that we try to do on their behalf. But sooner or later the influence that we have, collectively, will impact their lives directly in a very positive way. The challenge that we had had since the WFA was started in 1985 – and still today – is to be able to provide support for and assistance to everyone that is part of or affected by our profession. I realize that is casting a broad net; I realize that lifetimes and careers may be consumed in pursuit of that goal; and I realize, as well that complete achievement of that goal may never be possible. But that isn't and shouldn't be a deterrent to any of us. If we are able to make only a small percentage of positive change, all of our individual and collective effort will have been well spent.

I can reflect on and compare our situation now with the WFA to that of the organization and founding of the American Farrier's Association that I undertook in the late 1960's. There were years of 'wandering in the wilderness' that were discouraging, difficult, and seemingly without reward or success. Then the roots that were put down hit nourishment and history defines what has happened since. Look at where we are today. In the late 1980's there was a political and social event that was unprecedented in Europe. That was the coalescing of separate countries into the European Economic Community. One of its purposes was to establish equal rights for professionals to practice in all the member countries. The WFA realized the importance of that event, and began to work actively for the European farrier through the organization of a European Farriers Association. This was realized in the mid-1990's when the European Federation of Farrier Associations (EFFA) was organized, and it has achieved outstanding success in bringing stability and prestige to foot care and farriery in their area of influence. On that note, we are happy to have had the President of EFFA with us on several occasions previously. Mr. David Gulley, current President of EFFA and past President of the National Association in the United Kingdom is with us today. You will hear a report from him later in the meeting. In addition, the WFA has been instrumental in organizing or reviving farrier associations or organizations in a score of countries where little or nothing existed before. The Japan Farriers Association (JFA) has emerged as a leader in the Orient, giving advice, counsel, support, and assistance to farriers and the farrier

industry in Korea and China, as well as in Indonesia and Malaysia. Their support of and commitment to the WFA has been and is exemplary.

This is reiterated as a reminder to all of us of the positive changes that have evolved from WFA work and influence. Reflect on it and then use it to define opportunities and situations where we can either continue or expand our positive influence. None of us sees the complete picture of the needs that exist outside ourselves or the possible solutions to those needs. Collectively, we can see more. Working together we can provide more resources and solutions. I would ask that each of you examine your areas of interest for opportunities to be of service to our profession, and then suggest ways that we can move toward more areas of service.

Both Tina and I have tried to be more responsive to wishes of members and needs of people during the last year. You suggested that the WFA provide a speaker for the AFA convention this year, as a way of showing how the WFA is involved in the big picture, and to acquaint farriers here with the conditions and situations in less-developed or less-fortunate countries. We did this, and identified a man that was trained in Mexico by WFA as part of our Working Together For Equines program. Marco Antonio Torres of Milpa Alta was a student in the first training class we held in Mexico. He was an outstanding student with a keen desire to learn everything he could about foot care and farriery. He did well, and at the completion of the initial training he was hired by an organization (actually a combination of three groups) that provides free healthcare to working horses, donkeys, and mules in Mexico and Central America. Our aim in training him was that he would become a trainer himself, later on, and not just be a farrier for the halt or the lame. Our faith was well placed, and he has developed into a competent farrier as well as a competent trainer. He returned recently from a training trip to South Africa and has just completed a farrier training course in Guatemala. He has worked in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, and across Mexico, as well. You haven't met him because he isn't here....he was unable to secure a visa to travel to Portland. He did send his material and I will present his lecture on Friday, as scheduled.

We put together a short 'newsletter' about WFA activities that was sent by email to everyone for whom we had an email address at the time and who had some connection with the WFA in the past. We had a lot of positive response to that, so we assume that this is something that should be done at least once between meetings. We will try to continue that. To be more meaningful, we need your ideas and information. Don't be bashful – contribute! Unfortunately, and we could say 'as usual', errors and omissions occurred with that missile. A few key people were missed and we apologize for the oversight.

The International Reception that has been provided and sponsored by the WFA over the last three years has not been as successful as we hoped it would be. Given the nature of the event and the competition for time and attention of individuals, we haven't seen or enjoyed as much camaraderie as we had hoped. Nonetheless, we want to continue the event, if that is your wish. Here, I want to recognize and thank Lee Green of The Shoein' Shop. Lee has been and is a stalwart supporter of everything that is positive about farrier associations, knowledge and skills sharing, and fostering better personal and professional relationships between farriers around the world. He has participated in WFA training events in North Africa and Mexico, as well as on his own initiative in

Japan and Europe. Last year, The Shoein' Shop made a significant donation to WFA to help underwrite the cost of the International Reception. THANK YOU, Lee.

Today we welcome the President of the Japan Farriers Association, Dr. Teruyuki (Terry) Imahara, who succeeds Dr. Yuzo Sato as WFA's Asian Vice President. You have already heard his interesting report. We welcome the entire Japanese delegation, and thank them for their long support of the WFA! You may not know that the JFA was one of the first to recognize the need for a World Farriers Association and that it has been the strongest in support of the WFA and what it does.

This concludes my report to you. But before I go, let me ask you again to be always thinking of how the WFA can be of more service to the world's farrier industry. Past work and accomplishments aren't enough. We have to be ever alert to need and opportunity. We can't do it alone. WE NEED YOU!

Thank you for this opportunity to share these thoughts with you.  
Walt Taylor, President  
World Farriers Association

\*A question was raised about current WFA farrier training and farrier tool supply initiatives. Response: A lack of significant, major funding for programs of this kind and the social/political unrest in many of the countries where WTFE/WFA worked, have made on-the-ground activities hazardous. In-country individuals and organizations trained and influenced by WTFE/WFA continue much of the work that was started. We are trying to move donations of tools/materials to needy areas through other animal welfare organizations working in several places. Donations of new and serviceable tools are still needed and accepted.

#### Other Countries:

European Federation of Farrier Associations (EFFA): Report was given by Mr. David Gulley, President. There are 15 member associations or organizations, of which seven are accredited to the standards of training and practice established by EFFA. A four-year training/teaching program is standard. The examination process for the school accreditation program is 'up and running'. A Register of farriers is in its second year. Individuals pay ten Euros/year for the privilege of listing. Germany and Finland are the latest to be accredited. EFFA rules require reexamination of the accreditation status each six years. This year, Holland, England, and Denmark will be reevaluated. The EFFA 2010 AGM will be held in Stoneleigh, England, in November.

\*Question was raised as to the formal participation or membership of EFFA in WFA. Response: EFFA has not been a dues-paying member of WFA. EFFA has always been welcome at WFA meetings and has shared much good information for the common good.

American Farrier's Association: Jack Millman spoke to the efficacy of the AFA's reorganized Board of Directors. He and Jock Owings continue to support the WFA to AFA leadership. \*Question: Is the AFA a member of WFA? Response: AFA 'joined' the WFA in 1993 (?) but paid dues only that one year. Question: Why hasn't AFA joined? Response: Unknown, even though WFA has been a sponsor of functions at the AFA convention, and an active supporter of the AFA. \* Suggestion: That the WFA become a Chapter of the AFA in an attempt to bring the two organizations together.

Response: Organizationally and in correct hierarchy, that should be the other way around.

National Association of Farriers, Blacksmiths, and Agricultural Engineers, U.K: Report given by Craig Darcy, President. Contrary to rumour, the Head Office and forge site at the National Show Grounds at Kenilworth will not be lost. Membership and commitment continue to be strong. Regional economics are affecting business and earnings of individuals. With these downturns, individual farrier income is suffering. With less demand for farrier services, the Approved Training Farrier is unable to accept the usual number of apprentices. This causes a ripple effect back to the intake and schooling of new students that are interested in becoming farriers. On completion of the training program, new farriers are given the credential of Diploma of the Worshipful Company of Farriers (DipWCF). This describes and assures basic competency as a farrier. A concern of NAFBE is the demonstrated unwillingness of DipWCF-holders to move ahead through higher levels of education and skill to A(Associate)WCF and F(Fellow)WCF. All farriers are paid basically the same rate for their work across the U.K. regardless of their status. It is assumed that the DipWCF- and AWCF-farriers reject the extra expense and effort required to move to FWCF.

**OLD BUSINESS**

It was generally agreed that the WFA should offer sponsorship of a foreign farrier or farrier-industry person to the AFA as a speaker at next year's AFA convention. This would be limited to those working in situations significantly different from those that are the norm where farriery and foot care are more advanced. This offer will be made to the AFA so that, if accepted, an appropriate individual can be identified.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Outreach of the WFA, within both the developed and less-developed countries of the world, was discussed. No specific proposals were made, but the consensus is that this subject needs attention and direction.

**ADJOURN**

There being no more business to transact, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21 a.m.

#####

**ATTENDANCE**

Kohei Yoshida, Japan  
Moriharu Yamada, Japan  
Teruyuki Imahara, Japan  
David Gulley, United Kingdom  
Jock Owings, United States  
Daryll Bean, United States  
Lee Green, United States

Tatsuya Mori, Japan  
Mitsuo Matsumae, Japan  
Craig Darcy, United Kingdom  
Jack Millman, United States  
Steve Eastman, United States  
Bill Miller, United States  
Walt Taylor, United States

