



**August 21, 2004
Meeting Minutes**

Present: Amanda Evans
Barry Abel
Bill Faturik
Bob Wargowsky
Charlee Galbreath
Cindy Cook
Ellen Simons
Evelyn Simons
Heather Smith
Holly Barrett
Jacqueline Rosen
Marilyn Nishitani
Mike Nishitani
Mickey Wright
Rand Cook
Ric Metcalf
Rosemary Metcalf

Agenda

1. Introduction and acknowledgement of new members and guests – Rosemary Metcalf
2. Acceptance of minutes from last meeting
3. Board Reports
 - a. Vice President
 - b. Treasurer
 - c. Membership
 - d. Secretary
4. NM State Fair Update – Bob Wargowsky
5. New Bylaws – Result of voting
6. Election of New Board of Directors
7. Any Other Business
8. Next Meeting Date and Location
9. Members Round Robin
10. Adjourn

Rosemary Metcalf, President, called the August 21, 2004 meeting to order at 12:15 PM. Minutes of the April 25, 2004 meeting were not available for circulation, but were approved as circulated. Barry Able suggests routinely reviewing meeting minutes on website prior to the next meeting.

Introduction and Acknowledgement of New Members and Guests – Rosemary Metcalf

- No guests/new members
- Cindy Cook raised the question about the appropriateness of bringing guests to meetings. She stated that guests that were present at the last meeting were put off by the actions and statements of some of the members and subsequently backed out of alpaca purchases that were being discussed with two NMAB members. There was an intense and lengthy discussion regarding this topic. A few key points were:
 - Social meetings vs. marketing meetings
 - Using individual judgment when considering inviting guests
 - Appropriateness of guests at executive meetings where controversial issues will be discussed
 - NMAB members do not have malicious intent
- Cindy offered to post the discussion to the NMAB members' discussion board on the NMAB website. From there members are vigorously encouraged to discuss this issue in time to decide during the next meeting.
- Rosemary asked if anyone disagrees with Cindy posting the initial discussion on the NMAB discussion board.
- No disagreements.
- Discussion was closed.

Board Reports

Vice President – Bob Wargowsky

- Still looking for members to volunteer for committees. Have not gotten much response. Bob is thinking that since the sign up sheets contained no descriptions, only titles, that members didn't understand what the responsibilities would be for each task. Hence, the low response. He suggests that a description for each committee be created then redistributed. The intent of the committees within the membership is to come up with goals, budgeting, conceptualizing, etc. Then those suggestions will be decided upon by the membership. For example, four people on a committee can't make ultimate decisions, but 20 people can.
- Email between membership is critical as we can't stop business in between meetings.
- Committee heads should work directly within the board heads.
- We must outline chairs for each committee (draft outline as follows).
 - Election Committee - Ric Metcalf (chair), 2004 task completed.
 - Show Committee - Bob, Amanda, Cindy, Gail & Wayne Huckell, Heather Smith, Jacqueline, Barry, Charlie, 2004 task completed

- Marketing Committee - Ellen Simons (chair), Ron West, Rosemary Metcalf & Cindy Cook
- Education committee - no takers
- Budget Committee - no takers

Finance – Karen Young (not present)

- No report. Only change is that we received income. We sold a Norm Evans book and membership dues are coming in.
- Membership dues will be nailed down with the new election.

Membership – Barry Able

Barry does not have the dates that people signed up. If people owe dues, then the treasurer will be able to find them. A reminder that there are four months left until January 1, 2005 when dues come up for renewal. Barry did not receive a complete packet of membership forms, therefore he is unable to see who owes when.

NM State Fair Update – Bob Wargowsky

General

- The majority of NM breeders have volunteered or are showing alpacas.
- There are 156 alpacas entered in the show, which is up from 76 from the previous year.
- The fair has 168 events.
- Bob thought that the obstacles, showmanship, and PR classes would be up, but they are the same as last year.
- Huacaya classes are Dark – Fawn – Light (this may change due to fleece length)
- There are 31 suris entered. (For any show the standard is 31-35.)
- There will be an all colors championship.
- Bob had the option to combine color classes but he didn't need to for huacayas. If he would have with the suris he would have had to put the colors together.
- All other livestock for the State Fair has gone down at least half in the last two years. They are excited that the alpacas are up, we added advertising, etc. They will be accommodating us very well next year.
- Bob anticipates over 200 alpacas next year, but we have to be cautious due to the space, judges, etc. We want profit not losses. This is the first show where we are showing profit for the New Mexico State Fair.
- NMAB receives \$5.00 per entry. Other incomes we will receive are banner sponsorships (\$75.00 each) and class sponsorships (\$15.00 each). Contact Bob directly for sponsorships. Checks made out to NMAB.
- NM State Fair doesn't want to conflict with the show sponsors such as Coca-Cola. Bob will get a list of the show sponsors. (For example, a local beer brewing company should not be able to sponsor a banner because Coors is a sponsor of the New Mexico State Fair.) Sponsorships should mostly be alpaca-related.

- Some benefits from this show are:
 - Our sponsorships are cheaper.
 - Prospects are AOBA lists.
 - There are 52 breeders that will exhibit from Colorado, Missouri, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico.
 - We can really build our funds with these sponsorships.
 - This barn is one of the highest foot traffic areas at the fair.
 - This is the hot thing going at the fair and we want to build on it.
 - This is set up for our ranches to sell animals.

NMAB Display Booth

There will be an NMAB booth or display area. This booth will portray business cards, a map to other booths, ranches, handout materials (focus on alpacas 101). Amanda, Cindy, and Heather are coordinating this booth. Some ideas for handouts are Alpaca Facts, IRS/Tax info, list of vets from New Mexico, etc. Please contact Amanda, Cindy or Heather with any other ideas. Bob is looking for 6 to 8 one-page handouts. We would put the NMAB logo on all printouts with the author's name and ranch logo on the bottom. We anticipate these handouts would cost \$40.00 payable by NMAB. We would also have a list of our farms and the sponsors. This booth would not need to be manned by anyone. Individual farm info would go on their displays. The NMAB booth would only house your business cards. The rest is industry information.

Meet and Greet

- Amanda announced that there is a get together party for the Friday evening (September 17th). This would be held at an upstairs balcony. Caterers are \$200 plus the drink fee and we must use the caterers that the State Fair uses (Gardunos). She said that we could get sponsors to cover the cost of the drinks (each attendee getting two drink tickets) or every member of NMAB could pitch in \$25.00 each to cover the cost (~\$400.00). Drinks would consist of beer, wine, well, and margaritas. Drink tickets would cover beer and wine. Amanda makes the point that if someone sponsors the drinks for this event, then they might not sponsor a banner. The difference is that the money for the drinks goes to cover the cost of the drinks. The money for a banner goes to NMAB.
- Currently, NMAB has \$1,200 in its account.
- Marilyn stated that the more fun show attendees have then the better the show and the more word of mouth gets out. The word would get out that NMAB welcomed everyone and everyone that attended this year will want to come back next year.
- Ric makes a motion that everyone pitches in.
- Nays – 0
- Motion carried.
- Amanda is the coordinator for the meet and greet.

Fiber Store

- The State Fair want's 30% of the gross sales. They also want us to supply a certified electronic cash register. Bob told them that's unreasonable. We would have a loss. Bob suggested to the

fair that we would rent a 15' x 15' booth for \$75.00 to test for next year, but keep all profits. He still has not heard back. Rand stated that he could supply the cash register.

- Ric asked if we could all mark our stuff up the extra 30% to cover the fee.
- Bob also raised the issue of having manpower to run the booth. With showing, volunteering, etc., we don't have a lot of manpower left over.
- Marilyn stated that Rod would man the store and would sell items from any NMAB member who wish to sell products.

Logistics

- Check in is at 9:00 am Friday morning. Volunteers should not arrive earlier than 8:00 am.
- The Jr. Livestock show (held in the same barn as the alpaca show) has check out early Thursday, but they can check out as late as Friday. This might pose a problem for us trying to set up and check in on Friday. Bob thinks that they will go out as quickly as they can and doubts that anyone will remain on Friday. As soon as they move out we will need to reconfigure stalls, disinfect, etc.
- Bob is working with fair help to arrange the barn, disinfect stalls, etc.
- The check-in process is a little different than other shows and we are experimenting with a new system. When you arrive with your animals, the compliance team will take you directly to your stall. Once your animals are in their stalls, you will need to come back to the check-in desk. Color checking will take place at your stall.
- The order in which entries were received is the order in which stalls were assigned. The first receipts get prime spots. There are exceptions as well such as sponsors, who traveled the furthest, who brought the most alpacas, etc.
- Bob asked that all complaints come to him. Don't bitch to anyone else.
- The color checkers will be on the compliance team. They will not be allowed to color check or length check their own animals. Compliance team is Mickey, Evelyn, Heather, Gail, Jacqueline, and Barry.
- There will be four or five gate stewards that will work no more than 2-hour shifts except for Sunday (because of performance classes). Gate stewards are Ron, Jacque, Doug, Jill, and Charlee.
- The announcers will be Barry, Julia, and Mary.
- Allison is the ring steward.
- Kent Sasser is back-up ring steward.
- Wayne is barn manager.
- Booth/Display – Doug and Jill may want to attend the booth to answer questions or direct folks.
- Bob has it set up, so that you have an opportunity to sell your animals. Take advantage of this!
- Bob will send updates as he learns information. Check your envelopes from the fair to ensure you received the correct number of parking passes, etc. Contact BOB WARGOWSKY if you didn't get a parking pass or if any information is incorrect.
- Go in gate 6.
- Everyone thanked Bob for his hard work on this project.

During the Round Robin discussion, Bob was asked about the virus going around, Vesticular Stomatitus. He said that vets must report to the NM Departments who must report to ranches within a 10-mile radius. They quarantine animals that contract this virus. Animals leaving states that comes to NM are checked for lesions. State offices have told vets that they are required to do a visual check and document findings on health certificates.

- This is a weak virus easily killed when in quarantine. The vet checkers at the show will specifically check for this virus.
- TB and Brucellosis is not required in state for the show.
- You need a health certificate to show your animals.

New Bylaws – Result of Voting - Rosemary

- Only 9 votes came in on the bylaws. The email was sent out on the Wednesday prior to the meeting, so perhaps not all people checked their emails. Because we need 2/3 vote, we did not receive enough votes to pass.
- Four new votes were accumulated at this meeting.
- Out-of-towners will reply at their convenience. Rosemary will let us know when all votes are in.

Election of New Board of Directors – Ric

President

There were three nominations for president. Two declined leaving Amanda as only nomination. The floor was opened to nominations. No new nominations. Moved to close nominations. Amanda president by default.

Vice President

There were two nominations for vice president. Marilyn and Heather. The floor was opened to nominations. No new nominations. Moved to close nominations. Vote taken, results to be announced when all votes are in.

Finance

There were three nominations for treasurer. One declined leaving Stephanie and Jacqueline. The floor was opened to nominations. No new nominations. Moved to close nominations. Vote taken, results to be announced when all votes are in.

Secretary

There were three nominations for secretary. Two declined leaving Cindy as only nomination. The floor was opened to nominations. No new nominations. Moved to close nominations. Cindy secretary by default.

Membership

There were three nominations for membership. Two declined leaving Mary as only nomination. The floor was opened to nominations. No new nominations. Moved to close nominations. Mary membership by default.

There are four farms that are absent that want to vote. Now that nominations are closed, they will count votes and let us know who is elected for Vice President and Finance.

On Tuesday, August 31, 2004, Rosemary sent NMAB membership notification that the new board was chosen as follows:

President - Amanda Evans
Vice President - Heather Smith
Finance - Jacqueline Rosen
Secretary - Cindy Cook
Membership - Mary Curik

Any Other Business

No new business

Next Meeting Date and Location

Heather Smith volunteered their place on November 13th at noon. She will check for conflicting dates.

On August 27, 2004, Heather sent the membership an email stating that the date had been moved to Saturday, November 6th at 12:00pm. Please see her email for details.

Members Round Robin

- Barry thanked everyone for coming. He announced that he has a neighbor that breeds Maine Coon Cats. Contact him if you are interested.
- Amanda announced that she and Susan has 35 people signed up for the Dr. Toni Cotton Alpaca Reproduction Seminar. She also announced that she and Susan also are hosting an Ian Watt seminar in March. Additionally, she handed out information on a new herdsire she just purchased.
- Ellen announced that she too had purchased a new suri herdsire, 5 Star Mazzeratti.
- Mickey and Evelyn have several events happening at their ranch over the next few months such as:
 - April 23-24, 2005. Karen Kinyon (northern Colorado) will return to give a weekend class on weaving with alpaca. If you have other fiber questions, Karen is the one to ask. She does just about everything.
 - May 21-22, 2005: Russell Gent from New Zealand will have a two-day clinic on shearing. The first day is for new learners. The second day for more advanced...and the "new learners" can return for more instruction. He uses a shearing table.
 - October 15-16, 2005: Deb Hill, Cloud Dancer Alpacas (from Flagstaff, Arizona), will have four classes on building a successful alpaca business. Deb is a nationally recognized speaker.
- Cindy announced that she too has just purchased a new herdsire, First Lady's Chiron. He is a dark fawn, full Peruvian huacaya boy. His fee will be \$1,500, but she is offering any NMAB member half price if they would like to breed to him this year. Contact her for a marketing packet.

- Bob had two babies born at the same time and has the photos to prove it! They bonded to opposite dams. (It came to our attention after the meeting that this happened again for Bob. Same scenario.)
- Julia had her 13th boy born. She's calling him Job. She had a stillborn true black suri girl right after that. The bad luck for Julia continues.
- Ellen had a preemie that she needs to supplement who also broke her leg. The cria's leg is casted and is recovering nicely.
- Barry lost 170 bales of hay to mold by using a tarp. He warns anyone using a tarp to watch out for mold.
- Mickey introduced the EZID brochures. They are looking for someone to go in on a reader with them.
- Barry thanked all the former officers, especially the President and Vice President. They received a booming round of applause.
- Ric announced that everyone should attend the Texolan show during February 19 and 20. They are 7 animals away from a Level 4 show. Kristen Burman is the judge. Tim LaVon is doing the fleece judging. The guest speaker is Norm Evans. They are negotiating with Marty McGee for some sort of training seminar. Several farm members will give hourly-type seminars.

Raffle Winners

Ellen	Windchimes
Bill	Clock
Amanda	Chocolates and Champagne Pourer
Marilyn	Business Card Holder
Holly	Wine
Marilyn	Wine

There were much fewer raffle items at this meeting. Don't forget to bring your raffle item next time.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.