



**MEMBER MEETING
November 12, 2011**

- Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Sandy Liggett, President, at 12:00 PM.
- Attendees: Mickey Wright, Evelyn Simons, Peggy Rustin, Sherry Willis, Stacie Chavez, Skip Chavez, Cheryl Louie, Robert Louie, Melinda Tossani, Luca Tossani, Anne Stallcup, Mary Black, Dean Kahlich, Linda Kahlich, Tim Blackburn, Diane Blackburn, Kathy Herman, Bill Herman, Bob Hazen, Louise Hazen, Jim Daly, Cynthia Daly, Mark Hogan, Susan Sasser, Tehani Hogan, Gretchen Steininger-Werner, Sandy Liggett, John Fifield, Carolyn Fifield
- Welcome: Sandy Liggett welcomed attendees. There were no new attendees present.
- Approval of Minutes: Minutes from meeting on 7/30/11 were discussed and amended to reflect that Cheryl and Robert Louise were in attendance; and that Bill Herman had not agreed to be the Fiber Committee Chair – as he is already Chair of the Education Committee. Peggy Rustin made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, and Louise Hazen seconded the motion.
- Reports:
 - Membership: Linda Kahlich reported that membership remains at 28 farms and 3 of those are associate memberships. Discussion followed in which attendees agreed that brochures would not be sent this year with new membership mailings. Bill Herman had expressed concern that we do not have current phone numbers and email addresses for members. Spaces were added to the Member Meeting Attendance Record for maintaining current contact information
 - Financial Report: Mark Hogan provided a written report indicating a balance of \$4589.90 in the checking account and \$5232.00 in a CD that will mature in April 2012. Mark also reported that there will be recurring expenses that relate to conferencing and the billboard.
 - Corporate Status: Sandy Liggett reported the paperwork for incorporation was filed, but it was rejected due to questions about the address. It has been resubmitted. When approved, it will exempt NMAB from state and federal taxes; and will need to be in place before the next show.
 - NMAB Website and Uses: John Fifield reported there are 35 farms listed in New Mexico. Some are not using individual sites on OpenHerd. John volunteered to assist anyone in developing their sites. John also reported that Google analytics can be used by anyone, he is now posting Alpaca News, soon members will be able to use Alpaca Auctions without charge, and he is currently beta testing for the ability to create individual tabs at the top of the site. He reminded attendees that there is also a FaceBook page, and if they add events to their OpenHerd page, he will add them to the NMAB site.
 - NMAB Billboard: Linda Kahlich reported the billboard is vinyl and 2 sided, located on I-25 near Socorro on private property. It will cost \$800.00 plus \$200.00 for the art work, and \$150.00 for installation. NMAB can use it for 2 years at no additional charge. The work should be completed in the next month, and she will have the invoices forwarded to Mark Hogan. Linda shared the image that will be on the billboard with attendees.
 - Review of Committees/Volunteers: Bill Herman distributed a list of committees/members and requested that more members volunteer. A few more members agreed to volunteer, and Mary

Black agreed to be Chair of the Fiber Committee. The committees and associated members are as follows:

Fiber	Education	Show
Mary Black, Chair	Bill Herman, Chair	Kathy Herman, Chair
Carla Bleicher	Larry Roybal	Mary Anne Andrews
Vivian Cadwallader	Mickey Wright	Tim Blackburn
John Fifield		Linda Kahlich
Bill Herman		Bob Louie
David Hunter (Advisory)		Cheryl Louie
Larry Roybal		Barbara Roybal
Barbara Roybal		Evelyn Simons
Peggy Rustin		Anne Stallcup
Melinda Tossani		Stacie Chavez
Sue Sasser		Gretchen Steininger-Werner

- Discussion Groups: Attendees were broken out into 3 groups to discuss the following topics:
 - NMAB Show: Kathy Herman reported she has been working with Cindy Negen from the Amarillo Show. Reportedly they were able to make \$16,000.00, started with no budget, but used sponsors, volunteers and had free vendor spots. Kathy recommended 3 possible venues: Santa Ana Star Center in Bernalillo; Founder’s Ranch in East Mountains; and State Fair – other than dairy venue. Las Cruces Fairgrounds was also suggested. General activities to consider include deposit, judges, ribbons, and email blast through AOBA. After group discussion, they suggested the show be held in January 2013. Bob Louie agreed to contact Chris at Santa Ana Star Center; and Linda Kahlich agreed to research the Las Cruces Fairgrounds.
 - Fleece Related Activities: Mary Black has been developing a spreadsheet with mills information. The group agreed that it would be difficult to maintain specific information about the mills – as it changes frequently. John Fifield agreed to post list on NMAB website with a link to the individual mills. The group also recommended a seminar on basic fiber sorting/skirting be presented by Winnie Labrecque. Attendees agreed that this would be a desirable educational program, and Sandy Liggett agreed to obtain specific information regarding potential cost/venue, etc.
- Alpaca United Update: Sandy Liggett gave a brief overview of recent Alpaca United activity including a recent invitation to establish a “Center for Excellence” by North Carolina State University College of Textiles. A handout was provided to attendees.
- Ranch News - Talk Around: Attendees reported what is going on at their individual farms. Sandy Liggett reported that Mary Anne Andrews has volunteered to host a Christmas Party if attendees were interested. The majority of attendees indicated by show of hands that they would like to proceed with the party. It was suggested that it be held on December 17 at 5:00 PM – pot luck and white elephant gift exchange. Sandy agreed to confirm these plans with Mary Anne.
- Raffle: Successful raffle was held. (Clarification: Attendees agreed that going forward, raffle gifts can be accepted 1 per person – not per farm.)
- Fiber Education: Sandy Liggett invited attendees to view her felting machine and products.
- Next Meeting: Date and location to be determined.
- Meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.