



MEMBER MEETING February 23, 2013

- Call to Order: Meeting was called to order by Stacie Chavez, President, at 1:00 PM.
- Attendees: Mary Fuentes, Sue Mikulec, Cheryl Louie, Robert Louie, Diane Blackburn, Mary Ann Andrews, Melinda Tossani, Anne Sallery, Rhonda Seybert, Bill Richardson, Skip Chavez, Stacie Chavez, Dorene Freese, Tom Freese, Susan Sasser, Tehani Hogan, Kathy Herman, Bill Herman, Cyrus Smith, Lee Liggett, Sandy Liggett, Kathy Richardson, David Hunter, Carolyn Fifield, John Fifield, Mickey Wright, Evelyn Simons, Anne Stallcup
- Welcome: Stacie Chavez welcomed attendees, and thanked Sandy and Lee Liggett for hosting the meeting.
- High Plains Alpaca Show Update: Cheryl Louie and Stacie Chavez reported the show was very successful and is being scheduled again for December 13-15, 2013. Planning will start on March 1, 2013. Vendors expressed concern about the lack of public in attendance, and this is being addressed by increasing advertising next year. Member assistance will be needed.
- TxOLAN Show Update: Anne Stallcup reported the show is still scheduled for next weekend. There will be, among other things, 4H and FFA groups, DJ, games, textile seminars, and David Barbosa will be working with the kids in judging.
- Committee Reports:
 - Bill Herman put out a request for volunteers to formalize committee chairs.
 - Treasurer: Lee Liggett reported he is getting statements and reports up to date.
 - Membership: Kathy Richardson reported she is collecting dues, and putting together a directory. There are 17 or 18 paid members currently.
 - Education: Bill Herman reported the last seminar was 2 years ago and it was on nutrition. A proposed fiber seminar last year did not happen related to the expense. Some suggested topics for future seminars included: histogram, breeding, genetics, alpaca care, nutrition, fleece, and marketing.
 - Communication/Website: John Fifield encouraged members to continue sending him information to send to membership; and offered to assist members with any OpenHerd website needs they have.
- Upcoming Local Craft Shows: Stacie Chavez suggested members become involved in bringing animals and product to local craft shows. Some upcoming shows include: Fiber Fiesta; Lavender in the Village – Los Poblanos; Taos Wool Festival; Heart of NM Fleece Gathering – Moriarty; Balloon Fiesta; Rio Grande Arts & Crafts Festival. Stacie requested members email her if interested.

- Shows: Stacie Chavez suggested that members could trailer animals together, share stalls, etc – in effort to reduce costs. She also raised the possibility of membership producing fleece/art shows.
- Questions/Requests Received by Stacie Chavez in December:
 - What to do with fiber: Stacie Chavez reported she is involved in the development of a Cooperative Collection Point for fiber in New Mexico. She requested members call or email her if they want to be involved or have any questions or suggestions, and that Alpaca Culture Magazine was a good reference.
 - Request for updates at national level - ARI/AOBA: Stacie reported that to her knowledge there was not much in the way of updated information, and suggested that members visit those websites and review the minutes.
- Elections: Carolyn Fifield reminded attendees that the positions of Vice President and Secretary are due to be elected at the next meeting. Stacie Chavez agreed to notify the nominating committee [Bob Hazen, Dean Kahlich, and Skip Chavez] to begin the nomination process.
- Next Meeting: Stacie Chavez proposed the next meeting be in July, and Mary Ann Andrews agreed to host the meeting. Date is to be determined. Stacie suggested instead of paying to have a seminar, that NMAB membership contribute their expertise by presenting subjects in an all day seminar at the next meeting. Rhonda Seybert agreed to organize the programs to be presented. Volunteer presenters included:
 - Fiber: Anne Stallcup
 - Nutrition/Fodder/Supplements: Bill Herman, Mickey Wright
 - Marketing/Social Media: John Fifield, Stacie Chavez, David Hunter
- Successful raffle was held.
- Meeting was adjourned at 3:15 PM.