

New Mexico Alpaca Breeders
11/18/06

The meeting was called to order at 12:06 p.m.

In attendance:

Anne Stallcup	Marilyn Knudsen	Roberto Ibarra
Cheryl Louie	Robert Louie	Evelyn Simons
Mickey Wright	Mark Hogan	Cynthia Daly
Melinda Goss	Luca Tossani	Angela Lewis
Scott Lewis	Ken Weisner	Carol Weisner
William Stoddard	Leslie Stoddard	Mary Ann Andrews
Julia Berry	Jennifer Fasano	Mary Black
Amanda Evans	Lynne Fatkin	Susan Sasser
Kent Sasser	Thomas Jordan	Deirdre Murphy
Alyson Gilman		

President's Report:

Thank you Anne Stallcup for opening her home to the NMAB meeting.

The president welcomed back members Carol and Ken Weisner and visitors Angela and Scott Lewis.

Amanda Evans was presented with a plaque in thanks for all of her help and guidance as the previous president.

Vice President's report:

Lynne Fatkin read the Mission Statement of NMAB. Copies of the Mission Statement were given to the members as well as a Survey. Lynne encouraged all members to read and participate in the survey, submitting responses and suggestions to what would better serve our community.

Secretary's report:

Copies of the minutes of the last NMAB meeting were distributed to all attendees. It was motioned and seconded that the minutes from the last meeting be accepted.

Treasurer's report:

The financial report for NMAB

On July 31, 2006 the balance was	\$17,304.54	
State Fair	+\$ 2,615.00	Sponsorship Ads (1,795) and entry Monies from NMSF (164 X \$5)
State Fair Expenses	- \$ 2,363.78	
Difference	+ \$ 251.22	

Within the current balance of 10-31-06, minus the outstanding checks and added income, the New Mexico Alpaca Breeders has a balance of \$14,971.79 in the checking account.

It was motioned and seconded that the Financial report be accepted.

Treasurer's Budget Report:

The Budget for NMAB 2006 – 2007 was presented as follows:

New Mexico State Fair	\$3,000.00
Educational Seminar	\$7,000.00
Office Expenses*	\$2,400.00
Total for the 2006 to 2007 year	\$12,400.00

*Office expenses include web site, banners, etc.

The Treasurer suggested that within the budget, monies should be apportioned for a welcome package for new members, perhaps binders that contain information to connect the members.

Kent Sassar seconded Mark Hogan's suggestion of a welcome handbook and a membership banner.

Cheryl Louie suggested that this could be in either a 2 part or 3 part section, i.e., Welcome Packet, Membership Welcome Packet, and Informational packet.

Julia Berry proposed that this should be handled by a committee.

Banner: Alyson Gilman volunteered to create the banner

Alpaca Notebook committee members:

Anne Stallcup
Carol Weisner
Evelyn Simons
Julia Berry

Membership report:

Currently we have 40 members. New members are Melinda Goss and Luca Tossani, and Mike and Linda Wood.

The dues for 2007 are due. Price as follows:

\$100 Breeder
\$ 25 Associate

Please give the dues to Anne Stallcup.

Web site report:

Amazing business! 228,755 Hits
15,550 Visits

Old Business:

Ric and Rosemary Metcalf have volunteered to be Superintendents of the 2007 Expo New Mexico State Fair. Ric has requested volunteers to assist who live closer to the Albuquerque area. Susan Sassar, Alyson Gilman, Jennifer Fasano and Marilyn Knudsen have volunteered to assist the Superintendents.

Holiday Party:

A Holiday party will be held on December 16th from 12 Noon to 4 pm at Anne Stallcup's home. Everyone is encouraged to bring a grab bag gift valued at no more than \$25.00. The Holiday party will be a potluck.

New Mexico Statutory Code:

Currently the Code covers the killing of cattle as a felony offense and the killing of alpacas as a misdemeanor. It was suggested that we find a lobbying group who will assist us during this session to get this discrepancy changed. Concerns were raised that this may heighten the awareness of the alpaca business in New Mexico, creating a potential for taxation. Roberto Ibarra and Luca Tossani have volunteered to do further research regarding this issue.

Old business was motioned and approved.

New Business:

Web Site could be expanded. We do not have a credit card account and it is an expensive improvement. The Home page can be improved and it has not been re-done in quite a while. Anne Stallcup would like to work on the Homepage.

The question was posed whether we could list animals for sale or herd sires for hire on the web site. Anne stated that she did not have time to do that much editing and if we decide to add that feature we would need to enable the site for members to do their own editing. Anne stated that is possible but it would increase our Web security costs. However, we can and should list our upcoming events and Anne will enter the event on the Web site given enough time.

Anne stated that it has been suggested that we allow members to use the E-list (members@newmexicoalpacobreeders.com) for sales promotions and Julia stated that the previous board had felt the E-list should not to be used as a sales list. It should include educational events as well as our ranch events. Anne's concern is that people will quit reading the notices if their inboxes become flooded with NMAB correspondence. She feels the list should be kept for information and announcements that everyone needs to see.

Julia Berry motioned the following:

We can use the membership list for calendar events, requests for information and services, education but no direct sales of alpacas or alpaca products. Requests for information: Reply to this individual's email address.

This motion was seconded and accepted.

Marketing Events:

The E-list could be used as a reminder of upcoming events. Cynthia Daly suggested that marketing and promotional items could be communicated through a newsletter that could also contain a classified section using only text. The newsletter would be quarterly and will also contain a disclaimer regarding the opinions and experiences expressed in this newsletter. Cynthia agreed to work on publishing a newsletter

Fiber to Fashion report:

Lynne, Anne, Susan and Mary Curik attended the F2F show. It was reported that the conference focus was on alpaca fiber. The industry is seeing a need to make use of all of our fiber - fineness is not the only measure to go by. At the conference, the seminars provided a wealth of information for breeders including proper sorting techniques to maximize usage of the fiber, creative ways to use second and third cuts, creating a fiber pool, and many how to workshops - felting, needle felting, broomstick crochet, and weaving without a loom just to name a few. All who attended felt the conference was a great success.

Breeding Standards at F2F:

Once this is published, we should have a meeting to discuss the breed standards.

Carol and Ken Weisner have offered to host a meeting in Mora possibly on July 21st and 22nd. Ken will ask if Angus McColl will be available for the event and we could possibly tour the new AFCNA facility. It was suggested that it would be in our interest to get a representative of AFCNA to come to this meeting. Carol and Ken Weisner also said that their daughter Darcy could give an hour or so presentation on homeopathic remedies.

Mickey spoke about the 2 day event of the Best of the Southwest. The Navajos are working on what they can do with alpaca fiber. Someone from Colorado donated 2000 alpacas to the Navajos in the 4 Corner area.

Mickey mentioned the NM Fiber Trails Tour. We are too late for any ranch to be listed. However, we may want to have brochures to distribute. NMAB as an organization will be mentioned as per subsequent email from Laura Marcus, PhD, Folklorist at 989-1856.

Fiber Fiesta at Expo:

Deadline for vendors is 11/30. This is a juried show that occurs around Memorial Day weekend from Thursday to Saturday. Local artisans exhibiting all kinds of materials - weaving, quilts, doll, silk painting.

Micro chipping:

The EZID are \$8.00 each at the 25 quantity and \$7.50 each at the 100 quantity. At this time micro chipping is voluntary until 2009. The next meetings agenda will include AVID micro chip.

Lama Rescue:

Alyson Gilman spoke on behalf of the South West Lama Rescue Silver city, NM. Ayslon mentioned that there are 3 ways in which we could support the SWLR:

- 1) Adopt 2 female guard lamas that is the minimum for adoption and all adoptions are for female lamas.
- 2) Donate - \$75 per month will sponsor one lama for one month.
- 3) Support by word of mouth; supply extra hay, medicines that are needed.

Posters and Cards:

Carol from Victory Ranch has posters, lithographs and cards without printing on the inside. Carol will contact the artist for further information as to whether this would be of interest to the artist, allowing us to purchase and sell the items while paying for the printing costs.

Next Meeting:

Thank you Lynne Fatkin for offering your home to host the Feb 24, 2007 NMAB meeting at Enchanted Sky Alpacas of New Mexico.

Meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.