



Maine Alpaca Association
Board of Directors Meeting
February 21st, 2012

The Maine Alpaca Association's Board of Directors met on February 21st at Suri Paco Alpaca Farm in North Yarmouth, Maine.

Present at this two hour meeting were Robin Fowler, Jeannine Anderson, Tami Wayboer, Karen Woods, Ann Sylvester and Ky Wolterbeek.

We started the meeting with an activity to get better acquainted and our minds fully present on the work ahead of us.

We jumped right into electing Director roles. We elected Robin to continue as President; Karen as Vice President; Jeannine will focus on animal husbandry & welfare; Ky will serve as secretary; Ann will focus on communication and Tami will continue on agricultural liaison.

We scheduled 4 dates for the 2012 Board of Director's meetings.

The remaining **General Membership** meetings for 2012 have been scheduled as follows:

June 23 -- general meeting

July 29 -- lobster bake/social gathering

Sept 15 -- general meeting

Nov 30 -- holiday gala & social event

Locations have not been determined for the June and September meetings. If you have a suggestion for location please let us know!

We reviewed dates for up-coming alpaca events and the need to get these dates out to the membership on our web-site. There are a lot of wonderful events from the Maine State Agricultural Event at the State House on March 14th, to Fiber Frolic, Maple Syrup Sunday, fairs, shows, Earth Day weekend, Farms Days and of course, lots of dates for shearing! We will get information out to members as the dates get closer. We plan to generate a master calendar so that as many members as possible can take advantage

of the wonderful opportunities to showcase your animals, educate future farmers, share information, offer support and in general, enjoy your fellow alpaca farmers!

We reviewed the current list of Goals for 2012 and agreed that getting a Newsletter up and running again is very important. Jill McElderry-Maxwell will be working on putting the newsletter together over the next month. A survey was conducted to gather membership's input so we have a good foundation for the newsletter contents.

We are looking forward to a wonderful year of growth and hope we can offer our membership support in many ways. We are always looking for the membership to participate in our round table meetings which will be held at host farms so please, be sure to read your MAA emails so you will have an opportunity to host and attend these meetings with focused topics.

Jeannine Anderson talked about putting together a Shearing Co-op that operates like a "banking system" where if you need help on your farm it is coordinated and then you in turn help another farm. Jeannine would administrate the process so we would have one person taking the requests and offers for shearing assistance. Stay tuned for more information on this from Jeannine.

After covering a lot of information the meeting was brought to a close. Thank you again to Claudia & Ken Raessler for offering their farm for us to hold our meeting. If you are interested in hosting any MAA meetings please contact a BOD member and let us know!