



Membership Meeting Minutes
Sunday, January 7, 2007
Augusta Civic Center

*Present: **Kylie C. Almy and Kate Martin** of Kindred Camelid, **Kathy Belisle** of Friendly Acres Farm, **Dawn Brooker** of Fiber Fields Alpacas, **Edna and Howard Carr** of Maple Hill Farm, **Paul and Tammy Cheney** of Half Horse Farm, **Pamela Drew** of Pamelamas, **Nancy Durst** of White Barn Meadows, **Jeff Erickson** of Sunday River Alpacas, **Abby Fitzgerald** of Blueberry Farm Alpacas, **Frank and Geri Gabriel** of Lakeside Alpaca Farm, **Pamela Harwood** of Longwoods Alpacas, **Noel Laliberte** of Misty Acres Alpaca Farm, **Cindy Lavan** of Chase Tavern Farm, **Marcia MacDonald** of Long Plains Alpacas, **Al Maloney** of NEWAIM Farm, **Cindy Mingle** of Mountain Brook Farm, **Theresa Morin** of Journey's End Alpacas, **Raini Perry** of Raini Ridge Farm, **Claudia Raessler** of Royal River Alpaca Co., **Jim and Marianne Roberts** of Namaste Alpacas, **Don Scipione** of Copper Woods Suri Alpacas, **Ernestine and Ralph Slaven** of Quarry Hill Alpaca Farm, **Ricki Waltz** of Two Sons Alpaca Farm, **Craig and Jan Wanggaard** of Farm in the Meadow, **Kim and Brian Toomey** of Sugarloaf Alpacas.*

The meeting was called to order by **Cindy Lavan** at 11:50 AM after determining that a quorum was present.

I. Secretary's Report

Geri Gabriel made a motion to accept the Minutes of the December 2006 meeting; motion seconded and approved.

II. Treasurer's Report

1. Treasurer **Al Maloney** submitted an account summary showing MAA's Bank Account Balance is \$21,856.69. Note: MAA still has 4 2nd Edition Field Manuals by Norm Evans available at no cost to camelid vets or at cost (\$92.50) to Members. Contact **Al** for more information.
2. The final 2007 Budget will go out by mail with the By-laws to the membership for approval.
3. **Pam Harwood** made a motion to accept the treasurer's report; seconded and approved.

III. Board News/Update

Cindy Lavan reminded the membership that the BOD meets 1-2 weeks prior to each membership meeting to set the agenda. The Secretary will send out a reminder via the Yahoo list. Anyone wishing to be added to the membership meeting agenda should submit their request to a board member.

III. Committee Reports

- A. Marketing, **Al Maloney**: Nothing new to report.

B. Education, Dawn Brooker:

1. Polled membership regarding its desire to continue to have speakers at the quarterly meetings, whether members with particular expertise should be invited to speak at the meetings, and its desire to continue to host the Annual Seminar – yes to all. Also, membership is open to either a one-day seminar or two days, depending on circumstances.
2. Overview of Cameron Holt seminar, including feedback re pool noise and chlorine smell. Doubletree Hotel graciously took \$300 off the bill.

C. Website, Al Maloney: Nothing new to report

D. Fundraising (Vet Fund and General Fund), Marcia MacDonald & Pam Drew

1. Committee members are needed! Please contact Marcia if you are interested in being on the Fundraising Committee.
2. 8" x 8" knitted or crocheted squares of 100% natural-color alpaca are still being accepted for the 2007 Alpaca Throw. **Tammy Cheney** has again offered to put it together. Please mail your squares to Tammy or bring them to the March meeting. Raffle tickets will be sold in advance of the Fiber Frolic, including at the Maine Ag Show this week.

E. By-laws, Claudia Raessler: Committee has a redline draft. **Claudia** outlined and explained the proposed changes. The draft will be sent out to the membership for review and input before the final proposal is mailed (along with the 2007 Budget) for a vote.

F. Nominating, Pam Drew: Committee presented a slate of candidates last month to be voted on today. **Brian Toomey, Marianne Roberts, and Nancy Durst** agreed to run for the BOD.

IV. Old Business

A. Fiber Frolic, Al Maloney:

MAA Yahoo list generated a lot of good discussion regarding what should be allowed to be sold as well as ideas for corporate sponsorship. Because of time constraints, guidelines will remain the same for 2007 (i.e. imported handicrafts will be excluded), but the FF committee will revisit them for 2008.

B. Maine Ag Show, Al Maloney: After 3 years trying, MAA secured a booth at the Maine Agriculture Show at the Augusta Civic Center this Tues, Wed, and Thurs, Jan 9-11. We are looking to promote the Maine alpaca industry and the Fiber Frolic. There will be at least 2 members covering the booth at all times. We will sell raffle tickets for the Throw, alpaca socks, and leftover FF merchandise. **Claudia** will look into whether we need a retail certificate.

V. New Business

Election of new Board members: **Nancy Durst, Marianne Roberts, and Brian Toomey**

The next membership meeting will be scheduled by the new BOD when it meets on Sunday, January 21st.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 PM, and Tom Foster of The Foster Agency/Farm Family Insurance in Augusta spoke to the membership about farm insurance concepts and why the coverage necessary varies from that of traditional home owners insurance

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Harwood
Secretary