



## Membership Meeting

### Agenda

Saturday, January 24, 2009

Great Wall Buffet, Augusta

**Present:** Raini Perry, Raini Ridge Farm; Pamela Harwood, Longwoods Alpacas; Pamela Drew, Pamelamas; Pat, Dick & Lisa Houde, Alpaca Fields; Kathy Belisle, Friendly Acres Farm; Dawn Brooker, Fiber Fields; Abby Fitzgerald, Blueberry Farm Alpacas; Paula Ickeringill, Sea Hill Farm; Al Maloney & Nancy Williams, NEWAIM Farm; Jill McElderry-Maxwell, Bag End Suri Alpacas; Steffi McKeith, Kezar River Farm; Theresa Morin, Journey's End Alpacas; Ursula Munro, Tripping Gnome Farm; Mike & Darlene Reardon, Full Moon Alpacas; Pam & Don Scipione, Copperwoods Suri Alpacas; Jan & Craig Wanggaard, Farm in the Meadow; Karen Woods, Maine Woods Alpacas

- I. Call to Order at 12:25 PM – Raini Perry determined a quorum was present.
- II. Secretary's Report – **Motion made by Ursula Munro to accept September 14, 2008 Membership Meeting Minutes as posted on the website, motion seconded and passed.**
- III. Treasurer's Report – Current Cash Balance \$18,404.76 (1/24/09). **Motion made by Craig Wanggaard to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented, including the preliminary 2009 budget; motion seconded and passed.**
- IV. Committee Reports.
  - A. Education -- Dawn Brooker gave a quick overview of 2008's guest speakers and topics. Because the 2008 seminar ran into the red, due to low participation, she took an informal poll which resulted in the membership's continued desire for an annual seminar in November 2009. If anyone has ideas for Annual Education Seminar or membership meeting topics should forward them to the Education Committee, which is maintaining a running list.
  - B. Fiber Frolic – Nancy Williams: the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Fiber Frolic will be held June 6 & 7.
7. The Core Committee is already up and running, despite blizzards hampering

meetings. The first formal meeting of the committee will be held at 1:00 on Feb 1<sup>st</sup> , WELL BEFORE the Super Bowl, at the Corsican Restaurant in Freeport. More committee members are needed, so please join the fun in planning this terrific event. As sponsors of the FF, MAA members are asked to volunteer in some fashion, whether on the committee or setting up, during the event in the fleece barn, used equipment, information, front gate etc., or cleaning up at the event.

C. Marketing – Pam Harwood: New brochures are available to farms and will be handed out to the public at all events where MAA has a booth.

D. Membership – Pam Drew: so far 41 renewals are paid for 2009. Pam will contact each farm that has not renewed, just in case they are not receiving the info from the Yahoo list.

#### V. Old Business.

Maine Ag Trades Show: This year's booth benefited from a better location and increased event attendance. Many thanks to Alan Russo, Tammy and Paul Cheney, Al Maloney, Raini Perry, Pam Harwood, Cindy Mingle, Matt Townsend, Karen Woods, Cindy Lavan, Ursula Munro, Matt & Kate Tufts, Nicole Carter, Abby Fitzgerald, Jill McElderry–Maxwell, Dick Porter, and Ricki Waltz for their help setting up, staffing, and breaking down MAA's booth, as well as agreeing to be speakers at the MAA seminars. We've never had so many volunteers, and it meant we could have shorter shifts. We sold \$745 of socks (and donated 5 pair to be raffled off during the Trade Show), netting \$360, which was more than enough to pay the booth fee, and more than double what we brought in last year.

#### VI. New Business

A. Ag Day at the State House – Raini Perry: To be held on Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup> from 8am – 3pm. MAA is applying to participate this year, and is looking for volunteers to bake goodies to give away to visitors to our booth.

B. Elections – Nominating Committee of Jan Wanggaard, Pat Perry and Brad Perry presented 4 candidates for 3 two-year positions: Pamela Drew, Amy Grant, Pat Houde, and Ricki Waltz. Ballots were distributed and the results of the vote are: Pam Drew, Pat Houde and Ricki Waltz.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:50, followed by our speakers, Jamie Koo, here to discuss her offer to help MAA host an alpaca fashion event; and Jane Tholen, of Tholen Associates, who reviewed the process and results of MAA's summer public relations campaign.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Harwood

#### Upcoming Meeting/Event Dates

- a) Event: Maine Fiber Frolic June 5 (set-up), 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> – volunteers needed to set up and break down, as well as throughout the event – help from ALL members is needed
- c) Membership: Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> 5:00 Sugar House (Fiber Frolic)
- d) Event: Sunday, July 19<sup>th</sup> Maine Open Farm Day
- e) Event: Fiber Tent Windsor Fair – Volunteers needed to exhibit alpacas and llamas – “payback” for low cost to use Fairgrounds for Fiber Frolic
- f) Event: Sat/Sun September 26 & 27 National Alpaca Open Farm Days