



Membership Meeting Agenda

Saturday, January 26, 2008
Great Wall Buffet, Augusta

Present(New Members in **bold**): Kathy Belisle, Friendly Acres Farm; Dawn Brooker, Fiber Fields; Bonnie Callery, Village Farm; Morelia Candia, Andes Alpacas; Nicole Carter, Upper Farm Alpacas; Paul & Tammy Cheney, Half Horse Farm; Gay DeHart, Maine's Bellemont Farm; Pamela Drew, Pamelamas; Abby Fitzgerald, Blueberry Farm Alpacas; Robin Fowler & Corry Pratt, Northern Solstice Alpaca Farm; Frank Gabriel, Lakeside Alpaca Farm; Amy Grant, Good Karma Farm; Dinah Hardy & Leo Aubin, Double"D" Alpacas; Pamela Harwood, Longwoods Alpacas; Pat, Dick & Lisa Houde, Alpaca Fields; Paula Ickeringill, Sea Hill Farm; Red & Connie Laliberti, Misty Acres Alpaca Farm; Al Maloney & Nancy Williams, NEWAIM Farm; Jill McElderry-Maxwell, Bag End Suri Alpacas; Cindy Mingle, Mountain Brook Farm; Theresa & Peter Morin, Journey's End Alpacas; Ursula Munro, Tripping Gnome Farm; Brad & Raini Perry, Raini Ridge Farm; Dick Porter, Spudland Alpacas; Darlene Reardon, Full Moon Alpacas; **Ginny Rebar, Outbaca Alpaca Farm**; Alan & Linda Russo, Blue Sky Alpacas; Pam & Don Scipione, Copperwoods Suri Alpacas; Jan & Craig Waanggard, Farm in the Meadow; Ricki Waltz, Two Sons Alpaca Farm; **Ky Wolterbeek, Apple Tree Alpacas**; and guests Linda Johnson, Traci Martin & Lisa Simon.

- I. Call to Order at 12:30 – Raini Perry determined a quorum was present.
- II. Secretary's Report – **Motion made by Dinah Hardy to accept December 2nd Membership Meeting Minutes as presented, motion seconded and passed.**
- III. Treasurer's Report – Current Cash Balance \$23,516.59 (12/31/07). **Motion made by Craig Waanggard to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented; motion seconded and passed.**
- IV. BOD 2007 Review – Raini Perry
- V. Committee Reports.
 - A. Marketing – Al Maloney – MAA has funds allocated for local, regional and national marketing aimed at bringing people to your farm via the MAA Website. Still looking at becoming an Affiliate of AOBA to take advantage of leads.
 - B. Education -- Dawn Brooker gave a quick overview of 2007's guest speakers and topics. She took an informal poll which resulted in neonatal seminar preferred in 2009 rather than 2008. November Annual Education Seminar will likely focus on Marketing. 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.
 - C. Website – Al Maloney will accept updates from the BOD. Any articles should be forwarded to the BOD; a Local, Regional and National Events list will be compiled by Ursula Munro, with help from Ricki Waltz.
 - D. Fiber Frolic – Nancy Williams: The 7th Annual Fiber Frolic's gate was just under \$6,000, up 50% over 2006, reflecting the record numbers of attendees both days. Income generated from Sponsorships, T-shirt Sales, Workshops, Used Equipment and Fiber sales added approx. \$4,000. After repaying seed money to MAA, Fiber Frolic has just over \$8,000 in the bank. 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. If you know someone who has a deep voice that is willing to be the announcer over the 2 days, please contact Nancy!
 - E. Fundraising – Vet Fund & General Fund – 8" knitted and crocheted squares of natural color alpaca and alpaca blends for the 5th Annual Alpaca Throw are being collected by Pam Drew to be put together by Pat Houde. The throw will be raffled at the Fiber Frolic to benefit the Vet Ed Fund.

VI. Old Business.

- A. Survey Monkey – Pam Harwood is putting together the 10-question survey that may be answered anonymously. Information will help the Marketing committee to direct advertising appropriately.
- B. AOBA Affiliate Status – Pam Harwood is waiting for a few documents to be finalized before submitting our request for Affiliate Status. Pros and Cons will be presented to the membership at the March meeting.
- C. National/Maine Alpaca Open Farm Days – **Gay DeHart made a motion that MAA's Open Farm Weekend coincide with AOBA's National Open Farm Weekend, September 27-28, 2008. Motion seconded and passed.**
- D. Maine Ag Trades Show : Many thanks to Alan Russo, Darlene Reardon, Tammy and Paul Cheney, Al Maloney, Raini Perry, Pam Drew, Pam Harwood, Amy & Jim Grant, and Claudia Raessler for their help setting up, staffing, and breaking down MAA's booth. We sold \$349.70 of socks (and donated 4 pair to be raffled off during the Trade Show), netting \$130, which was more than enough to pay the booth fee. There was a suggestion that MAA organize an "Alpacas 101" to be held in one of the meeting rooms.
- E. Maine Grass Farmers Network/Hay for 2008 – Pam Harwood was asked to continue to forward newsletters from MGFN to the MAA Yahoo list.

VII. New Business

- A. Volunteerism – Raini Perry (needs -newsletter & various committees)
- B. Proposed Budget 2008 – Raini Perry. Brian Toomey recommended the dues be allocated differently among the Education, Marketing and Operations funds, but following discussion, **Gay DeHart made a motion to keep the allocations as they are. Motion seconded and passed. Craig Waanggard made a motion to accept the 2008 budget as amended. Motion seconded and passed.**
- C. Elections – Nominating Committee of Gay DeHart, Jan Waanggard and Nicole Carter presented a slate of officers: Pamela Drew, Amy Grant, Pam Harwood, Pat Houde, and Raini Perry. **Gay DeHart made a motion that the slate be accepted as presented. Motion seconded and passed.**
- D. Upcoming Meeting/Event Dates
 - a) Membership: Saturday, March 22nd 11:30 Great Wall Buffet
 - b) Event: Maine Fiber Frolic June 6 (set-up), 7th & 8th – volunteers needed to set up and break down, as well as throughout the event – help from ALL members is needed
 - c) Membership: Saturday, June 7th 5:00 Sugar House (Fiber Frolic)
 - d) Event: Sunday, July 20th 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) Membership: Sunday, September 14th 11:30 Great Wall Buffet
 - g) Event: Sat/Sun September 27 & 28 (likely) National Alpaca Open Farm Days
 - h) Event: Fri/Sat/Sun October 17-19 Coastal Classic – set up and break down help needed, especially from members who aren't showing.

VIII. Next Meeting: Saturday, March 22nd 11:30 Great Wall Buffet

Meeting Adjourned at 2:00, followed by our speakers, Bernadette Barrows and two of her children who spoke about how they have built a successful 4-H group with their alpacas and other livestock in Union, ME.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Harwood