



## **Membership Meeting Minutes**

Saturday, March 24, 2007  
Augusta Civic Center

**Present:** Bernadette Barrows – Second Chance Farm, Kathy Belisle – Friendly Acres Farm, Dawn Brooker – Fiber Fields Alpacas, Bonnie Callery – Village Farm Alpacas, Tammy & Paul Cheney – Half Horse Farm, Pamela Drew – Pamelamas, Nancy Durst – White Meadow Alpacas, Jeff Erickson – Sunday River Alpacas, Abby Fitzgerald – Blueberry Farm Alpacas, Joe, Frank & Geri Gabriel – Lakeside Alpacas, Dinah Hardy – Double D Alpacas, Pamela Harwood – Longwoods Alpacas, Richard & Patricia Houde – Alpaca Fields, Paula Ickeringill – Sea Hill Farm Alpacas, Alton & Carolyn Johnson – Evergreen Alpacas, Red & Connie Laliberte – Misty Acres Alpacas, Al Maloney – NEWAIM Farm, Stephanie McKeith – Kezar River Farm, Peter and Theresa Morin – Journey’s End Alpacas, Corry Pratt & Robin Fowler – Northern Solstice Alpacas, Ken & Claudia – Royal River Alpacas, Darlene Reardon – Full Moon Alpacas, Jim & Marianne Roberts – Namaste Alpacas, Alan & Linda Russo – Blue Sky Alpacas, Don Scipione – Copper Woods Suri Alpacas, Ernestine & Ralph Slaven – Quarry Hill Alpacas, Brian Toomey – Sugarloaf Alpacas, Ricki Waltz – Two Sons Alpacas, Jan & Craig Wanggaard – Farm in the Meadow,

- I. Call to Order at 12:50 PM – **Pam Harwood**
- II. Secretary’s Report – **Pam Harwood** Motion to accept January minutes made by Ken Raessler. Seconded and approved.
- III. Treasurer’s Report – **Brian Toomey**  
Cash Balance as of 3/24/07: \$23,222.04 (see full report attached)  
Motion to accept Treasurer’s report made by Marianne Roberts. Seconded and approved
- IV. BOD News/Updates -- **Pam Harwood**
  - A. Plaques given to departing members of the Board for their service to MAA: Anita Cooper, Cindy Lavan, and Al Maloney.
  - B. Socks for Soldiers – collecting alpaca socks to be sent to our troops serving in Iraq
- V. Committee Reports.
  - A. Marketing – **Al Maloney & Pam Harwood**
    1. Survey via email to generate facts and figures anonymously that can be used to demonstrate the impact of our growing industry on the state and local economies. Please reply when you see it coming from SurveyMonkey.com
    2. Website’s Marketplace – should it be opened up to non-members? Discussion re: charging businesses more than individuals; does it bring more people to the website? Does opening it up involve too much work for the webmaster? Motion for a couple of

individuals to look into this and report back to the membership made by Claudia Raessler. Seconded and approved.

B. Education -- **Dawn Brooker**

1. Opening up invitation to MAA members who wish to share their expertise as guest speakers at Membership Meetings – contact an Education committee member if you wish to be a speaker.
2. Reviewed a substantial list of potential topics for upcoming meetings, but suggestions are always welcome!

C. Website – **Al Maloney**

1. Gay deHart has revitalized the “Snapshots” on the website. Farms are drawn at random, and new Snapshots are posted monthly.
2. Discussion about adding a page dedicated to fiber: educational info, including processing and uses. Contact **Pam Harwood** if you have ideas.

D. Fundraising – Vet Fund and General Fund – **Pam Drew** – handcrafted squares for the alpaca throw are still needed. 8 inch squares are easy for all levels of knitters. Tickets will be included in the next mailing to the membership. Members can sell them or buy them – this should generate more ticket sales than just selling at the Fiber Frolic.

E. By-laws – **Claudia Raessler** Because there was not a required majority to vote on the approval of the bylaws, a ballot will be mailed to the membership. Please return it asap.

VI. Old Business.

A. Fiber Frolic – **Al Maloney** and **Pam Drew**

- a. Vendor applications went out. 63 have been returned so far
- b. Kathy Belisle has volunteered to head up Llama and Alpaca Show scheduled for early Sunday afternoon. Becky Smith will be judging, so cannot be an organizer.
- c. Jan Wanggaard is looking for someone to do mini toenail clipping demonstrations
- d. Volunteers for the Frolic must contact Christy Hemenway. Shifts are for 3 hours. Volunteers may be anyone, not just breeders/farmers, so tell your friends! They get free admission and a t-shirt.

B. Maine Ag Show – **Al Maloney** – we sold 50+ pair of alpaca socks and some of the old Fiber Frolic gear, as well as a few raffle tickets for the alpaca throw. Many thanks to ALL who volunteered to staff the booth!

VII. New Business

A. Liability Insurance – **Pam Harwood** – MAA is purchasing a Liability Insurance policy from Farm Family (Tom Foster) for approx \$200. This is required for the Fiber Frolic.

B. National Alpaca Farm Day – proposed by AOBA. **Marianne Roberts** needs help looking into how we can best celebrate/promote this in conjunction with our own Open Farm Weekend (s). This is a good Marketing Committee project, but that committee needs more members! Discussion tabled until next meeting.

C. **Peter Morin** suggested MAA consider hosting an alpaca auction at the Windsor Fairgrounds. Many farms participating in one place at one time.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM. Guest Speaker was Rick Kersbergen of the UMaine Cooperative Extension, speaking about forage for alpacas.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Harwood