

Hi ~ my name is Tracy DiPippo and I am running for a position on the Calpaca Board of Directors.

I have been an animal lover all my life. While initially I was a horse woman, owning a horse and riding dressage, after losing my horse, I wasn't sure what to do to fill the void I felt. One morning in the spring of 2010 I saw a story on the Today Show about alpacas....when I heard that they hum I knew I had to investigate them further. I found a local alpaca ranch and scheduled an appointment to go out and meet these curious animals. I did my research and showed up one spring evening after work with pages of questions. After spending about 2 hours at the ranch I knew I found my next animal endeavor and offered to be a volunteer at the ranch to learn what these amazing animals were all about.

I was immediately drawn to the look of Suri's and after 6 weeks volunteering at the ranch, I purchased a female with a cria by her side and a breeding included in the package. Today I own and operate Angel Dreams Alpacas that consists of 13 Suri alpacas ~ yup, I'm a Suri girl! I've actively bred and shown my animals quite successfully. I have been a vendor for the past few years at many shows selling products that I buy wholesale and sell retail but have realized that my real passion is hands on with these animals that have stolen my heart.

I have served on the Board of the 5013c non-profit United in Light located in Livingston, Montana for the past 10 years. United in Light is the only non-profit that rescues neglected and injured mature draft horse breeds from an untimely death. The horses are rehabilitated to their optimal health and allowed to live in a herd family with other draft horses for the rest of their lives.

I recently retired from the corporate world (where I was a Sr. Project Manager) and 8 months ago I relocated to Northern California where I spend most of my days at the ranch with my animals. I jumped into the Northern Cali world of alpacas as the Event Manager for the upcoming Gold Country Gathering. I feel that my experience in project management has been incredibly helpful in putting together what I hope is the most successful Gold Country Gathering Show to date ~ after all it was my very first alpaca show and it poured rain the whole weekend but I was hooked.

Since I've retired and moved up north, I've attended every Calpaca meeting and event and am excited to have the opportunity to contribute to this wonderful organization in any way I can!

Thank you for your consideration.

