

Minutes Calpaca Membership Meeting
Feb. 13, 2016
Colusa Riverside Alpacas: Sheila and Dave Scroggins

Call to Order 10:30 am by Karen Ball Attendance listed at end of minutes

New members: Alice Bechtold from Grass Valley (not yet a member)
Wendi Eccles Structured Chaos Farm in Penryn, CA.
Allie the Vet Tech student introduced

Housekeeping items: Dave and Sheila Scroggins

Sandy Wallace and Karen Ball announced a clipboard being passed for members to write down name and info on recommended camelid vets to be included in our on-line roster.

Also, members asked to email Sandy Wallace at info@alpacasofmaarin.com with links to good educational videos, for us to include in our on-line educational forum.

Review/approval minutes of November 14, 2015 meeting. Scott Findlay moved to approve, Unanimously approved

Upcoming Membership Meetings:

Epic Alpacas May 14, 2016 **“Zonkey”** is promised! Also, Ian Watt is talking about skin follicle bx/histograms

Ranch of the Oaks August 13, 2016 (Lompoc, CA)

Treasurer’s Report: Karen Kelly

Report appended. \$21873 General checking account. We have \$62K in unrestricted funds.

Symposium Account has \$27K before bills paid for January 2016 Symposium.

Proposed budget change to sponsor up to 5 AOA design students from California at \$100 @.

There was some discussion of the significant number of design students and sponsors from California. This proposal was approved

Fiber Fusion has asked Calpaca to sponsor the “sheep to shawl” event this year, as this year has been designated the year of the alpaca” for the event. Previously discussed by the BOD, who had understood that the event is in OR or WA. Deb Galway informed us that the event will be in the Chico, CA area in October this year. Deb Galway moved that we sponsor the Alpaca to Shawl competition at FiberFusion. Some quick on-line research of the event was done—several in attendance have participated in past years and plan to participate this year. Karen Kelly moved and Deb Galway seconded to sponsor Fiber Fusion at level approved by board. Approved unanimously.

Budget for 2016: Approval moved by Bonnie Potter, Scott Findlay seconded. Unanimously approved.

Rick Brady presented a letter from the UC Regents Endowment expressing gratitude for our donation of \$6100 to support the Veterinary Scholarship Fund, which now totals around \$50K.

Membership Report: by Pam Brady. As of Feb 1 89 members total: 73 farm members and 16: Unanimously approved associate members. We have gained 9 new members. We are ahead of last year at this time.

Karen Ball thanked Pam for being coordinator for past 5 years.

Reminder: All members must renew by Feb. 15 in order to have a listing in the Directory. Members not renewing by March 1 shall be purged from OpenHerd site and Google groups email.

Ag Day Update: Bruce Nelson

Calpaca educational Booth Committee not discussed

Ag day is Tuesday, March 16 from 10:30 to 1:30. We are looking for commercially produced products to be displayed. Charlene Schmid will collect items today. Bruce put in a plea for a spotter for legislators at the event, as our usual spotter, Tom Petersen, will be unavailable. Sheila Scroggins may have an "in" with her new neighbor, Gov. Brown.

One issue mentioned as a possible addition to our legislative agenda: there is a bill proposed (or possibly passed) that would make all livestock injectable antibiotics be available by prescription only.

Calpaca will send out an Eblast to membership, requesting that they contact their legislator about attending Ag day.

Cal Classic Roundup Update: Charlene Schmid

Walking fleece waiver received AOA certification. Charlene presented the walking fleece score card. The priority is on fineness, handle, and crimp for huacaya; lock structure and luster in suris. Thus far 28 alpacas registered for WF.

Greys can get 4 of 5 for color; multis get 0 uniformity of color. Must have at least 51 of 85 points for blue ribbon

We are the 1st affiliate to request a waiver for the WF show.

Dale Davis reviewed advantages of entering the WF competition—no conformation input. Density downplayed. And you get a scorecard—you get the verbal comments at the time of the evaluation. WF uses the same categories as halter and fleece (but no gender distinction). WF judging probably Fri. after check in, but may have to be after halter completion, depending on the whim of the AOA Show Rules Committee. Staple Length Min huacaya 2 in Min suri 3 in for WF and halter competition

38 alpacas entered for show 76 stalls available—we are limited to 100 stalls and we will likely sell out. Early bird registration ends 3/2/16. There will be 2 vets on Friday from 12-3 for check in Plan to travel to get there before 3pm, since WF will take place on Friday afternoon and evening in the middle barn. Needs feedback: Maureen can't be there for photography.

Discussion about whether to hire a photographer or simply prepare a booth for "selfie" photographs. Mention was made that the selfie booth at the West Coast show was beautiful but the backdrop was not wide enough to block out surrounding debris. Membership agreed that there should be both Selfie booth and a freelancer/assisted booth photographer

Show Sponsors: Steve Aitchison/Epic Alpacas—Luau, Deb Galway-beverage sponsors, Alpacas all Around, Derwydd Alpacas, Sandy Wallace airline sponsor, Scott and Laurie Findlay, Dave and Sheila Scroggins, Karen Kelly Arapaho Rose Alpacas—all "Full-On" Sponsors

Discussion that we need more dinner reservations signed up for the Luau—will do the herdsire auction and awards for WF at the Luau...

Spin Off: Deb Galway: needed 35 entries for AOA certification, and with a PR blitz (including the help of Julie Roy of SoCalpaca) we have received 43 entries, including 3 or 4 from out of state. Pizza will be sold for daytime meal service at the venue.

Gold Country Gathering Update: Traci DiPippo has just been approved as the Event Manager. Date: Oct. 22, 23, 2016. Traci will send an eblast to save the dates. Venue reserved at Grass Valley Fairgrounds. Judge Dave Barboza. No fleece show. Maybe a spin off. Kay Rodriguez has initiated our application for AOA certification. We will submit a waiver for WF with AOA.

Herdsire/Directory Update: Steve Aitchison presented for Dianna Jordan

On schedule for mail out March 1—may be earlier. Ads more than pays for this paper edition. We should at least break even

Dave Scroggins suggested we consider 2 print issues each year—perhaps a “dam” issue. We will put it on the agenda for BOD, but we reviewed the reasons that the Spring Herdsire Edition is particularly advantageous—it includes the annual member directory, the advertising revenues are covering the costs, and inclusion in the directory serves as an incentive for timely renewal of memberships.

AOA Update: Bonnie Potter

Good news: AOA ended 2015 “in the black”—hasn’t happened in many many years! 2015 more people are showing alpacas and there are some new shows. AOA leadership is very interested in the WF competition. Show attendees are urged to give feedback on this event. The National Halter show was very successful as was the separate National Fleece show. Sponsorships support for AOA has risen as well.

More ads in Alpacas Magazine.

AOA Nationals March 17-20. AOA Nationals will be coming back to Denver in March 2017. National Fleece Conference in Arlington VA in July, 2016. Looking at West Coast options for 2017

Membership: In Colorado, electronic voting has become legal (AOA is a CO corp). Hence, AOA will have a ballot measure to change to electronic voting, which will allow AOA to drop the price of voting rights, and possibly include one vote in each farm membership. Bonnie reviewed many of the issues surrounding voting rights with AOA. One reason is desirable to have more voting members than member farms is the fact that our bylaws require a majority vote for a “quorum”. This is much more easily attained if farms purchase 2 voting rights. 85% of AOA members own less than 26 alpacas.

Symposium Update: Bonnie Potter

This was once again an excellent event!

Local speakers (from CA and OR) were invited, to keep costs down. Attendance has dropped over the past 2 years. This year there were 99 paid attendees from all over the country, and 11 veterinarians signed up for the webinar. There were also 50 UC students and faculty members. Symposium may change to an every other year schedule.

The Symposium Proceedings (Syllabus) is selling for \$35. The Symposium has donated 2 Syllabuses for the Cal Classic and GCG Silent Auctions. A third will be donated for the AOA Silent Auction. Additionally, there will be an article featuring the Symposium in Alpacas Magazine.

Citizen of the Year Presentation: Karen Ball

For all of her enthusiasm and work as the motivating force behind Calpaca for several years, Laurie Findlay was named our Citizen of the Year—actual award is on its way!

Other Calpaca Member announcements:

Karen Kelly has Calpaca T-shirts, Signs and brochures in her car for sale.

Adjournment at 12:10 pm.

Attendees:

Sandy Wallace	Alpacas of Marin
Karen Ball/Russell Ratti	Heart and Soul Spinnery and Alpacas
Karen Kelly	Arapaho Rose Alpacas
Steve Aitchision	Epic Alpacas
Charlene Schmid	Integrity Alpacas
Bonnie Potter	FairWinds Alpacas
Allie Nisperos	Colusa Riverside Alpacas (vet tech)
David and Sheila Scroggins	Colusa Riverside Alpacas
Donna Poplowski	American Pride Alpacas
Deb Galway	Menagerie Hill Alpacas
Linda Cline	Cline Alpaca Ranch
Bruce Nelson	Ahh...Sweet Alpacas
Tracy DiPippo	Angel Dreams Alpacas
Wendi Eccles	Stuctured Chaos Farm
Scott and Laurie Findlay	Alpacas of El Dorado
Susan Crane	Andante Alpacas
Sandra Jorgensen	Open sky Alpacas
Alice Bechtold	Alice's Alpacas
Cynthia Kuhlmann	Sierra Rose Alpacas
Rick and Pam Brady	Oak Valley Alpacas
Dale Davis	Derwydd Alpacas
Steve Murray	Lassen View Alpacas
Sandi Ridge	Shady Ridge Alpacas/Crane Ridge Spindles
Cindy Oyenuga	Cindy's Farm and Alpacas
Laura and Targie Lewis	Wooden Valley Alpacas

