

# CALPACA – Membership Meeting Minutes for August 10, 2013

## Ranch of the Oaks 10:00 am - Noon

**Welcome** - Laurie thanked Tom & Mette Goehring for hosting the meeting and opening their ranch

### **Laurie gave the floor to Mette for “Important Details”**

#### **Laurie**

- Laurie reminded everyone that if they haven't signed the attendee roster to please do so before they leave.

#### **Secretary Report** – Joyce Judy

- Joyce asked if everyone had seen the Minutes from the May 11, 2013 Membership meeting and then called for a motion to approve those Minutes. Maureen Macedo motioned to approve the Minutes and Dennis Rabe seconded. Joyce asked for all those in favor of passing the Minutes as motioned and the motion was approved.

#### **Treasurer Report** – Karen Kelly reported the following:

As of August 8, 2013 we had the following account balances:

General Account:	\$7,152.86
Gold Country:	\$7,902.25
Connection:	\$5,102.98
Cal. Classic:	\$11,010.77
For a total of unrestricted funds of : \$46,279.12	

#### Restricted Funds:

Symposium:	\$7957.76
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**Membership update** – Pam Brady noted that we have 129 members of which 21 are Associate members and 12 are new members since January 2013.

**Membership Committee** – Phyl Clempson asked if anyone would be interested in serving on this committee as they need a couple more members in order to get momentum going.

**Endowment/Scholarship** – Rick Brady gave a brief report on the Endowment fund and the Calpaca scholarship awards.

#### **Marketing** –

We have 114 people on the Google Group and 83 Farm Members on our Calpaca Website.

- Website update – Laurie Findlay Analytics – 1540 alpacas for sale- 696 visits – 440 new visits and 256 return visits in last 30 days. Generally people stayed on 5 minutes and went into 6.5 pages. There were 4504 pages viewed. We also had six visits from France, 5 from China, and 2 from Peru. Join other affiliates and you can advertise across the countries. Services put your sales stuff up and it will flow up to the main site, Camelid Medicine Club wanted to know what was going on with Calpaca, so they asked if they could become members of Calpaca. They couldn't become members without paying, so we invited them to join our email list, join Calpaca Facebook page (110 members), and they can use the Calpaca.org and read the Connection.
- Winagenerator – DRAWING – Phyl Clempson. We had the drawing at lunch and Marge Smith won the generator.
- Connection Update – Laurie for Dianna Jordan – We've gone green with only 1 hard copy per year and the Summer Connection is on-line

**AOBA Update: Laurie for Dianna Jordan** – AOBA is moving the National Show, Auction, and Conference to March, which has resulted in moving the AOBA election up. The nominating committee is being put in place now and will be seeking candidates soon. Watch for announcements from AOBA about the election.

AOBA/ARI merger discussions update:

The due diligence process overseen by ARI's Executive Director Darby Vannier and AOBA's Office Administrator Margie Ault is coming to a close. Over 150 documents representing ARI's and AOBA's contracts, policies and procedures, guidelines, financials, etc. were reviewed. Those requiring legal counsel review were forwarded to the respective attorneys. As of last week the attorneys of both organizations saw no "red flags" and Darby and Margie are working on summary documents to take to their respective boards. Both boards are holding individual meetings this month to review the summary up to this point in the due diligence process. Both boards are expected to vote on whether or not to tell Margie and Darby to move ahead with putting together the plans for merger documentation and revision of the bylaws. The plans for merger will outline how the process would occur and how the bylaws would read if the vote is brought to the respective memberships.

NOTE: there is possibility that these documents may generate a great deal of discussion among the members of each board at their respective meetings. There may be changes recommended or Margie and Darby will be given the go ahead to complete the plan of merger and proposed bylaws. Both boards, by majority vote of each board, must approve to move forward.

If the vote is to move ahead then Margie and Darby will move ahead with those tasks. This process should not take nearly as long as the first step of reviewing documents. Once the plan of merger and bylaws come back to the boards they will be reviewed, discussed, and some changes may be recommended. Once satisfied with the way everything is ready to go to the memberships a vote by each board will be taken. THIS IS A VOTE OF APPROVAL TO PRESENT THE PLAN TO BOTH ARI AND AOBA MEMBERS. THE FINAL DECISION WILL BE MADE BY THE MEMBERS BY VOTE. THE BOARDS ARE NOT MAKING THE FINAL DECISION FOR THE MEMBERSHIPS.

We know this has been a long process. You can be assured that anything brought to the members has been researched, reviewed, adjusted, reviewed, adjusted, researched, adjusted, etc.

## Events

- Gold Country 2013 update: Phyl Clempson (halter registration to open next week) get your costume ready
- Symposium 2014 Update – Laurie /Bonnie – Dr. David Anderson, Dr. Pam Walker, Dr. Susan Tornquist, Dr. Murray Fowler 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in January
- CA Classic "Round-up" 2014 Update/RFP for Event Manager: - Joyce Judy

AOBA Town Hall – Laurie reported on the Town Hall

GIRCOM – Fred Obenchain

3 programs under [www.ecfr.gov](http://www.ecfr.gov) that can qualify under USDA for catastrophic losses

SHOW SYSTEM – Margie

There were 112 AOBA in 2012 and 2013 has a positive outlook

The 2014 AOBA National Show will be in PA

World Fleece Show will also be held at 2014 AOBA National show

Show System number of animals shown are less.

MARKETING – Karen

Clicks – 43,507 visitors UTD

Return for 10 minutes – 13,000

National Farm Days ad to run in July and for \$25.00 you can get your farm listed on the site.

FIBER – Karen  
Fiber Committee – Fiber Education Program

### MEMBER SERVICES

#### Grants

It is now much easier to get approvals for grants, but only a few affiliates take advantage of this opportunity.

#### JEC (Joint Education Com.) – Steve Hull

3 AOBA, 3 ARI 1 voted in by ARI and AOBA (members on committee)

ARI/AOBA are putting together basic info and modules

Both organizations are working on due diligence and will keep affiliates informed with Board Updates

If both Boards vote in favor of Merger, then it will be submitted to their respective memberships for approval.

### COMMUNICATIONS

- They have been struggling to coordinate meetings due to fires etc.
- Wanting to do more Email Blasts to members

#### TREASURER - Julie

AOBA Audit complete

2011 \$114,000

2012 \$110,000

- Because there was less revenue to work with, it was necessary to reduce expenses. As a result net assets are up.
- AOBA Nationals are on track to lose \$20,000 and so AOBA has moved Nationals to earlier in the year and to a new venue to save money and not compete with family events
- The AOBA Magazine is a loss leader and doesn't pay for itself so there is discussion about going online. Advertising must wholly support the magazine or there will not be a magazine.

### **New Business:**

- Joyce passed out a review copy of proposed Calpaca Bylaw changes to those in attendance. These proposed changes have been unanimously approved by the Board and reviewed by Counsel to ensure that Calpaca is in compliance with all laws in their Bylaws. Joyce indicated that these proposed changes will be emailed to the entire Membership, along with a redlined copy of the November 2002 Bylaws so that the Membership can see these proposed Bylaw changes in context.
- Joyce also announced the AFCNA Fiber Collection and Social to be held 9/7/13-9/8/13. Wade Gease will be there to talk about AFCNA and commercial versus non-commercial fiber. A social dinner hosted by Calpaca and provided by chef, Dale Davis will occur on the afternoon of September 7<sup>th</sup> at Derwydd Alpacas. This will be a fun event and a time for everyone to re-connect.

### **Announcements**

The November Membership Meeting will be hosted by 925 Sterling Alpacas – Nancy & Dave Helwig at their property in Plymouth, CA

**Adjournment – 12:15 pm**