

February 11 Calpaca Minutes

Our first meeting of 2006 was held at the ranch of Naomi Flam, ~~Artral-Light Astral-Light~~ Alpaca.

Bruce called the meeting to order and all board members were present. The board would like to thank Naomi for having the largest gathering of Calpaca, SoCalpaca and SOJAA members present. This meeting totaled over 80 alpaca enthusiasts! Thank you Naomi for having us!

The minutes from our November meeting were approved and carried as printed on the web site and in the Connection.

Rick Brady gave us the treasurer's report. Calpaca continues to be a strong organization with a combined total for checking and savings at \$20,773.66 plus our asset of the trailer \$7,131.17 for a total of \$27,904.83.

We have had a lot of expenses this past quarter with donations to the Camelid Working Group, UC Davis Symposium, seed money to the California Classic and the upcoming Breed Standard Conference. While a lot went out, it is annual dues time and Dale Davis reminds us that we will get back the seed money from the California Classic. Calpaca is working hard to educate both our members and the public about our wonderful animal, the alpaca.

The membership report was given by Bruce and we have a new high for our membership of 204 members. Lisa Thies of the KT-Lee Ranch arrived late due to cria watch. We really want to thank Lisa for all her hard work as new membership chair. Remember that your annual dues must be paid by March 1 to get in the membership directory.

Joan Clappier has been very busy working on the new web site. New feature to be added soon, Ranch Filter! Soon we will all be able to put in our own ranch information, i.e. What services are offered, visitor information, fiber for sale, products and educational classes. Joan's hard work and knowledge in this area is a real asset to our group. Thank you Joan!

Old Business:

The UC Davis Symposium was truly a wonderful event. All who attended had a great time and the information was invaluable. It also paid for itself the first year! Once again, a really big thanks to Jan and Dale Davis for putting together a terrific weekend. Our UC Davis scholarship recipients were present along with the UC Davis Camelid Club. The symposium was a great start to building a working relationship with the students of UC Davis. This year's scholarship fund is up to \$3,500 and Joan Clappier and Bonnie Potter are taking over for Jan and Dale and planning next year's event. We also have CD's available for \$30 if you were not able to attend this year's event.

New Business:

The California Classic is already selling out! Be sure to be in Pleasanton April 7-9 for our first annual show. Dale has a great weekend planned with performance clinics and a shearing clinic on Saturday. Halter classes will start on Saturday and performance and obstacle on Sunday. This will also be the first open gelding class with a color championship if we have more than 8 entries! Don't forget the silent auction and herd sire auctions. All proceeds from the silent auction to go to our UC Davis scholarship fund.

Bonnie Potter gave us an update on the upcoming Breed Standard Conference to be held at the Radisson Hotel in Stockton on July 22. We have Brett ~~Casen~~ Kaysen as moderator and Dr Ty McConnell booked now. We still are looking for 1 more vet and 2 judges. We are sending Bonnie and Joan to the Colorado conference to see how much time is needed and how much information is given out. We look forward to hearing what they learned. More information will be forthcoming.

Naomi Flam is working hard on this year's Monterey Pronk. Remember that the new dates are September 22-24. We will have most of the fairgrounds to use and should have much better weather in the fall. Naomi is looking for ideas for a Saturday night event so please give her any ideas that you may have.

Thanks to Naomi, we were fortunate enough to have Dr Sarah Lien of All Creatures vet clinic to talk about BVD. Since this is a very troubling and confusing topic, part our meeting was dedicated to this topic.

Dr Lien handout was very informative and gave some direction to follow. We are still advised to test our herds, quarantine our show animals upon return and do not take pregnant females to shows. BVD is very short lived and with good practice, we can keep our herds safe.

Meeting was adjourned at 12:00. Naomi ~~proved~~ **provided** a wonderful lunch **and Dr Eric** Hoffman began his presentation at 1pm on the "International Screening Requirements for Alpaca Registries." ~~Dr~~ **Mr.** Hoffman showed how the screening process went and what they looked for in the importations.

Our next meeting will be held May 13 at the Lazy K Ranch in Reno, NV. We will once again cover breed standards and the BVD virus.