

Minutes from November 11 Calpaca meeting

This meeting was held at Alpacas de la Luna, home to Natalia and Jeff Bromstead. All board members were present and Bruce called the meeting to order and thanked Jeff and Natalia for having us.

The first order of business was to approve the minutes as posted on the web site and in the Connection. Minutes approved.

Rick Brady gave the treasurer report and Calpaca is still a strong organization. Though we had many expenses this past quarter, we still have a current balance in checking at \$11,834.61, savings \$13,381.20 and assets of \$7,131.17. Totaling \$32,346.98.

While Rick was giving the treasurer report, he went on with the UC Davis scholarship fund and the endowment set up. Much of what we have in the savings is going to the scholarship and to set up the endowment fund. While it may take us years to get the endowment set up to where it pays for the scholarship annually, we still want the scholarship to be paid out each year. Rick was advised that Calpaca could start the endowment fund with only \$5,000 and add each year until it is fully funded. It was voted by the board to start this now.

Old Business:

The Monterey Pronk was again an unbelievable success. We moved to a class 3 show and will continue to be a class 3 halter and fleece show for 2007. In 2007 we will sell out so it has been decided that we will offer an early bird registration to end on July 31, with a drop dead registration of August 24th. There will be a limit on pens for next year with the maximum of 5 stalls per ranch. We will also be moving the rings into the parking lot to accommodate all the halter, shorn and performance classes. Huacaya's will be in one ring with the suri's, shorn and performance in the 2nd ring. We will be adding a second vet for check-in and setting up 3-4 check in stations. We will continue to have 2 judges for the fleece show and halter show. The Pronk has hit growing pains and cannot get any larger and stay at this venue. Please mark your calendars now so you do not miss out on this wonderful show. Naomi will keep us posted on all the updates as they come.

We would also like to thank Kimberly Louie for all her hard work on the fiber arts show. With a record number of entries, it was truly wonderful to see all the entries and what can be made from our wonderful fiber.

Bonnie presented a brief summary of the National Breed Standard/Type Conference. The Suri Network has developed a Draft Suri Alpaca Breed Standard and a Draft Governance and Revision Process for the Suri Breed Standard. Those documents were used to develop a Draft Huacaya Alpaca Breed Standard and a Draft Proposed Governance and Revision Process for an AOBA Alpaca Breed Standard. A Peer Review Committee was formed that will be independent of the AOBA Board of Directors. The committee will send more detailed information out to the AOBA membership with the draft documents

for review and feedback, and will oversee the incorporation of the feedback into the draft documents before they are put out to the membership for a vote. David Barboza is on the Peer Review Committee.

New Business:

Joan advised us that the UC Davis Symposium was still looking for sponsors and registration was open. This is a great opportunity to learn from some of the best in our business. There will be 3 tracks going simultaneously with something for every level. Dr Wilson is working closely with Joan and Bonnie to get some really great speakers and loads of information out to us. And this is a real bargain, \$110.00 for two full days of alpaca information, lunch and wine tasting. Calpaca will even help pay for half of your vet's enrolment fee! There is also a need for books for the UC Davis library. They need any book that you can donate on alpacas.

Kay advised that the AWE show will be in Reno, NV on April 13-15, 2007. We need volunteers to help with set up, traffic, halter show and the fleece show. As a volunteer, you get to check in on the 11th! Since Calpaca is a member of the AWE board, this is our show too. Please help if you can.

Dale was not present but advised that the California Classic is moving right along. We anticipate a lot more entries next year and will be moving the rings to accommodate more stalls. This show can continue to grow as the facility is much larger than Monterey. More information as things get confirmed.

Bonnie gave a brief overview of the finding and recommendations of the Sales and Use Tax Committee. Some alpaca ranches have been audited. Alpacas are not exempt for the CA Sales and Use Tax, so it's important to review the information that comes with your Seller's Permit to better understand how Sales and Use Taxes should be applied. Sales Tax regulations are fairly straight forward, but Use Tax regulations are difficult to understand. There will be more information distributed to the Calpaca Membership to help clarify some of the confusion. There was also a brief discussion of some of the courses of action that are being evaluated to see if there is a mechanism to obtain an exemption for alpacas from the application Sales and Use Tax.

A motion was made by David Barboza to have bio-security at each Calpaca meeting in the form of foot baths or shoe coverings to minimize transport of pathogens from ranch to ranch. Motion was seconded and carried. The Calpaca board has decided to provide each hosting ranch with shoe coverings for the meeting upon request. More information will follow.

This meeting was our annual election with 2 positions to be filled. Joan Clappier and Kay Rodriguez's terms were up and both decided to run again along with Diana Jordan and Brenda Barboza. All candidates were asked to give the views prior to voting. Meeting broke for lunch while ballots were counted. Natalia and Jeff provided a wonderful Mexican meal for us. When the ballots were counted, Joan Clappier and Kay

Rodriguez were re-elected for another term. With those results your 2007 Board of Directors remains unchanged from 2006. The board thanks all who voted and hope that Diana and Brenda will consider running again in the future.

Victor Velez of the CA Dept of Food & Agriculture was our afternoon speaker. He presented an overview of NAIS (National Animal ID System), gave an update on the current status, and answered questions. NAIS is a voluntary system. The Camelid Working group has been surveying camelid owners and making recommendations to the USDA regarding details like preferred ID method and location. [www.camelidid.org]

Our next meeting will be held at Derwydd Alpacas in Esparto CA.