

## FEBRUARY 10, 2007 CALPACA MEETING

This meeting was held at Derwydd Alpacas, home of Jan Davis. All board members were present except for Rick Brady. Bruce welcomed the largest group we have had (78 alpaca enthusiasts braved the bad weather) and thanked Jan and Dale for having us.

Bruce gave the treasurer report in Rick's absence. Calpaca continues to be strong with current cash on hand of \$21,206.37, assets of \$7,131.17 for a total of \$28,337.54. Renewals are coming in and an extra chance for you to donate to the UC Davis endowment fund. So far, an extra \$360 has come in for our endowment fund. Calpaca also gave donations of \$500 to ICI, the UC Davis Camelid Club and Fiber on the Foot, and \$1000 to ARF.

Lisa Theis was on hand to give the membership report. In the last 6 months our membership has grown with 25 new farm members. Our total membership is 243 farms! Many of the new members were present at this meeting. It was great to see so many new faces at our first meeting of the year.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Bonnie and Joan both advised that the UC Davis Symposium was a huge hit. With the help of the UC Davis camelid club and Jan and Dale Davis, this year's symposium was attended by 176 owners, 45 UCD faculty/staff/students and 25 private vets. All who attended agreed that this event just keeps getting better. Plans are already in the making for the 2008 Symposium and we believe that next year will sell out. We had attendees from many states and we thank Bonnie, Joan, Jan, Dale and the camelid club at UC Davis for putting on such a remarkable weekend of learning.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Bruce went to Nashville to represent Calpaca at the Affiliate Congress meeting January 26-27. The congress was formed to give all affiliates and their members a better voice with AOBA. An executive council was formed to allow the Affiliate Congress to conference with the AOBA BOD on a monthly basis. One of the first items on the agenda was the situation concerning the Bylaws of AOBA. As it stands now, changing a Bylaw requires 2/3 of the members eligible to vote, to vote affirmative in order to make the change, while it only takes 51% of those voting to dissolve AOBA. This Bylaw may have worked when it was conceived and there were only 34 members of AOBA. With 4,000 members and growing this is no longer feasible. The Affiliate Congress proposed to the Board that something needed to be done to change this, in order for AOBA to move forward. The Board had been struggling with the same issue and had a proposal to make to the Congress.

Bruce was adamant that everyone listen closely and completely to what he was saying. The Board proposed the following and the Affiliate Congress voted to support this effort.

Keep in mind that no one is saying this is going to happen, only that research is now being done to see if it is possible. First, incorporate the business in Tennessee (AOBA is currently incorporated as an out of state corporation doing business in Tennessee) with the only change to the Bylaws being to change one sentence. **Instead of requiring 2/3 of those eligible to vote, have it read “2/3 of those voting, provided a 30% quorum was met.”** Once this was done a vote would go to the entire membership to dissolve AOBA as a corporation in Colorado and move everything as is to the new Corp. in Tennessee. Everyone on the Affiliate Congress and each of the AOBA Board members agreed that changing the Bylaws was paramount to the continued growth of AOBA> And that this is a possible solution to the problem.

Your Calpaca board would like to start a Socks for Troops campaign to send alpaca socks to our brave people serving in the Middle East. We will be taking donations for this cause over the next few months trying to get an order together by late summer to send to the troops next fall when they will be really needed. If we give to Travis Air Force, they will ship the socks to our troops free. More on this to come.

The AWE show is coming in April to Reno, and we are still looking for volunteers to help with the show. AWE will also be one of the first shows to use the 60/40 judging rule. If you can, please volunteer a few hours of your time. This is one of your shows too.

Dale was on hand to go over some of the rule changes for the 2007 show season and to give us updates on both the Classic and the Pronk. Both shows will be judged on the 50/50 standard and if the Calpaca membership wants to use the 60/40 for 2008, it will be voted on by the membership. Non-AOBA show fees went up to \$60 per show, and you cannot sign up for the show division at the shows. Fiber/Skein Competition went down to \$3 and the non-show division fee is waived. There are a few other changes that have been made and the best advice Dale gave was to print the changes from the AOBA site.

The judges for the Classic will be Dave Barboza, suri and performance, and Dawn Brooker for huacaya. The performance classes will be held on Saturday and the suri's will be judged on Sunday. Huacaya classes will be both Saturday and Sunday. Robin Houts will be giving fiber lessons on Friday.

The judges for the Pronk will be Jill MacLeod for huacayas, Amy Bliss-Miller for shorn, suri and performance. Lisa Shimeld will be the fleece judge and we are still working on the 2<sup>nd</sup> fleece judge. Rick and Kay went to the Monterey Fairground to work on the new lay out for this years show. There will be new deadlines for entries and we believe Pronk will sell out this year, so make sure you get your entries together early. More at the next meeting.

Kimberly Louie asked that the Calpaca board donate money to help the 4H kids enter the shows. The board asked that she put together a proposal for review.

Bonnie talked a little on the Sales and Use Tax committee and thanked all those who volunteer to work on this committee. Joyce Judy wrote a great article for the Connection to help answer some of the many questions that are coming up since the BOE is now looking at the alpaca industry.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 for lunch. After lunch Dale had 3 great tracks for those who attended. Amanda VandenBosch and Brenda Barboza were in one barn teaching "showing with confidence." Amy Conkling in a second barn showing how to halter train for shows and Dale was all over teaching color check.

Our next meeting will be May 12 at Southern Cross Farms, home of Robyn and Tom Houts.