

## AUGUST 11 CALPACA MINUTES

Our August meeting was held at the lovely ranch of Al and Amanda Villareal, Browns Valley Alpacas. Our meeting was called to order at 10:40 and all board members were present. Bruce welcomed everyone and thanked our hosts for having us.

The first order of business was the treasurer report, and Rick advised all that Calpaca is still very strong with total assets of \$38,240.12. Total cash on hand \$31,108.95. Rick also covered the UC Davis Scholarship/Endowment fund and the scholarships have been awarded. Rick will get the names of the recipients to us soon. Both Rick and Bonnie attended the scholarship award ceremony and are very pleased with the winners and the relationship that has been built between UC Davis and Calpaca.

Lisa Theis gave the membership report and we are growing. Total Calpaca membership is now 237 strong, with 80% being farm members.

The minutes from the May meeting were approved and carried.

### OLD BUSINESS:

Bonnie advised us that AB1050 is not dead yet. There still may be ways to get this important bill out of suspense and carried. Bonnie is staying on top of this and will keep us all posted.

### NEW BUSINESS:

Naomi was with us to cover the latest updates on how the Monterey Pronk is filling up fast. Since our email system has been down, early bird registration was extended for one more week. Stall and halter entries have been pouring in and it looks like we will sell out early again this year. With the Pronk falling on the same weekend as National Alpaca Farm Day, we hope to have our State Proclamation and some very important people present at the Pronk.

Joan advised that she and the programmers are working very hard to get our email system back up. Some people have not been receiving emails. Embedded emails can be used to send out marketing emails. Everything should be back up in about a week. Thank you Joan for all your hard work.

Bruce attended the Affiliate Congress meeting in Nashville and said that it is starting to come together. There will be minutes from the Congress meeting posted on the AOBA web site, [www.aoba.com](http://www.aoba.com), per request from the AC. This is a 19 page document with lots of information about what is being done to communicate better with the AOBA board. The goal of the AC is to establish 5 action items to present to the AOBA board. These items are on the web site for review.

Jeannie Dorrance is asking for contributions for this year's Sock Brigade. Checks should be made out to Calpaca and a notation of Sock Brigade should be on the checks. Jan Sherrill asked if we could support our troops and our co-op by purchasing the socks through the co-op. Jeannie said she would look into this. A basket was passed around for contributions.

Jan Sherrill also advised us that she is trying to put together a fiber pick up program to get our fleece to the co-op more efficiently. Various drop-off points are now in the works with several local ranches and Dave Barboza will drive the fleece directly to New Mexico. More to follow on this. Jan also advised that the Student Design competitions are coming up and if you are interested in helping a student you can go to the AOBA web site for information.

Bonnie and Joan are hard at work getting our next UC Davis Symposium organized. So far our speakers are Dr Pat Long, Dr. La Rue Johnson, Dr Ahmed Tibrary and of course, Dr Fowler. There will also be local camelid veterinarians and UC Davis faculty speakers. There will be 3 tracks again, beginning, advanced and vet.

Nominations for our November Election are now being taken. Jeannette Lee will be our nominations chair and there are 3 positions to be filled this year. Bruce, Rick and Bonnie complete their terms. Bruce and Rick have each served the maximum 2 consecutive terms. Please make sure you ask the person you are nominating if they would like to run first.

Bruce advised that the ARI database has new updates available and that ARI requests everyone go in and look at their herds and clean up any problems that might still be listed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20. Al and Amanda provided a wonderful Mexican lunch and following lunch, Catherine De La Cruz and Debi Carpadus gave a talk on Livestock Guardian Dogs.

The next meeting will be held at Oak Valley Alpacas and our annual election.