

Calpaca February 14, 2009 Meeting Minutes

Location Friendly Farm Alpacas, Chico California

Meeting Started 10:30am

Bonnie Potter thanked Kathleen for hosting us at the meeting.

Kathleen managed to find place for everyone, the meeting had over 100 attendees RSVP, but we had a few not make it due to weather.

New CALPACA members attending meeting

Deb Menagerie Hill Ranch in Vacaville

Karen 4 Sight Farms in Penn Valley

New owners, the Merriville's in Con Cow above Oroville

Jim Correl first meeting

Secretaries Report: *Dennis Rabe*

Item 1) Approve minutes from November 8, 2008 meeting that are posted on Web.

Move to approve Dale Davis Second Tom Petersen Ayes Unanimous Nays

Treasurers Report: *Jack Jordan Snowed in, couldn't make it Delivered by Bonnie*

Item 1) CALPACA Funds status

The checking account is in great shape, we are a little ahead in the checking account with all the member renewals and we are still waiting on a few bills to come in, the key thing is we are in good financial shape

Item 2) Merchant Account status and credit card status *Jack Jordan*

Account is up and running so we can accept payments by credit card.

Grant Request Approved #1) Fiber on the Foot \$500 Grant

www.Fiberonthefoot.com Multi species show featuring fiber animals from rabbits to alpacas. Pens are \$20 per pen. There will be two barns, and wide variety of fiber available to view. May 2nd and 3rd at the Tehama County Fairgrounds

Grant Request Approved #2.) The Alpaca Fiber Symposium \$500 Grant

North Carolina event that will be held to support the industry. Many of the members are planning on attending the event. The website for the event is www.alpacafibersymposium.com

Grant Request Approved #3) CA AG Day March 24 sponsorship/participation

Tom Petersen brought us up to speed on how the process in Sacramento works and what the odds of bringing a proposal to get passed will be in 2009. Since the state is in a financial "mess" the odds of getting anything done to recognize the Alpaca industry as a livestock industry and be tax exempt will have to take place at a future date. Calpaca is going to be a major sponsor this year, which will get us extra time with the legislature. We want to start the process of introducing them to our industry, and they begin to know what we are all about. We sent a letter to SoCALPACA to see if they would like to participate with us. Bonnie reminded everyone to let their AG commissioner know they are in business in their area, and how much fleece they produced so they can be recognized on the County AG commissioners annual report.

Item 3) AOBA return of CALPACA Rose Parade Donation: *Jack Jordan*

At this time the Rose parade is not going to happen, so the AOBA committee asked us if we wanted our donation back or to have it directed to another AOBA project. The board decided that we wanted the money returned to CALPACA.

Membership Report: *Lin Murray*

Bonnie told us that Lisa thanked everyone for their support in the past. She wasn't able to attend the meeting, but wanted to let everyone know she has really appreciated their help, and that she felt that Lin will be doing a great job for us.

Item 1) Membership dues for 2009

Farm member renewals are \$100 Associates are \$30. Dead line is March 1st, if you have any doubt whether Lin has gotten your check, check with her. Goal for the future will be to tie the new ability to take credit card payments to being able to have on line renewals

Item 2) Membership Status

102 renewals 10 new members.... 144 people have not renewed. Lin will be sending out a final notice by "snail mail".

Item 3) Member Directory

Lin still has to update the member farm census by hand, as it cannot be changed on line so you need to notify her with any changes to your ranch numbers or information.

Committee Updates

Item 1) CA Classic Update: *Joyce Judy*

The classic is selling out fast, only 59 pens are left as of Feb 14th. The website tells people to send the check to Diane Jordan's street address, but we need to send the check to her P.O. Box. We still need volunteers to work the Ring Steward spot and to help with setting the pen panels up and taking them down. Still need help for Vet Check, and help setting up the Fiber Spin Off, and manning the CALPACA Booth. Dale displayed the preliminary barn map, with the new layout for this year. We are looking for Sponsorships for the Wine Tasting, providing cases of Wine and someone to Sponsor the corkage fee for the wine tasting. One Grand sponsorship \$1,000 is still for sale, two Premium \$500 sponsorships, and a few show Patrons \$250. Early bird pen prices end March 11th. If you would like to sign up to volunteer, contact Joyce or Diane. Clinics – the spin off judge will be doing a clinic on how to evacuate for fire emergency, including the creation of a crisis plan. Bonnie Potter asked everyone to please donate to the silent auction, it supports the Scholarship fund. Sandi Ridge asked that folks sending in ad cards for the show program and to please do it as soon as possible. More email blasts will be coming soon with more info about the show.

Item 2) Lambtown Update: *Dale Davis and Joyce Judy*

This will be a fall event. The date is Oct 3rd. One day event focused on Fleece. There will be an AOBA fleece show, Robyn Houts will be the judge. There will also be a fiber/pet boys sale on site as well. This is to promote the inclusion of more young people. There will be a performance demonstration in the same area of the show. The committee is currently working on creating literature and finalizing details for the show. The key thing is to try and introduce the FFA and 4H youth groups to the alpaca industry. Fleeces that are entered in the fleece show can be sold at Lambtown after the show is concluded. They will be the only fleeces that can be sold at the show, unless a vendor booth has been purchased. Many more details are still being worked out. If you are interested in participating, the committee would welcome your help.

Old/Unfinished Business

Item 1) NAFD ... results of NAFD survey taken with Nov ballot. *Bonnie Potter* 54 ranches participated, the majority said they would do it again, many of them had over 70 visitors.

Item 2) UCD Scholarship/Scholarship Fund raising update: *Dale*

Dale reported on the herdsire auction. We had the folks who would have been donating herdsire services to the auction at Pronk place there services in this auction. We made \$4,300 for the UC Davis Endowment Fund. Bonnie thanked Dale for doing a great job on putting the books together for the auction

Item 3) AWE Show in Reno

Still need Volunteers, for the show, particularly for the compliance check. Email Kay Rodriguez if you have any questions. Dale suggested that you volunteer for the fleece show to really get a chance to learn more about how to assess fleece.

New Items/Additions

Item 1) Alpaca UC Davis Symposium Update

We had a good turn out We had 115 people, 34 Vets also attended not including the UC Davis folks The planning committee includes the CAL ILA group. The planning has already begun for next year, if you have any ideas, please let the committee know.

Item 2) Introduction of AOBA Executive Director Bill Edmonds: *David Barboza*

Dave Barboza introduced himself and he introduced Bill Edmonds the new AOBA Executive Director. Bill replaces Gordon Anderson, who was a temporary director. Bill was well received by the board. Since he had business out this way, Bill was able to attend the meeting. Bill thanked everyone for the opportunity to meet them, and asked that if anyone needs the help of AOBA, to please call Nashville they would love to help us out. He is excited to be involved in the industry, and has great hope for the future because of the great potential the

industry has to offer. Dave said the midwinter conference was a great success. Wonderful speakers and great compliments on the show. Membership has not dropped from what had been anticipated due to the economy, better than was expected. The National Show is in June, and Dave recommended that anyone that thought they had a great fleece should send it in, even if they are not able to attend. New membership is on par from 2008. The new show book is about to come on line at the AOBA site. The Show rules committee will be looking for feedback on new ways to produce the book.

Item 3) Membership survey results: *Bonnie*

Everyone asked for help on their marketing, so the marketing committee will be developing tools for ranches to use in their marketing programs

Item 3) Marketing Committee: *Dale*

Lots of ideas for new programs have been coming in to the marketing committee and the group will be getting together soon to address them and see what other programs that might be possible. More information will be made available as it is developed.

Item 4) Legislative Activities: *Tom Petersen and Bonnie*

Sales tax on Veterinary services is the current hot button, so we discussed that we have to keep our eye on it. The next issue is AB885 that was passed in 2000. Per original implementation directive by the State Water Resource Control Board, all Septic systems would be subject to inspection every five years, but due to the input received, the document has been sent back to for revision, another thing to keep an eye on. CALPACA will send an update to the membership as news becomes available.

Item 5) 2009 California State Fair Participation *Bonnie*

We are considering participating in the State Fair in August, as the Fair board has asked us to participate again this year. We would be in the California Ranch land area. Questions came up to see if we could be a better spot to be seen easier and if we could have a spot for having a show.

Announcements:

- ❖ Naomi Flam is having a neonatal seminar at KT LEE Ranch March 7-8th
- ❖ Joan Clappier is having a neonatal seminar at Opus Two Alpacas on August 2nd
- ❖ The TAP group is having their second annual show case at the Dixon County Fairgrounds. They will have two seminars on breeding strategies, the event is free and will have 65 herdsires from as far away as Oregon, Nevada, and So California. Discounts on breedings are substantial. TAP will be selling a drawing ticket for a herdsire on the select list of herdsires at the show. 100% will go to the UC Davis Endowment fund. Need not be present to win... Tickets are \$10
- ❖ ACE Training Seminar March 14th-15th at NC Alpacas ranch in Valley Springs. Contact Dave and Brenda Barboza for details

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM. Following the meeting we had a wonderful lunch of lasagna provided by Kathleen with potluck dishes provided by the members. After lunch Dr. Andrew Merriwether gave a very informative presentation on Color Genetics in Alpacas.

Minutes submitted by Dennis Rabe, Secretary