

Calpaca Meeting Minutes from 2/13/2010

Meeting started at 10:15am. All board members were present. Tom thanked Karen Ball of 4 Sight Alpacas for having us. There were about 60 members present for this meeting.

Dale Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from our last meeting as posted on the Calpaca web site. Rick Brady second, motion was approved.

We had three first time attendees at this meeting, Snowy River Alpacas, Shady Oak Ranch and Liberty Oak Alpacas. All were welcomed and introduced.

Jack Jordan gave our financial report and Calpaca is still in good standings. Our current balance in check and savings is about 49,000.

Dianna and Joyce gave us an update on CA Classic. Entries are slow to come in so a show of hands confirmed that most of us are coming but the early bird deadline has not come yet and everyone is holding on to their money until the last minute. Joyce advised that they have added a Fiber Arts display with a "People Choice" award. A new page was added to the CA Classic web site showing what has been done to fix the complaints from last year. Sandy Ridge from Shady Ridge Alpacas is doing the spin off this year. Dianna advised that almost all of the major volunteer spots have been filled and she is now looking for a few people to take care of last minute things. If you can spare some time at the Classic, please see Dianna or Joyce and volunteer,

Eva Fisher announced our new fall show, the Gold Country Gathering. This show will be held on October 23-24, 2010 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds in Grass Valley CA! This will be a level 3 show with Diana Timmerman as halter judge and a level 2 fleece show with Babs Manion as fleece judge. Sandy Ridge offered to do spin off if we wanted to add this to the show. The membership agreed that this will be a 60/40 show. A kid's costume contest is planned for lunch on Saturday, a fleece to shawl competition, and a Saturday night wine tasting and BBQ. Kay Rodriguez will co-chair this event. We are working on getting the web site up, the show certified, and much more. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Eva Fisher or Kay Rodriguez.

Lambtown Alpaca show is on October 3-4, 2010. Lambtown will be a one day event, Saturday only, and the small, level 2 alpaca show will go Saturday and Sunday. This show will be judged by Dave Barboza and will have reduced pen and halter fees. This will be the perfect show for first time attendees to practice. Lin Murray advised that this is the perfect place to sell your clean and skirted fleeces.

The Fiber Arts Competition has been completed and Calpaca members, Dale Davis and Bonnie Potter sponsored two of the winners! There will be an award ceremony in Tennessee. Twenty eight Calpaca members stepped up and donated \$100 entry fee to the Student Design Competition, along with various supplies. Calpaca sent in \$500. We had more sponsors than California students but that may soon change. There are many design schools in CA and that means more students to educate. We are looking forward to next year's competition.

Dale advised that the UC Davis Symposium was a huge success. There were 160 registered owners, 20 vets and 50 vet students that signed up for the awesome event. Texas A&M had students attend and now want to know how Dale, Jan, Joan and Bonnie manage to put on such a wonderful event! Word is getting out about the Symposium. This was the 5th year for the event. There will be an article in Alpacas Magazine talking about the history and how Jan Davis worked with Dr Wilson and the Camelid Club to get things started. We are already looking forward to next year's event.

Rick Brady advised that the UC Davis endowment fund is now up to about \$28,000. This fund was started the first year of the CA Classic when our silent auction took in almost \$10,000! Since then, all of our silent auctions proceeds have gone into building of the fund. Calpaca still donates about \$4,000 each year for scholarships but we still want to build the endowment fund.

Ag Day is coming up, March 23rd, and Bruce Nelson will help Calpaca lead the way to the front steps of the Capital Building. Calpaca will once again sponsor \$3000 to get up close and personal with Arnie and his staff. We will have the Calpaca brochure, well mannered alpacas and alpaca products to present and educate our legislators. If you can volunteer to help on that Tuesday, please contact Bruce Nelson.

We need some of our members to help with the moving of the Calpaca trailer to and from our upcoming events. If you have at least a ¾ ton pickup and time before and after our shows and other events, please contact a board member and let them know you can up the trailer and take it back to storage. Right now the trailer is at Jack and Dianna Jordan's ranch in Somerset. This is a heavy, bumper pull trailer.

Calpaca is looking for members to become Calpaca Ambassadors. This job would be to contact and welcome new members to our organization and act as mentors, educators and anything else a new member/owner might need. We do have a list of mentors from the Dixon male sale, but we would like to put the offer out to all our members in different areas. If this is something you would be interested in doing, please contact a board member or Lin Murray, our membership chair.

AOBA put out a request to all affiliates to nominate one person to run for the AOBA board. Your board had talked to a few of our members but for different reasons, all declined. Tom Peterson, our current president, then stepped up and sent his name in to be considered.

Tom advised that there is a new bill in Congress about the taxing of independent contractors. This would include our vets, shearers, accountants and other companies that we may hire. This would mean setting aside an additional 3% withholding to be paid to the state. For more information on this, contact Tom Peterson.

The Penn and Teller show has contacted one of our members to be on their show and talk about alpacas. Much thought went into this and it has been decided that no good for the industry can come from this. While Penn and Teller is an amusing show, they love to make their guest speakers look like fools and their endeavors useless. If anyone from this show should contact you, we advise you not to do it.

Dennis and Vicki Rabe will have an alpaca on the Spring Cover of Alpaca Magazine!

Rick advised that the TAP Groups annual herd sire showcase will be at the Dixon Fairgrounds on March 27. There will be a drawing for a breeding to one of the TAP groups herd sire and the proceeds will go to the UC Davis scholarship fund.

Joyce advised that AFCNA is having their annual membership drive. If you are not a member of AFCNA, please contact Joyce to join this great organization.

Just a reminder that the last day to renew your Alpaca membership and get into the directory is February 15. Please send your dues to Lin Murray by February 15.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:50am. Following a great lunch provided by Karen Ball and family, Wade Gease spoke to us all about different things to do with our fiber.