

Calpaca Meeting Minutes  
5/8/10

Welcome – meeting started at 10:30am. Absent board members, Jack Jordan and Dennis Rabe.

Minutes from Feb Meeting-Posted on the Web site: Motion to approve by Bonnie Potter, second by Maurine Machedo. All approved and carried.

Tom gave a big Thank You to Bruce and Joan for having us. Joan looked fantastic. Joan and Bruce thanked all members present and not present for their prayers, flowers and well wishes.

First Time Members Today: Ruth and Craig Bammel of Virtual Opulence Alpacas. They are in the Sacramento area.

UCD Faculty: Many will be attending after the equestrian event ends at noon.

UCD Students: Introductions: Kirsten, a third year vet student and alpaca owner and President of UCD Camelid Club; Kirsten is also active in planning the Camelid Symposium.

Finance Report-Jack not present but had advised Tom that we are still in great shape with about \$50,000 in the bank.

#### California Classic Review

Joyce advised that there were miscellaneous items left behind at Classic and if you are missing anything please let her know. Still trying to close out show but should know if we are ahead shortly. Thank you to Mark and Debbie Emery for managing a very successful silent auction that generated \$13,700. In addition to the traditional herd sire, products and services available to bid on, this year three alpacas were offered for auction. Dale and Jan Davis donated a Suri with a male cria at side that sold for \$4,100. That money will be used to pay for the expense of Claire Whitehead DVM to speak at the 2011 Camelid Symposium. Steve and Lin Murray donated a female huacaya that sold for \$4300 bringing the total for scholarship fund contribution to \$8600.

Joyce extended a big Thank You to everyone that volunteered for the show. Meet and Greet got oodles of compliments. Gabrielle asked for clinic suggestions. If you have any comments on anything about the show, please let Joyce know.

Grass Valley Show Update-Kay gave update. Everything is moving along. The winner of our logo contest was Alice Lessard from Cookie Cutter Alpacas. Her entry was of a miner panning for alpacas. Logo will be sent out soon. Kay is having trouble sending emails on the Calpaca email lists. Show date is October 23-24, 2010 at the Nevada County Fairgrounds. This show is limited to 400 entries and will have

only 1 ring. Our judges are Dianna Timmerman, halter and Babs Manion, fleece. Cheryl Tenold will be our show super and Joyce Judy our fleece, spin off, and fiber arts super. Diane Hoschler will be our spin off judge. Kay advised that stalls will be limited to 3 stalls per ranch with sponsors having the option to purchase 2 additional stalls. We already have several ranches that have committed to a sponsorship. Kay also advised that we are using the fairground panels, which are 3 feet by 6 feet and stalls will be 6X12. Some concern was raised about the panel height, so a discussion began about a stall decorating contest with people coming up with creative ideas to add height to the stalls. Also brought up, discount for people who want to bring their own panels. This will allow ranches to bring their larger alpacas and not have to worry about "free breeding!" This venue is also the location of the very 1<sup>st</sup> California show held in 2001. If anyone attended this show and has pictures or ribbons from this event, please share them with us so we can add some history to our show program. We are hoping to have the web site up by June and registration open by July 1. We are waiting on forms from both Cheryl and Joyce. Gold County Gathering also received a \$500 AOBA grant, thanks to Rick Brady's help. We are working hard on getting everything together for this show.

Dixon Event-Joyce advised that planning is going well. This will be a Level 2 show, with Dave Barboza as judge for both halter and performance. Dates are October 2-3, 2010 at the Dixon Fairgrounds. This is the perfect opportunity for new breeders to learn how to show. There will be a fleece sale, not show, this year. Also, since Lambtown is only a 1 day event and our event will take 2 days, Sunday will be a "brown bag" event since no concessions will be available. Please plan accordingly. Joyce and Dale advised that they need volunteers to help set up on Friday and that the panels are heavy. Check in for the event will start on Saturday at 7am and should be completed by show starting time of 10am. Discussion started about children handling large, intact males; wanted to try to make a rule change. Dale advised that they could not make a rule change or adjustment but wanted everyone attending to think about the size of their children showing and the size of the alpaca that they are showing. Please use good sense when picking your child's alpaca for the classes, both halter and performance.

Ag Day March 23<sup>rd</sup>-Tom advised that it was another big success. Bruce Nelson brought his great PR alpacas and a good time was had by all that attended. Making our State Government aware of alpaca in agriculture is an important part of this event. Contributing to state agriculture from fiber to finished product is a big part of this event. We are trying to get more interest in the small property owner to participate in local agriculture. Gifts were given to Governor Arnie, and no "thank you" note has yet come from him. Bonnie is looking into this. Pictures have been sent to Aase to put in Connection.

Calpaca Trailer, Storing/Moving-Accomplished thanks to Russell Ratti!

2010 clip reporting- Number of alpacas shorn and total weight report to Tom@

[tapetersen48@hotmail.com](mailto:tapetersen48@hotmail.com). Tom is trying to compile our fleece weights. Heaviest average weight will win a great bottle of Rombauer Chardonnay.

Bonnie advised us that Gircom is working on a questionnaire to be sent out to see if we are all properly insured for our farms. Many ranches find out that their home owner's policy will not cover ranch related incidents. More on this to come.

Tom advised that the Legislature continues to push for taxes on professional services

#### Announcements:

New Camelid Vets-Elizabeth Adams Escalon CA 209.652.1436  
[elizabethadamsdvm@gmail.com](mailto:elizabethadamsdvm@gmail.com). Rick Brady and Airell Nygaard both advised that she is a great vet and "breath of fresh air!" Elizabeth is with the Sierra View Animal Hospital. This started a discussion on the UC Davis scholarship fund and endowment fund. How do we keep track of vet students once they graduate? Discussion on giving all Camelid club members a free associate membership to Calpaca to help keep track of address and keep students posted on events and opportunities to learn more about alpacas. Symposium is one of the few classes on Camelids that the UCD students get. Kirsten, our UCD vet student who attended early today, advised that more ranches need to sponsor vet students. John Foulke, who helped with CA Classic vet check advised that Dr Mary Pride had a great time with check in and that if we wanted to give this opportunity to another vet student we needed to get it out there before November. Dr Danny Mora offers some of the students "ride along" and visits to alpaca ranches. We need to offer the students more ranch visit opportunities.

Membership level-Tom 2009 174/29 2010 154/24 – not as much of a drop in membership as we thought. Lin advised that she has received 17 new members since our last meeting. AOBA is experiencing a 10% decrease in membership. No comments were made on AOBA at this meeting.

#### Other Business:

Question rose if anyone had received their new Connection? No one has and much was commented on this. A motion was raised by Airell Nygaard to see if we wanted to go electronic verses paper? About a third of the membership present said they would like to see an electronic version. This would also make it possible to have an archive of the Connections. Most members agreed that they would still print out the Connection. Another idea to get the Connection out to the membership faster was sending it 1<sup>st</sup> class. It might cost us a few hundred more per mailing, but right now, we can afford the increase. Also suggested to get it out sooner are set due dates for each issue. Aase does send out notices, but also listing on Calpaca web site as well as in the magazine. Board will look into more options.

Gabrielle Menn wanted to know if we had a list of vets, shearers, product distributors, mills, etc....we advised that we do have one in the "members only" section. Discussion on making it more available. Would have to ad a disclaimer to the list so Calpaca would not be held liable for any problems with people or services on the list.

Dale is working on a RFP (request for proposal) form that will be used to help select key people for our events. Hopefully, we will have this soon.

Airell Nygaard advised that the date of our November meeting has been changed to December 4 to accommodate Dr Bravo. Board has already approved the change.

Joyce advised that she is doing a clip collection for AFCNA. Please have fleece properly boxed and tag. She will collect at August meeting or it can be dropped off at Derwydd.

Next Meeting: August 14 @ Alpacas of West Ranch

Meeting adjourned at 12:20.

Marty McGee Bennett was on hand to give a three hour demo on alpaca handle and training techniques. UCD students were coming after their equestrian event ended.