

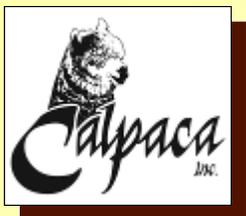
# CONNECTION

November 2018



What's inside?

- ◆ Exciting news about the 2019 Camelid Symposium
- ◆ Remembering an icon
- ◆ Introducing the “Small Breeder” Show
- ◆ Calpaca survey results
- ◆ Happy Birthday Polaris
- ◆ ....and much more



**California Alpaca Breeders & Owners Association**  
**Connecting members to Calpaca, the industry and each other**

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In California's tradition as a pioneer of progress, Calpaca was the first—and is the oldest—regional alpaca association in the Northern Hemisphere. Calpaca and past and current members have been leaders in the American alpaca industry since 1989.

Calpaca represents alpaca owners, breeders, and enthusiasts in California and beyond. We promote the well-being of alpacas and education of the public about alpacas, alpaca fiber, and alpaca products. We support each other through shared information and experiences, and host meetings, speakers and shows for the benefit of members and the public. We invite you to join us!

Calpaca Membership Meetings are held quarterly on the second Saturday of the second month of each quarter.

### **Calpaca Membership Chair**

***Linda Cline***

C-Line Alpaca Ranch  
7970 N Locke Rd  
Vacaville, CA 95688  
805-218-1171

## **Affiliations**

### **Alpaca Owners Association "AOA"**

8300 Cody Dr Suite A  
Lincoln NE 68512  
402-437-8484  
402-437-8488 Fax  
www.alpacaowners.com  
www.alpacaregistry.com

### **Alpaca Research Foundation "ARF"**

www.alpacaresearchfoundation.org

### **International Lama Registry "ILR"**

www.lamaregistry.com

### **Alpaca Fiber Coop of N America (AFCNA)**

www.AFCNA.com  
www.americasalpacas.com

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## **Advertise in the Connection**

### ***Calpaca Members:***

Business Card: Free

¼ page \$15, ½ page \$30, FP \$55

Contact Dianna

DLJORDAN@LIVE.COM

Hello Calpacans!

Welcome to the November issue of the Connections magazine. This issue marks the end of another great year in the alpaca world.

With 2019, you will see some of the work our organization has been talking about come to fruition.

1. The Camelid Symposium returns to a new venue, Sacramento State University on January 19-20.
2. The fiber committee presents findings and plan for Calpaca participation in Stitches West, 2020.
3. The California Classic Round Up continues to grow into a new venue at the Merced County Fairgrounds and will offer another new competition for small breeders.

The Calpaca Board will continue to establish a means for including all members in the Quarterly Meetings in a manner that embraces community and 21<sup>st</sup> century technology. It is time to bring in new members as the efforts of the board have been driven by member requests. I hope you find alignment of membership interest with the new directions coming to life in 2019!

Welcome and encourage new members from Southern California, Arizona and Nevada!

Enjoy the holidays!

Charlene Schmid  
Integrity Alpacas & Fiber  
Calpaca President, 2018

# Calpaca Member News

## It's Time To Renew Your Membership

In California's tradition as a pioneer of progress, the California Alpaca Breeders Association (Calpaca) was the first—and is the oldest—regional alpaca association in the Northern Hemisphere and has been a leader in the American alpaca industry since 1989. Calpaca represents alpaca owners, breeders, and enthusiasts in California and beyond. We promote the well-being of alpacas and education of the public about alpacas, alpaca fiber, and alpaca products. We support each other through shared information and experiences, and host meetings, speakers and shows for the benefit of members and the public.

**Calpaca Farm Membership**-\$100/yr (\$50 first year)

Benefits:

- Run for a seat on the Board of Directors
- Two votes on Calpaca issues
- Quarterly Calpaca Connection Newsletter
- **Farm profile with online store on Calpaca website!**
- **Farm included in directory, Alpacas for Sale, and Store listings**
- **Free Newsletter advertising**
- Attend all Calpaca meetings and events

**Calpaca Associate Membership**-\$30/yr

Benefits:

- Quarterly Calpaca Connection Newsletter
- Attend all Calpaca meetings and events

### **Staying Connected**

#### **Calpaca Website**

<http://www.calpaca.org/>

#### **Group Emails**

[calpaca1@googlegroups.com](mailto:calpaca1@googlegroups.com)

#### **Calpaca Facebook**

Calpaca— California Alpaca Association

To join or renew your membership: <http://www.calpaca.org/page/2572/join-calpaca>

### **Upcoming Calpaca Events**

#### **2019**

**January 19-20—Camelid Symposium, Sacramento, CA**

**February 9— Membership meeting—Menagerie Hill Ranch, Vacaville, CA**

**March 29-31—California Classic Roundup, Merced, CA**

**May —Date and Location TBA**

**August — Membership meeting—Location TBA**

**October 11-13— Gold Country Gathering, Grass Valley, CA**

**November 9—Membership meeting—Location TBA**

**For more member events check: <http://www.calpaca.org/events/>**

DON'T MISS CALPACA'S QUARTERLY MEETING!!!

DIAMOND VALLEY ALPACAS  
November 10, 2018 at 10:00 AM  
28736 Warren Rd, Hemet, CA 92545

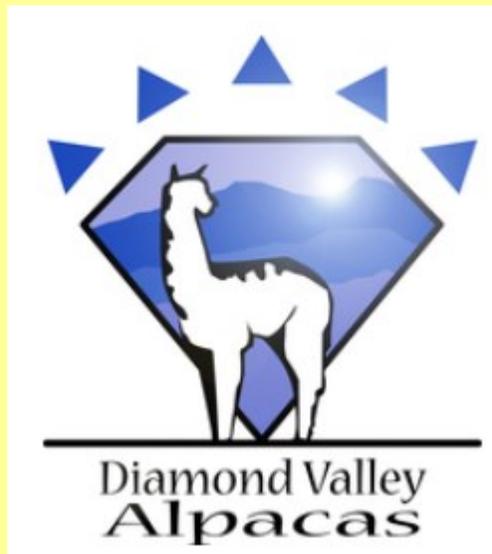
Hosted by: Dwight and Janet Hayes

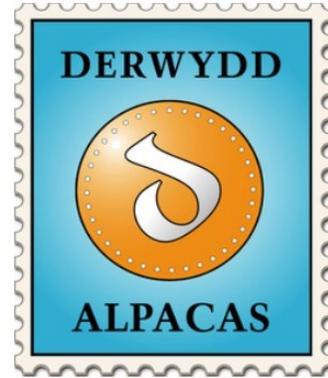
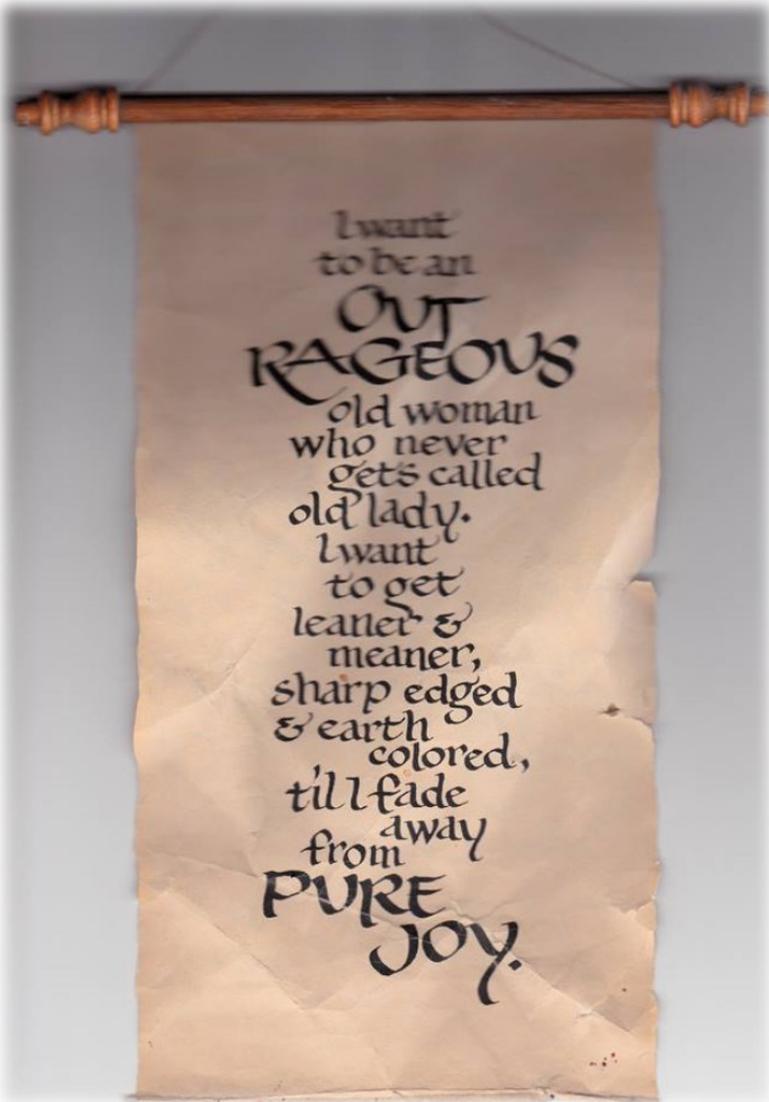
### SCHEDULE

9:00 AM - Coffee, tea, and muffins  
10:00 AM - General Membership Meeting  
12:00 PM - Lunch (provided)  
1:00 PM –An overview of the ET Procedure

Lunch will be provided by the local alpaca folk and will include a veggie platter, lasagna, salad, and bread. Please bring a chair and a smile!

RSVP to Jan at  
909-563-0310





**Jan Davis**

**3/25/1923-10/21/2018**

This was Jan's favorite Poem. I am sharing this because she achieved that very thing early Sunday morning. She passed peacefully in her sleep, in her own bed, in her own home which is what she ALWAYS wanted. If you need to do something active to remember her by, go plant something, and tell the plant all the things Jan meant to you.. She would VERY much have appreciated that. ...Dale



## ~~~ Jan Remembered ~~~

*\*Feisty, focused, sharp-witted, and occasionally sharp-tongued, mentor, role model, spirited, spunky, leader, fun, thoughtful, charismatic, magnetic - I just wanted to be around her... a life fully and well lived. I can only imagine the angels are on their toes now with her up there*

*\*Jan lived life her way. I always loved her attitude.*

*\*She was such an important part of the alpaca industry and had a life well lived.*

*\*I didn't know her very well but I know that she was feisty, outspoken and a darn good breeder. She will be missed but always remembered.*

*\*Even though I didn't know Jan very well, she was an awesome lady! I just planted some weeping willow seedlings...they are now in memory of her!*

*\*Omg a great woman!!! She will be missed.*

*\*She was a special lady and will be missed! Run Free, beautiful child . . . So many special moments caused by this woman . . . . She was the Grandmother of this Industry. We will love her forever.*

*\*She was something alright!!! She will never be forgotten what an icon!!!!*

*\*Jan had more spunk than (almost) anyone I've ever met (which she passed on to her daughter, I might add!) Very privileged to have known her- she will long be remembered and missed!*

*\*She is/ and was a great lady.*

*\*What an amazing soul and spirit and inspiration Jan was (and is somewhere)..*

*\*Jan was no "spring chicken" when she got into alpacas. Yet she threw herself at it and developed one of the best herds around and was a major factor in the development of the alpaca "biz". She was a role model for all of us "retirees". A life well lived, indeed!*

*\*Yep, that was Jan to a tee! She was an amazing and incredible woman. We will all miss her very much but she's left us with some wonderful memories.*

*\*Jan was an awesome person, a life definitely well lived. We will miss her though our memories will live on forever.*

*\*She was a wealth of knowledge and one of the forerunners of alpacas in the US.*

*\*Celebrating a life lived by remembering small moments past.*

*\*The world was blessed by Jan! She will be missed. None other like her.*

*\*An extraordinary, amazing woman. Great memories always!*

*\*She was one of a kind and certainly loved life, her family and her animals.*

*\*She was a remarkable lady. She will be missed*

*\*Always admired Jan & her tenacity. A true Legend!!!*

*\*I realize even more so, now that I hear of Jan's passing, just what a rare person she was. I looked up to her always. She always rang true - so completely real, and so warm; yet hard as nails.*

*\*To live, make your mark on the world and so many lives, and then pass - all on your own terms...that was our Jan.*

*\*I am honored to have known her.*

*\*So Perfectly Jan! She shot straight from the hip and I loved her dearly and cherish many wonderful memories. A true original! Farewell, Jan. Yours was a life well and truly lived.*

*\*An exceptional woman! She will be missed.*

California Classic  
Round Up  
Merced, CA  
March 29-31, 2019

Three great shows under  
one roof on  
one weekend!

Halter Show Judge:

**Kristin Buhrmann**



Walking Fleece Show Judge:

**Arturo Pena**



\*New\* Small Breeders Show Judge:

**Sara Jane MacLennan**



New- 33,800sq ft -The Big Barn  
Merced County Fair Grounds

The **NEW**  
Hilmar Cheese  
Barn will support  
Level IV shows!

We aim to build the  
biggest west-coast show  
in modern times!

So load 'em up — Roll 'em out —  
and we'll see ya'll soon!



**Welcome to the Wild West!**

## Introducing the “Small Breeders” Show \*

The 2019 California Classic is offering another first for a Calpaca sponsored show. You qualify as a “small breeder” if:

\*You have owned alpacas less than 10 years

\*You have no more than 20 AOA registered females (at the time of registration for the show)

What does this mean to you if you qualify as a small breeder? It means you can compete in three separate shows in one weekend....the small breeder halter **AND** the standard halter and walking fleece classes.

Farms not meeting the Small Breeder requirements can only compete in the standard Halter and Walking Fleece classes.

\*New for 2018: Novice Small Breeder Shows are intended to encourage new or novice breeders to show their alpacas with other similarly sized farms. These shows are meant to foster and further the education of novice and/or small breeders through class placements and Judge comments.

Editor’s note: for years the “smaller farms” have been asking for a way to level the playing field in the show ring. The Small Breeders Show within a show is a way to accomplish this.



The weather was perfect, the competition was tough, and the comraderie among the participants resulted in an amazing show.

Number of ranches registered: 37

Number of alpacas registered: 142

Huacaya: 98--52 males and 46 females

Suri: 44 -- 7 males and 7 females

Number of alpacas in Fleece Show: 54 — 38 Huacaya and 16 Suri

Number of alpacas in Walking Fleece: 108 — 80 Huacaya and Suri 28

**Join us next year Oct. 11-13, 2019 at the Gold Country Gathering.  
Amanda VandenBosch will be our Halter Judge and Wini Labrecque will be our Fleece Show  
and Walking Fleece Judge!!**



# Announcing The 2019 Camelid Symposium

The Calpaca Camelid Symposium Committee is excited to announce the return of this popular Calpaca sponsored event.

WHEN: January 19-20, 2019

WHERE: Sacramento State University Student Union

FOCUS: Education for owners and potential Camelid owners

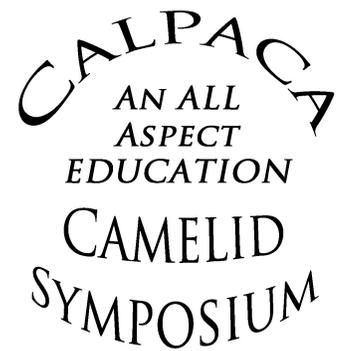
FEATURED TOPICS:

- ◆ Camelid health — basic care/caring for the geriatric alpaca/alternative care
- ◆ Agritourism — how to create multiple streams of income
- ◆ Business management— how to write a business plan, basic and advanced marketing, insurance needs
- ◆ Focus on Fiber — from breeding for fiber production, to fiber collection, to getting the product to market

Historically the Camelid Symposium has been one of the best values in education and now it is back. Join us for informative and timely topics provided by experts in their field. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided both days. And what would any Calpaca event be without a relaxed “Meet and Greet” on Saturday night?

If you have attended the Symposium in the past you will notice a slight change in the format. However the presentations will still be timely and educational for all. There will be something for everyone.

Mark your calendars for January 19 & 20, 2019. More information will be provided as it becomes available.



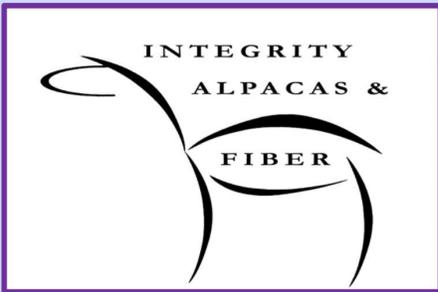


You asked for it — we got it.  
Actually we got them!

You asked for a “FOCUS ON FIBER” and that is what will be provided. The 2019 Camelid Symposium features two of the most qualified and sought after fiber focused speakers in the alpaca industry. Lynn Edens and Stacie Chavez have committed to share their wealth of knowledge, current activities and future plans at the 2019 Camelid Symposium. They will be joined by either Rebecca Burgess, Executive Director of Fibershed or Jess Daniels, Project Manager for Fibershed’s Education and Textile Economy Programs.

Do not miss this amazing opportunity to learn from these outstanding and dedicated presenters whose goals and passion are focused on creating and maintaining the natural fiber industry. The information they will cover range from how to breed for fiber through getting those products to market. Plus they will join each other for a panel discussion with an opportunity for Q and A.

If you want to know what is going on in the development of the natural fiber industry and what needs to be done to reach our goals...THIS IS YOUR CHANCE.



Bags of alpaca fiber weighing you down?  
Scheduling with the shearer? Want it ALL DONE?  
Want to increase fiber profits and usable fiber?

**Charlene Schmid, Fiber Consultant**  
[charleneschmid@me.com](mailto:charleneschmid@me.com) (530)-400-2684

***Ultimate package***—onsite day of shearing (\$8/alpaca)

- Pre-shearing interview to determine end fiber goals
- Organize and train your shearing helpers on site
- Annual fiber harvest sorted by like color and grade
- Completed individual animal sort record providing details similar to that of a fleece score card
- Completed inventory sheet for the entire harvest providing summary information of herd productivity
- Post-shearing consultation of fiber use, herd management, and/or breeding for fiber

***Premium package***—pick up and return/ship noodled clips (\$7/alpaca)

- Pre-shearing interview to determine end fiber goals
- Annual fiber harvest sorted by like color and grade
- Completed individual animal sort record providing details similar to that of a fleece score card
- Completed inventory sheet for the entire harvest providing summary information of herd productivity
- Post-shearing consultation of fiber use, herd management, and/or breeding for fiber

***Basic package***—move past year's fiber (\$5/alpaca)

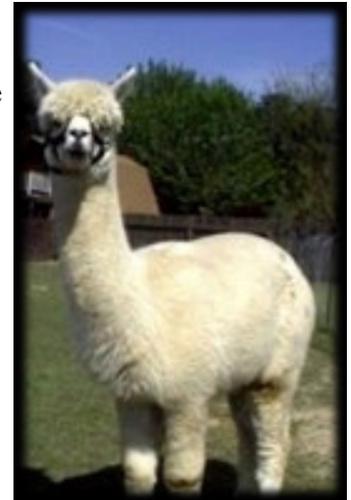
- Pre-sort questionnaire
- Annual fiber harvest sorted by like color and grade
- Completed inventory sheet for the entire harvest providing summary information of herd productivity
- Post-shearing consultation of fiber use, herd management, and/or breeding for fiber

***Take advantage of my apprentice consulting rates available this year only.  
Samples of every sort are reviewed by my mentor ensuring quality of work.***

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday

## Polaris is 21 !

Happy Birthday, Polaris. What an accomplishment in alpaca years. He is amazing! We bought him in 2002 and have had him for these 16 years. We are Barb's Alpaca Ranch just south of Fresno, CA. Today he is ornery, not as ornery as when he was younger tho. He was so mean with the others when we first got him that we separated him and were frankly a little sorry we got him. But he didn't need a halter to run for the barn when he knew we had a female waiting for him. We always walked the other males in! Polaris was our leading herdsire and gave us many great babies, crias that soon exhibited his macho, ornery but smart personality.



Most of us know Hemingway from Snowmass Alpacas. Of course Polaris is a son of Peruvian Hemingway G171 and PPPeruvian Impatiens 4768. Polaris , as well as some of his offspring, received a Blue Ribbon when he was younger and did some breeding in California and Colorado. His son Miguel got a Blue Ribbon. His son Victor got a Blue Ribbon and won Fleece Color Champion at the Monterey Pronk. His daughter Erica Joan also won a Blue Ribbon and became a good mom for us. And there were more.

Polaris has outlived them all so there must be something to say about that sassy personality.

Today Polaris is healthy and strong and is very bossy with his younger pasture mates. We separate him for feeding as we always have cause he's the "main piggy-wiggly" and pushes the others away. We moisten his pellets because his teeth are worn down and we feed him sifted alfalfa crumbs for the same reason. He is a little high maintenance but he's welcome here for as long as he wants to be. He has a slight limp with his back left leg so we give him a low dose pain pill every night – but he runs whenever he wants to. He is amazing, for sure!

Polaris was born in October of 1997 to William and Sharon Heinz from Nevada City, CA. At one point they had advertised him for sale for over \$40,000. He's not worth a plug nickel today but he's ours. J He's pacing at the fence now. I need to go feed him.....

Barb Bray, Barb's Alpaca Ranch



**Editor's note: are there any other "alpaca interest stories" to be shared with our members? We all have that one "special" alpaca. Is it your matriarch, the one that always provides a laugh or is always causing trouble? Why not share with us?**

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday Happy Birthday



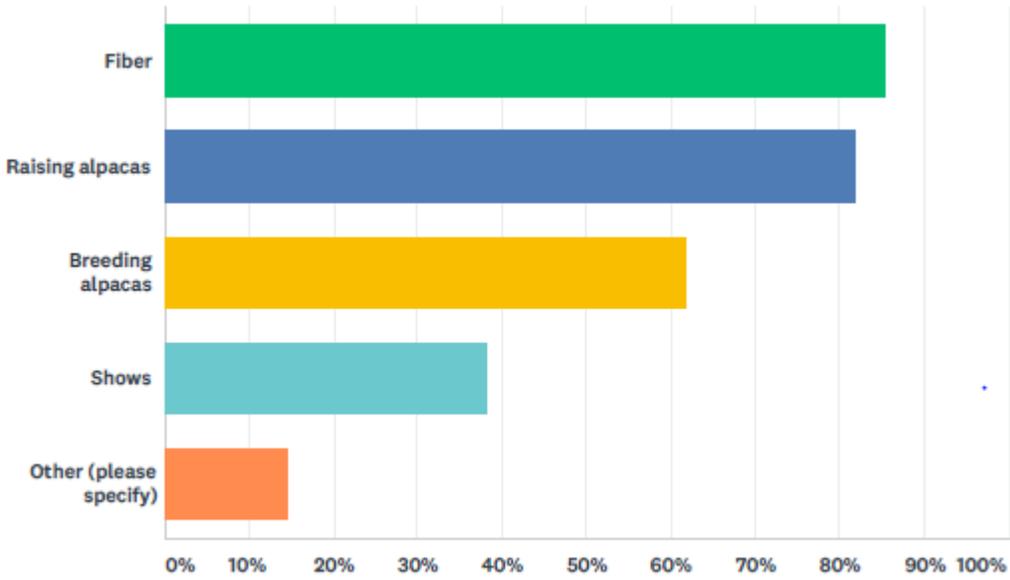
Many thanks to those who responded to the recent survey from the Calpaca Board of Directors. The Board appreciates those who took the time to provide feedback and opinions.

The following pages are the highlights of the information from the survey. This feedback will be referenced as the Calpaca Board moves forward with plans for the future..

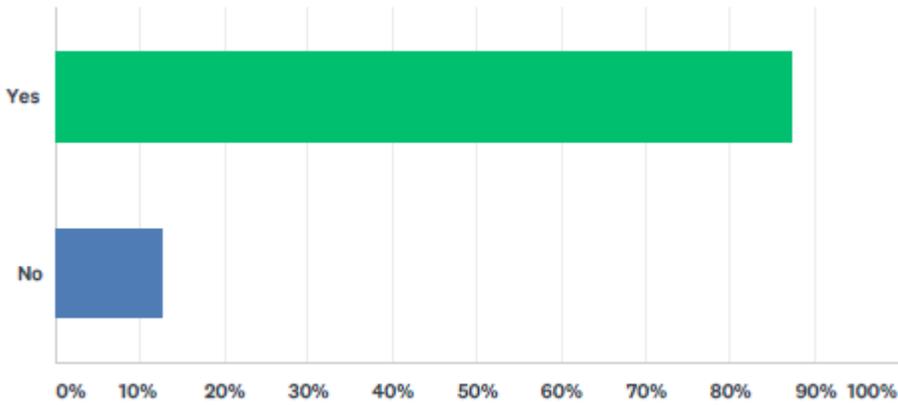
Editor's note: As I reviewed and compiled the information I could see where several of the comments and suggestions are currently being addressed by the Calpaca Fiber and Camelid Symposium Committees.....see page 23



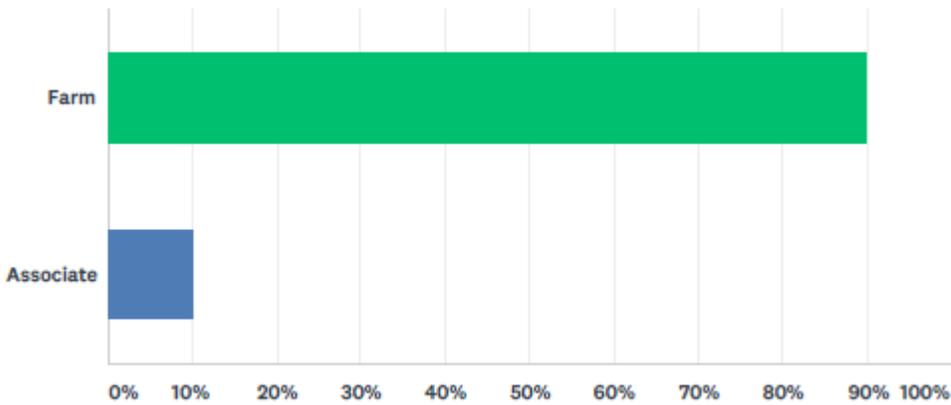
What part of the alpaca industry interests you? Please select all that apply. 55 responded



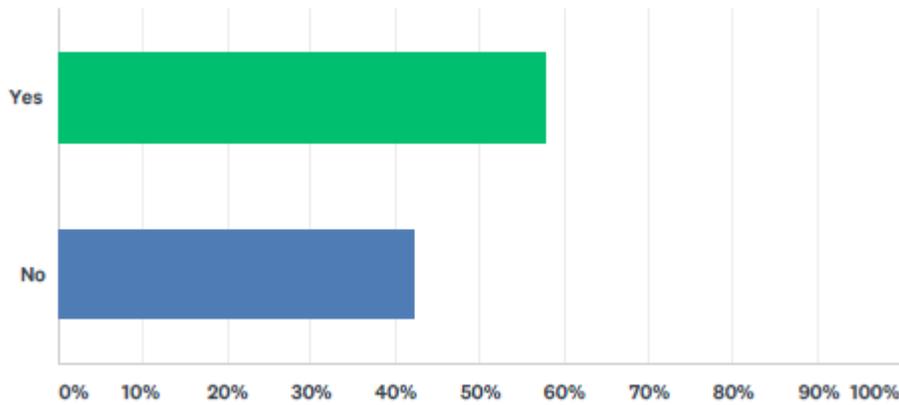
Are you currently a member of Calpaca? 55 responded



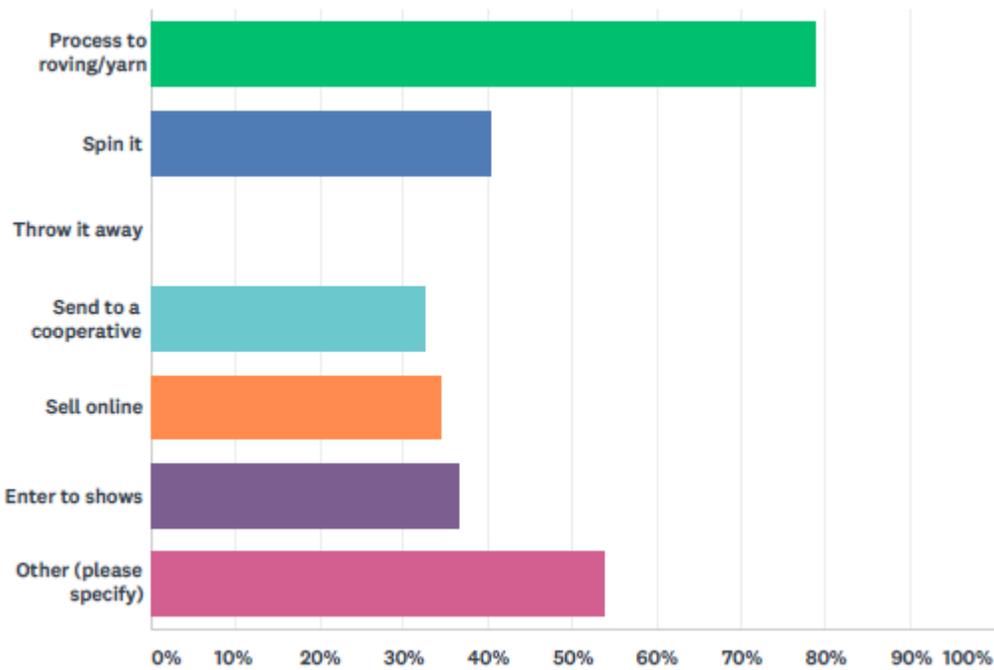
If yes, what is your membership level? 50 responded -- 5 skipped



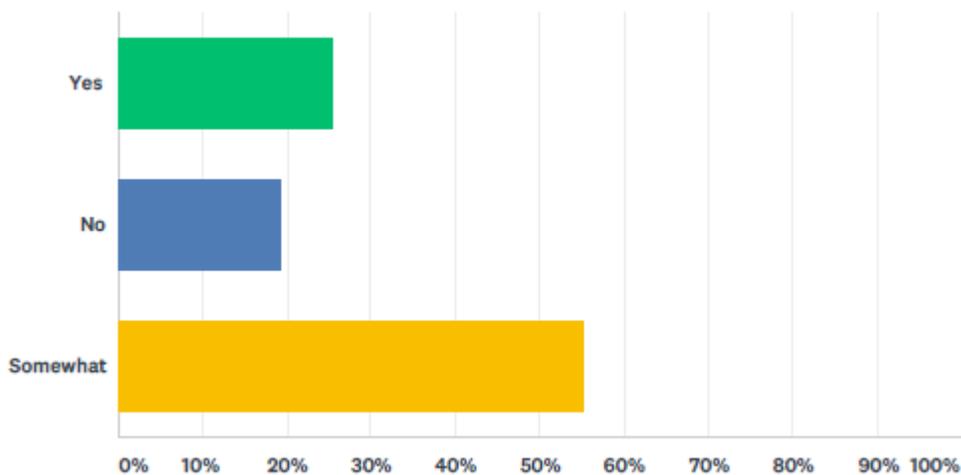
**Do you participate in alpaca shows? 52 responded – 3 skipped**



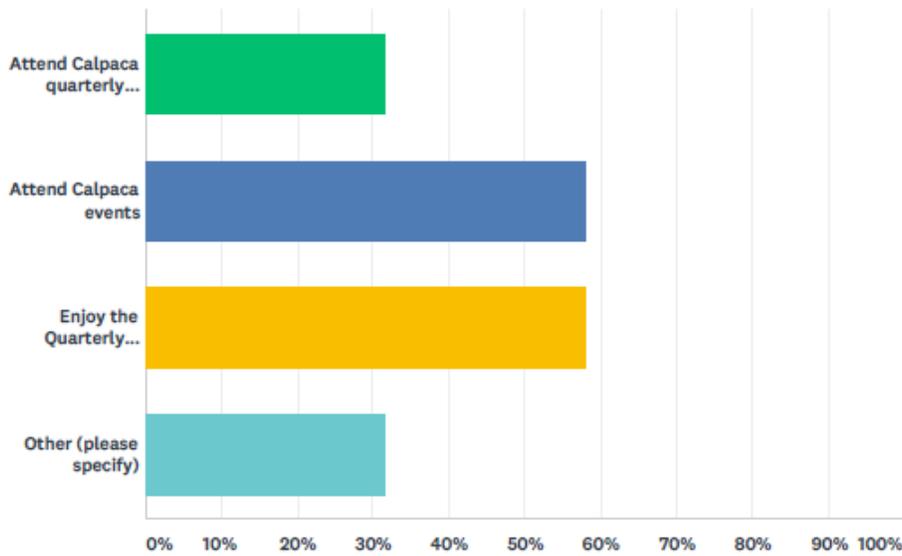
**What do you do with your fiber? 52 responded – 3 skipped**



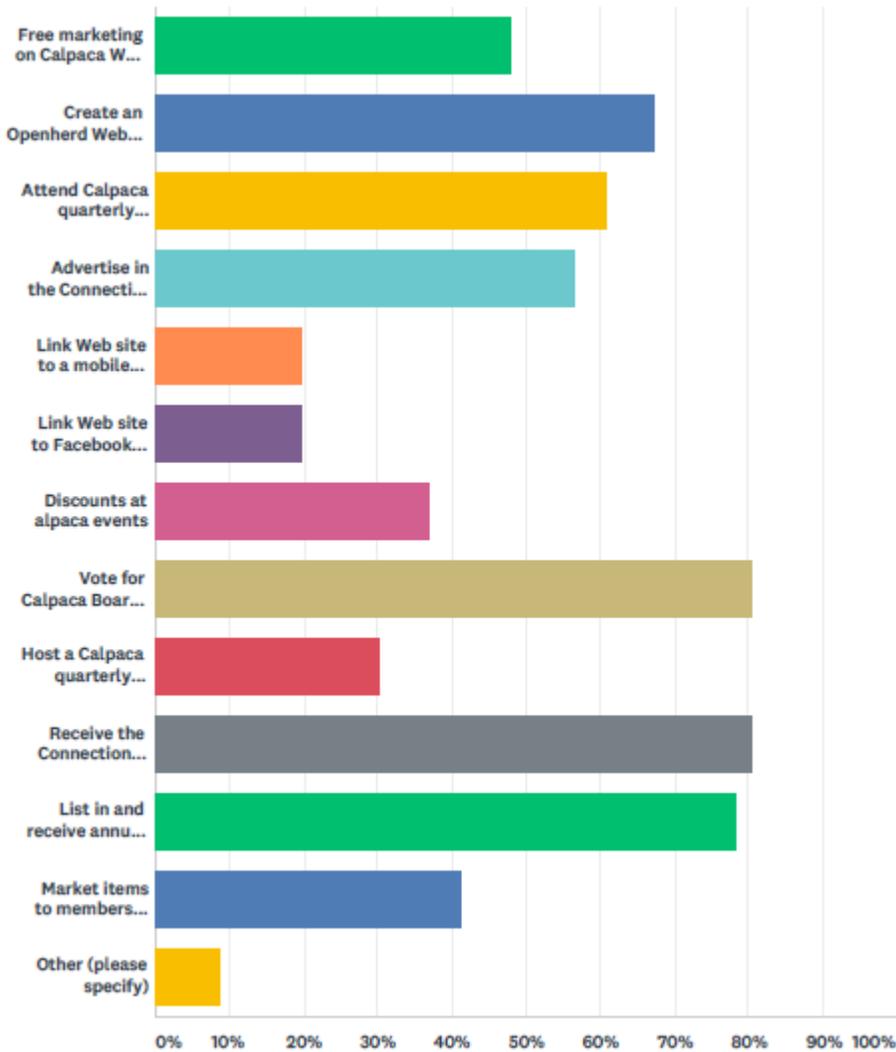
**Does Calpaca meet your needs for fiber education? 47 responded -- 8 skipped**



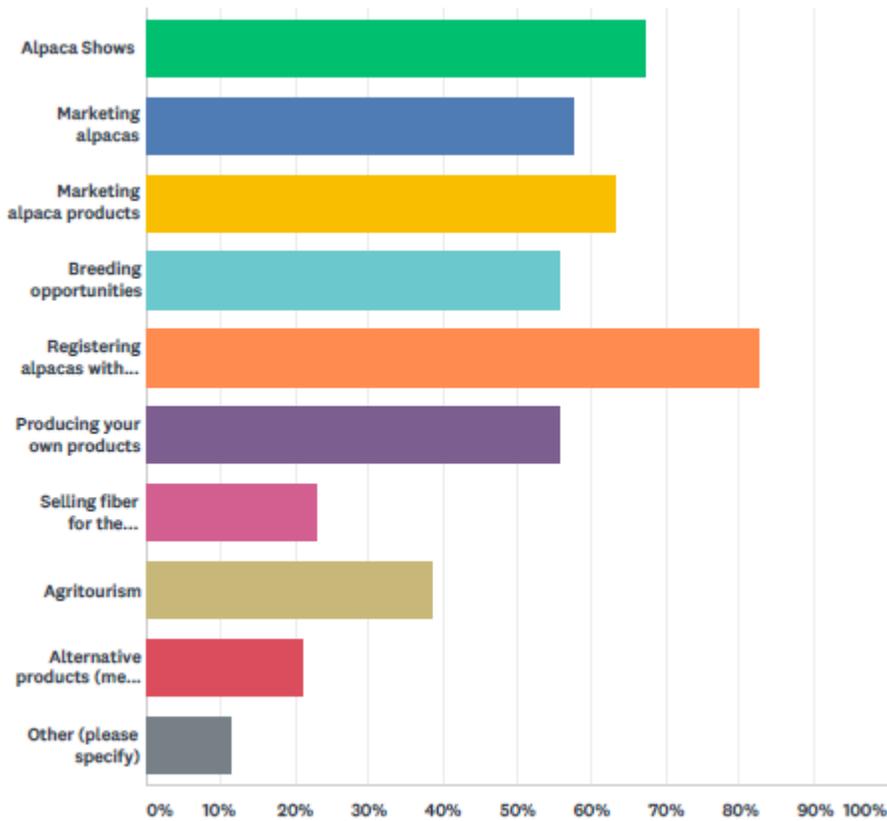
**As an Associate Member (\$30/year), which of the following benefits have you utilized? 19 responded – 36 skipped**



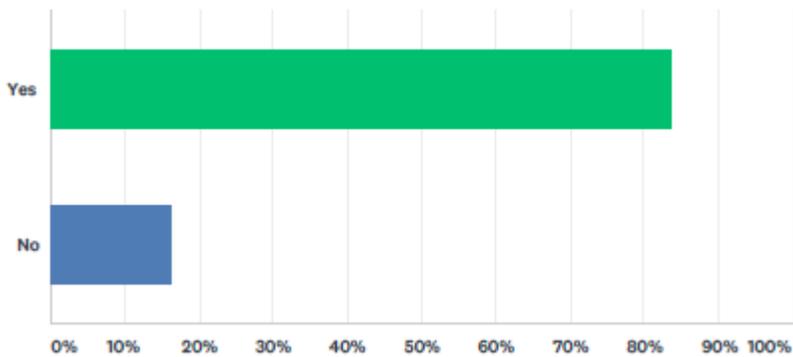
**As a Farm Member (\$100/year), which of the following benefits have you utilized? 46 responded – 9 Skipped**



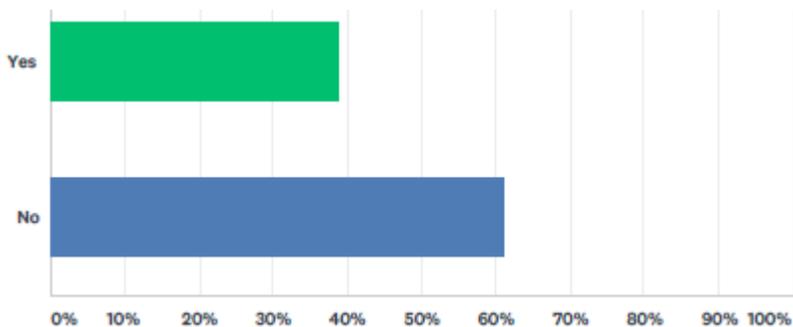
Over the past three years, which of the following activities have you participated in within the alpaca industry (select all that apply)? 52 responded 3 Skipped:



Are you a member of the Alpaca Owners Association? 55 responded



Are you a member of other Camelid organizations? 54 responded Skipped: 1



## How might Calpaca support your fiber needs?

Offer workshops at various farms throughout the year

More instruction on skirting and sorting

Help with marketing fleece

Education for members on the need for consistency, assistance in building a supply chain for fiber to mills to those making end products or marketing yarn.

When we went to shows the clinics were the best.

Calpaca could provide further education resources such as links on the website to online skirting demos and such along with incorporating educational seminars at the Calpaca shows similar to what AOA does.

I think every breeder has the responsibility to seek out resources available for fiber production though it helps for newbies to have a go to resource available for their education.

More channels to sell 2nds

Fiber events for education with speakers and hands on

Regional marketing of products

Have a column in newsletter about fiber processing and people can send in ideas also ads for mills and show photos of products

Provide a database of various options of fleeces buyers

I would like to see more frequent educational classes on what can be done with the fiber.

Online sales, plus regional org for better feed, shearing, processing, shipping costs to individual farms.

Clinics on what to do with your fiber would be helpful

More information on how to profit with online sales

Hands on demos.

More help with learning to breed for fiber and healthy animals.

Ball is in my court, just need to take initiative to use information provided!

A co op run would be great!

More readily available seminars in how to handle fiber once it's off the animal and what sorts of fiber best meet the end product needs.

I'm frustrated by the "one off" approach to alpaca fiber goods--would like to see an organization pull together to produce one popular quality item. Also, I think it's insane that Yocom McColl has not histogram panel other than the EPD panel that measures MSL. Can we pressure them to add MSL to other panels? Way too many fine fleeced alpacas with 2 inch staples!

Being able to sell at shows, at pens

Offer a smaller version of lambtown or Fibershed wool symposium seminars

I would like to see a fiber/fiber arts event.

## **In what ways are shows important to you and your farm?**

Input on animals, marketing

Learning how our animals compare to others

Alpaca evaluation, networking/socializing, vending

Networking with other farms

Marketing, measuring my program against others, feedback, Community

Meeting other alpaca owners and marketing our breeding program

Marketing and relationship building

To meet and talk with other members

Feedback on animal quality

Networking, Comparison of breeding results with others, search for appropriate herdsires.

Evaluating our breeding program against others, marketing our animals that do well

None - avoiding spread of viruses from out of state big farms, cost with minus return, etc.

Vending

Ranch exposure and friendships

Giving the public exposure to alpacas and all of the wonderful features of them and their fiber

Vending opportunities

Helps us with marketing for sales and breedings.

They are a necessary evil. I don't like showing but to sell animals and breeding to your animals it is a necessity.

The social aspect. I rarely show any more.

Input on quality of my animals, social contacts

Networking and recognition

Marketing added value, social/networking

Contact with other breeders

A good source of how my animals rank compared to other breeders.

Marketing socializing, keeping in touch with alpaca friends.

To keep up to date with the quality of alpacas, to see old friends and meet new people. Show wins are important in marketing alpacas.

Sales

Feedback and exposure

A way to connect with other local breeders and be able to see how we are doing

## **If not, what might make show participation work for you?**

Participation as a vendor only. Have shown alpacas previously and am no longer participating in them due to market level of interest of people purchasing breeding stock has dropped significantly, so no longer breeding them for the show circuit.

Classes where small farms have a class that large farms are excluded

Showed loads for over a decade. Not worth the money, judging far too erratic and not focused on the end product.

I like to go to shows as an observer only. I do not have show quality alpacas.

They are all too far away for me to drive

Closer to me

I don't participate much anymore because of my aging herd and I'm not breeding anymore

More emphasis on fiber / product promotion

Less cost and more public exposure

Levels geared to us small-timers

Cost is most often the prohibitive factor in keeping us from performing more.

Participate as a vendor

Fiber arts and performance classes

Shows closer to southern CA

A local show where small breeders have a chance like we used to. The competition level has increased a lot in the last few years. It isn't fun anymore

## **What additional member benefits would you like to see offered by Calpaca?**

From time to time I've searched for summary info on fiber shows I might enter and I've never found one. So I end up searching through each show listing to figure out whether I might be able to enter a fleece or spinoff. Most shows don't highlight their fleece show info. It would be nice.

Fiber processing collectively

Maybe a more active selling event? Alpacas, fiber, products?

A buy and sell page in newsletter also in Facebook

On-line education opportunities, meetings

Southern California Show-San Diego Co

You do a good job as it is

A data base as to where to sell fleece

More refined and diverse advertising for alpaca ownership beyond Openherd. I would like to see an advertisement campaign for people to buy alpacas. Let's get creative in promoting the industry in Northern California more than we do now.

Shipping to co op

Symposium

More reach out to public for sales, promotion and education

## **Calpaca's website is filled with tools and links for our members. How can we make it your "go to" place for information?**

Continue to ensure it is up to date, provide links to additional resources such as fiber processing

Finding specific services such as shearers

Keep it updated, send reminders of content or new events

Keep it updated.

Sales of fiber at whatever stage of processing

I tend to forget to go there first

The Calpaca website is a very useful tool. But it will not be used unless it is consistently updated. Many of the links do not work.

I rarely use it. That kind of says it all. I am on AOA frequently, so I would say add EPD calculators, maybe even provide information from the AOA site.

Provide more listings of available services and service providers (shearers, fiber mills, etc)

Keeping it up to date with possible alpaca opportunities

Maintain it in a more timely manner

The website needs to be updated!

Keep it up to date. No minutes of BOD more recent than 12/17, no quarterly meeting minutes more recent than 2/17 right now. Crazy

Continue to ensure it is up to date, provide links to additional resources such as fiber processing discussed.

## **Are there any topics you would like to have included on the Calpaca Web site to provide additional information to alpaca owners?**

A summary of available mills with capabilities

Older alpacas

Educational articles on alpaca care, housing, herd mentality for new and prospective alpaca owners as a means to help prevent situations where some folks end up with purchasing just one alpaca and have no idea how to care for them.

Under resources include other Camelid organizations....International Camelid Institute, etc.

Medical info indexed articles such as choke etc

Places to sell fiber

Showcase an alpaca ranch. Have links work correctly. The website is a wonderful tool as long as it is being updated.

I would like to see the Connection be discontinued and all of the content in the connections switched to the website. Allow individuals to advertise on the website, and all the articles that would be put in the connection instead be listed on the web. Make it a go to place for the public for information on alpacas.

A resources page for vets shearers fiber processors etc

Feed back on others experiences with various mills?

Continued on page 23

The old NorthWest Alpaca gestation calculator--it took into account the time of year. Their website is gone now.

If the alpaca industry is going to be viable, much more needs to be done in developing the fiber industry.

See my Yocom McColl comment. I just don't think that we have the focus of an industry--it's still everyone for themselves. A Dog Show is not an industry--we breed for shows because we have no idea what is needed for a fiber industry.

Listen to the alpaca owners who are no longer members and adjust your activities to those that work for the breeder, fiber producer.

The number one thing for the BOD to remember is keeping membership strong. I think having this survey is a start. Reading and putting these items into action is the next step. Keeping members engaged will help strengthen your membership.

Let's make our web presence much more diverse.

Please focus on the supply chain. It is what stands between producers and success.

## **Some of these questions/concerns have already been addressed.....**

### **How might Calpaca support your fiber needs?**

There were several responses asking for more education...several of these questions will be addressed at the Focus on Fiber topics included in the 2019 Camelid Symposium.

.....**See page 11**

### **What might make show participation work for you?**

- Classes where small farms have a class that large farms are excluded
- Levels geared to us small-timers
- A local show where small breeders have a chance like we used to. The competition level has increased a lot in the last few years. It isn't fun anymore

.....**See page 9—Introducing the Small Breeders Show**

### **What additional member benefits would you like to see offered by Calpaca?**

- A buy and sell page in newsletter also in Facebook

.....**See Classifieds in the Connection**

- Symposium

.....**See page 10**

### **Are there any topics you would like to have included on the Calpaca Web site to provide additional information to alpaca owners?**

- Several of the suggestions are "in the works"
- Online education reference is included in the Connection...last page, can be added to the web site.

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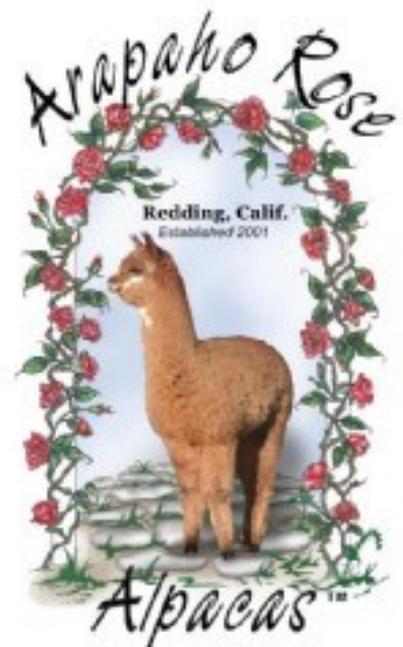
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We refocused our Suri breeding program to create Suris with “Bling” (multis/patterns). With this new focus we adjusted the asking price on several of our white and light Suri and Huacaya females. These reduced prices are not a reflection of the quality or value of these girls for your breeding program. If you are just starting out, or are in the process of building your herd, don't miss the opportunity to obtain quality females at incredible prices. Check them out:

[www.openherd.com/farms/214/alpacas-of-somerset-farm](http://www.openherd.com/farms/214/alpacas-of-somerset-farm) Jack and Dianna Jordan, Alpacas of Somerset Farm 530-620-6033

**Angel Dreams Herd Reduction Sale** ~ I need to make room for new crias!! Please review my Open Herd page to view my animals. If any of them interest you please contact me at [tracid318@aol.com](mailto:tracid318@aol.com) for pricing. Thank you!

## Herdsires

**Are you looking for some “bling” in your Suri herd?** SSilken's Accoyo Tesori is one of our “**Designer Suris**” herdsires. He is full Accoyo male with a solid compact frame with amazing dense coverage, luster, and a beautiful lock structure. He has produced a solid medium fawn female out of a white dam with a fawn spot. He also produced a fading fawn female out of a white dam. Tesori's sire is full Accoyo fawn & white pattern Our Accoyo Aurelius...which is a very rare coloring for a full Accoyo. Unfortunately, Accoyo Aurelius was lost in a tragic barn fire after only three years into his breeding career. In those years he produced 38 registered offspring\* making his first line genetics extremely limited and difficult to find. Tesori's dame is TSP's ACCOYO CHLOE. Chloe is Full Accoyo and comes from the famous David Gronauer Collection. Her bloodlines are very well known & RARE: Ganador and Starbuck!!! Chloe is a female par excellence in the fiber department... ultimate fineness, unmatched density & luminous luster!!!! Not sure you want to take a chance on a relatively unknown bursting with potential? Tesori's first crias are on the ground and....he is three for three multi/pattern. Give us a call. Dianna and Jack Jordan, Alpacas of Somerset Farm, 530-620-6033.

Menagerie Hill Ranch introduces our newest herdsire, **RR Gun's Kit Carson (KC)**. With 17 Championships and 21 1st Place wins, it's no wonder that more than 8 of his offspring are Color Champion winners! KC took his first championship at 8 months of age. Since then, his fleece has maintained its length, fineness and uniformity, and he remains one of the best grey males in the country.

His kids still win big in the ring...2016 Gold Country Gathering KC son 4-Sights Crawford won RCC behind RR Dizzy Gillespie in Grey Male; KC daughter 4-Sight's Centerfold won CC, grey female; AND KC son RR Lancelot won Black CC. Centerfold also took CC at the 2016 ABI and the 2017 Futurity. And at the 2017 CA Classic, Lancelot won CC in both Halter and Walking Fleece.

Check KC and his cria out at: <http://www.menageriehillranch.com/alpacas-for-sale/121347/rr-guns-kit-carson>

With gorgeous silver gray fleece, excellent conformation and a perfect bite, we believe Kit Carson can make a big impact on our breeding program and yours!

For a limited time only, in celebration of our new partnership with SkyDance Ranch Alpacas, we are offering his first 5 reserved breedings at a reduced price of \$1,500. Reserve your breedings now and take advantage of his great genetics at a great price!

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## Herdsires

**LV Silver Sammovar by Vantaggio** took the Reserve Color Champion in gray at the California Classic 2015 where judge Sharon Loner called him a “Fantastic Male”, finer even than the juvie in the class!

Sammo scored very high in Walking Fleece at the 2015 West Coast Alpaca Show, taking First Place. Judge Wini Lebreque noted he was very fine, dense and uniform with the blanket extending quite far down the side and a low amount of guard hair. She was so taken with Sammo that, in the awards ceremony, she commented that she thought he might have taken the Winners Cup! This is high praise for a 2 year old gray male!!!

His first cria are on the ground and they are gorgeous! Check him and them out at <http://www.menageriehillranch.com/alpacas-for-sale/103050/lv-silver-samovar-by-vantaggio>

His stud fee of \$750 includes 60 days agisting at Menagerie Hill Ranch in Vacaville for your girl. Get your breedings now and take advantage of his great genetics at a great price! Deb Galway & Kirk Howard, Owners. [www.menageriehillranch.com](http://www.menageriehillranch.com) 707.290.7915

**FTAF's Privateer**, ARI 32318326, is an elite-fleeced fawn over black sired by 13X banner winner SHVN Buccaneer (also the sire of FTAF's Blackbeard). His dam is Crown Jewel of PVA who also had a great run in the show ring. Privateer's 2017 skin biopsy (at 5yrs old) results are: Density 71 follicles/sqmm. SP ratio 12.1 to 1 with level 4 of 4 gland presence which correlates with what senior judges are referring to as “well-nourished fleeces”. Secondary fibers average 21.9 microns and primary fibers averaging 30.1 giving him a variation of only 8.2 microns. (Dr. Norm Evans). Additional details can be reviewed on his Openherd page <https://www.openherd.com/alpacas-for-sale/115890/ftafs-privateer>

**MHAR Blizzard by Justice** As a junior herdsire, we expect great things from this boy. He's a beautiful, bright white, with extremely dense, crimped fleece, full body coverage, and perfect bite and conformation.

At the 2014 Gold Country Gathering, judge Kathy Klay said “He's the total package!” when awarding him First Place (no CC), noting his soft crimp style and density. Most recently, his 3rd fleece spin-off entry won Judges Choice! And his 4<sup>th</sup> fleece spin-off entry won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the adult (D) class (of 8) at the 2017 AOA nationals, this in spite of being very dirty/muddy thanks to our very wet/muddy winter. His first cria is on the ground with more due this fall. We can't wait to see them all!

We want to put more of his cria on the ground. So through the end of the year, his stud fee will be \$500 for CALPACA members, including 60 days agisting at **Menagerie Hill Ranch** in Vacaville for your girl. Reserve your breedings now and take advantage of his great genetics at this special price! Check Blizzard out at <https://www.openherd.com/alpacas-for-sale/101580/mhar-blizzard-by-justice>

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## Herdsires

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[www.SierraRoseAlpacas.com](http://www.SierraRoseAlpacas.com)

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# Alpaca Education At Your Fingertips

Do you know the AOA website contains a section called the Alpaca Academy? The Alpaca Academy provides education and information for the entire alpaca community. Topics range from the most common questions about alpacas and the industry to in-depth articles on alpaca EPDs, genetics, and breeding. Alpaca Academy also provides information on the latest alpacas research and links to additional resources.

The following pages contain examples of the various topics available for those wanting to know more about alpacas and the industry.

One of the common themes I have found in reading about what alpaca owners breeders would like is the desire for more education. Perhaps many don't know that many of their questions have already been addressed in the Alpaca Academy. Take a few minutes to review the topics on the right . If you would like to learn more about the Alpaca Academy just follow this link: <http://www.alpacainfo.com/learn> and click on the topic.

## ALPACA ACADEMY



- [About Alpacas](#)
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- [Alpaca Registry](#)
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- Removal of Fighting Teeth
- Proper Halter Fit For Camelids
- Passing A Stomach Tube in Camelids
- Obtaining a Blood Sample and preparing the DNA Blood Card
- Shearing for the Health of Your Animals
- Training Your Camelid to Halter and Lead