

Cheryl Gehley's course descriptions... Fun!

Saturday morning Session 1: IMMERSED IN FIBER

Come prepared to be immersed in fiber! Well, perhaps more figuratively than actually, but this will be a hand's-on discussion of fleece characteristics and the fleece scoring process. Cheryl is going to lead us into a deeper understanding of the subtleties involved in achieving those half-point degrees of difference in trait evaluation.

Saturday morning Session 2: EVERY FLEECE HAS VALUE

Don't be a snob! Now that you know what is good, great, advanced, superior, simply stunning!!!, it's time to get back to reality and appreciate the tremendous value inherent in every fleece harvested from your herd. Cheryl will talk about some of the fleeces in the show that were not the award winners, not the big prize getters, and how to view those results with pride and distinction.

Saturday afternoon Session 3: CONFORMATION AND STRUCTURE – Bring your own alpacas*

Time to wear your conformation hat! Every breeding decision must include an awareness of conformation gain, as well as fleece. Cheryl is going to critically evaluate the conformation traits that we as breeders need to assess in our herd. She will instruct us by giving a detailed analysis of the structure of our alpacas, highlighting both desirable and undesirable characteristics. You are welcome to bring alpacas* from your herd for this session, knowing that you will hear the truth. You might be surprised at what you learn...

*Please contact host Nikki Griffith regarding bringing your alpacas to Sandollar.

Saturday afternoon Session 4: TRUE GAIN – Pulling it all together for optimal breeding decisions

Over-the-whelm! By this point in the day, your brain will begin to feel a bit saturated. Now is the time to pull it all together. Cheryl will lead us through a series of what-if scenarios, where discussion will illuminate the complexity of true gain. She will help us decide how to make the most informed "roll-of-the-dice" in our breeding decisions.