

Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Meeting February 25, 2010

Sue Caston	Patchwork Meadow
Cindy Cuykendall	Song Meadows Alpacas
Steve McCarthy	Spruce Ridge Farm
Dick McCoy	Foxrun Farms Alpacas
Ann Merriwether	Nyala Farm Alpacas
Barb Rossi	Bel Canto Farm
Sue Zelazny	Andes Dandies, LLC

The meeting was called to order at 7:06

Old Business:

Symposium/Fleece Event Wrap Up (Steve) So far great we have had great evaluations overall with lots of positive compliments. It looks like we are going to do okay (numbers are still coming in, probably only looking at a 6-7k loss) we had disappointing fleece numbers, only one suri fleece, we are brainstorming strategies to improve fleece numbers for next year (possibly creating a show skirting video clip members could view online to help with comfort level of fleece preparation).

Fundraiser/Herdsire Wrap Up (Barb) This went really well with lots of smaller farms getting \$500 breedings to a great group of herdsires. This helped them get some great genetics at great prices. The King of the Ladies auction went great too. Thanks to all who donated and all who bid! We are thinking about doing this again next year. One change suggested is to have it on the website next year. Really great job to Barb for organizing this it helped defray a lot of the cost of the symposium!

Rhinebeck Update (Sue C.) We are in the alpaca and llama barn with an info table and can do demos we don't know if we will have a product space yet more info to come

Newsletter discussion (Barb) The new on line version of the newsletter will appear for the next edition, we are very excited about this. The marketing committee has lots of really great articles lined up.

New Business:

Nominating Committee (Cindy) Cindy has contacted committee members to see if there is someone who might serve as chair with the tragic loss of Sue Watts (who chaired this for years).

Fiber Committee Yarn Project (Cindy & Ann) We now have a 7-member active fiber committee. The fiber committee met for the first time at the symposium. We are in the very early planning stage of trying to get a NY yarn project going (PAOBA did this very successfully) we try and to an end product possibly a throw. This would be a NY branded product that could be sold all over the state by members. We may be putting out a call for donated fleece for this project (stay tuned).

Approve Minutes from 1/11/10 Cindy made a motion to accept the minutes and Steve

seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
Cindy received a call from the newly formed High Plains Alpaca association in Texas who asked to borrow our code of ethics (the only one they could find on line). We said they could borrow it.

Set date for Next Meeting 3/25/10
Sue motioned to adjourn Dick seconded it at 8:23. The motion passed unanimously.