



Maryland Alpaca Breeders Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2006

I. Call to order

Patti Anderson called to order the General Membership meeting of the Maryland Alpaca Breeder's Association at 2:20pm on January 8, 2006 at East Columbia Branch Library in Howard County, MD.

II. Roll Call

Patti Anderson, Wild Rose Suri Ranch
Jess Armstrong, Calico Moon Alpacas
LuAnn Lumsden, Chesapeake Alpacas
Rick & Kathy Stumpf, Prairie Lake Alpacas
Wayne Aldrich, Shepherd's Purse Alpaca
Barry Clark, Peaceful Hollow Farm
Andy Schneider, Middle Eight Farm
Al & Catherine Beatty, Bellasera Alpacas
John & Renee Petersam, Criative Acres
Valerie Perrin, South Mountain View Alpacas
Barb & Lou Rimbach, Hill Home Alpacas
Scott & Betsy Gove, Sandhill Alpacas
Steve & Toni Quigley, Grindstone Graphics
Heinz Wilms, Brookmere Alpacas
Charles Gulotta, Arcadia Hollow Alpaca

III. Treasury Report

Wayne Aldrich reported that the current bank statement had a balance of \$3,444.00. Expenses for the quarter were \$5,212.07 and revenues were \$2,950.00. There was a net loss of \$2,262.07. This was largely due to expenses for the neonatal care clinic that were paid in the current quarter, while revenue was posted for the previous quarter.

The neonatal care clinic made a profit of \$385.41. This included unexpected expenses of \$500.00 for Cheryl DeWitt's speaker fee and \$421.79 for her airfare. Without these added expenses, the clinic would have been even more of a success. Everyone that attended the clinic had a positive response.

Clinics should be at cost for MABA members, but more for non-MABA members. This would encourage enrollment.

A check was made to MABA in care of Chuck Gulotta so that a new account could be opened in a bank closer to his home.

IV. Elections

Twenty-six (26) ballots had been received with checks. All 26 were counted for the amendment ballots, but nine (9) were received after the deadline for BOD ballots, and therefore not counted.

V. Introduction of the new board

The new board was unanimously elected. They are: Jess Armstrong (President), Barry Clark (Vice President), John Petersam (Secretary), Charles Gulotta (Treasurer), Cathy Drennan (Member-at-Large), Josephine Gilman (Member-at-Large), and Rick Stumpf (Member-at-Large).

VI. Patti Anderson then turned the meeting over to Jess Armstrong.

VII. By-Law Votes

The by-law votes were then read. Most amendments were unanimously approved with 26 votes, but a few only received 25 votes. A quorum was reached and they have all passed.

VIII. Committee Updates

- *Membership committee*
 - Chuck expressed the need for a new chairperson. He would like to transition to an online system. The chairperson should also be responsible for reminding members to come to the meetings.
 - Rick stated that membership was 37 farms last year and that 28 have paid for this year. Some farms may not have mailed their paperwork in yet.
- *Website committee*

Jess stated that Chris was willing to step down as chairperson in case anyone didn't like one farm holding both the Presidency and the website committee chairperson. Nobody was opposed, so Chris will continue to serve for now.
- *Education committee*
 - The neonatal care clinic went very smoothly and Dr. Cotton did a great job.
 - This year they would like to have two small clinics and one large clinic.
 - The vets, as well as the vet techs who attended the neonatal care clinic, learned a lot.
 - Dr. Karen Miller enjoyed hosting it, and wants to host more clinics with MABA.
 - On February 25, they are planning an event at the Howard County Library, Glenwood branch. They will send out more information in a week to 10 days. Heather Hutchinson from the MD agriculture department will speak about nutrition management. Dr. Karen Miller will speak about parasite trends. Stan Fultz from Frederick County will speak on bio-security as it relates to Alpacas. The event will hold about 30 people and be a low cost event with lunch provided.

- This summer, they are planning a MAPACA Alpacas 101 class in the Frederick Area. Pre-registration will be available at the MAPACA Jubilee.
 - Next fall, Buckeystown Veterinary Clinic will be the site of another clinic with a named speaker (potentially Dr. Norm Evans). MABA members will be charged a break-even price, but non-members will be charged more. They are looking for a MAPACA grant and an AOBA grant.
- *Breed Standards Update*
 - MAPACA would like to host a breed-standard conference with MABA and the new Virginia organization.
 - Heinz Wilms attended and summarized the breed standards event in Massachusetts. All speakers were pro breed standard and no opportunity was given to speak of the downside except for a few minutes at the end.
 - A lengthy discussion of breed standards and opinions ensued.
 - Jess Armstrong then asked if anyone would like MABA to have a breed-standard vote and take a stance.
 - Valerie Perrin suggested an online survey. She then asked if Heinz would act as a liaison and keep everyone informed.
 - Heinz Wilms requested a motion for the survey, John Petersam seconded it.
 - Jess Armstrong took a general vote for the survey and it passed unanimously.

IX. Department of Agriculture Event

Jess Armstrong asked if anyone was interested in doing an event on March 25 at the Department of Agriculture near Annapolis. Alpacas and alpaca products should be brought to the event. Approximately 2500 people will attend. An AOBA tape and TV/VCR are available for any members that would like to volunteer.

X. Adjournment

Rick Stumpf made a motion to adjourn at 3:39. The motion was seconded by Scott Gove.